Updated on August 12, 2022

Assessment Structure

Classes PP-XII

Implementation Starting 2021

Royal Education Council
Royal Government of Bhutan

Guidelines for Assessment of Competency-based Learning

1. Assessment shall be competency based.

2. The assessment shall be based on the competencies stated in the respective subject framework.

3. Assessment in key stage I (PP-III) shall be solely continuous formative assessment (CFA).

4. Assessment in key stages II to V shall follow a blend of continuous assessment (CA) which is a mix of CFA and CSA (continuous summative assessment) and the summative assessment (SA) consisting of term and year-end examinations.

5. In some subjects, CA also includes practical and project works.

6. All CAs, including practical and project works, shall be school-based, conducted and assessed by schools on a continuous basis as per the requirements of the respective subject. This condition also applies to high stakes examination classes (X & XII). However, the year-end practical examination for TVET shall be assessed externally.

7. Weightings for CA and written examinations are specified in the respective subject frameworks and or Instructional Guides.

8. Term and year-end examinations for all, EXCEPT Classes X and XII, shall be termed as "home examinations" and be conducted and evaluated by respective schools. However, high-stakes examinations (written) for Classes X and XII termed as "Bhutan Certificate for Secondary Education (BCSE)" and "Bhutan Higher Secondary Education Certificate (BHSEC)"; and "Language and Culture Studies Certificate (LCSC)" shall be conducted and evaluated externally.

9. Both the home and high-stakes examination question items shall be based on the competencies stated in the respective subject frameworks. Question patterns shall be dictated by the nature of respective subjects.

10. The assessment in each subject and key stage shall follow the structure provided below:

Assessment Structure

Subject	Key Stage	Assessment Breakup		Remarks
		CA	Term examinations	
English	I	CFA	CFA	
	II	60	40	
	III	40	60	
	IV	30	70	
	V	20	80	
Dzongkha	I	CFA	CFA	
	II	60	40	
	III	40	60	
	IV	30	70	
	V	20	80	
Maths	I	CFA	CFA	
	II	60	40	
	III	40	60	
	IV	30	70	
	V	20	80	
ICT	I	CFA	CFA	
	II	80	20	
	III	40	60	
	IV	60	40	
	V	50	50	
Science	II	70	30	
	III	40	60	
	IV	40	60	
	V	30	70	
Social Studies	II	70	30	
Geography	III	40	60	
	IV	40	60	
	V	30	70	

Subject	Key Stage	Assessment Breakup		Remarks
		CA	Term examinations	
History	III	40	60	
	IV	40	60	
	V	30	70	
Agriculture and Food Security	IV	60	40	
	V	50	50	
Environmental Science	IV	40	60	
	V	30	70	
Economics	IV	40	60	
	V	30	70	
Commercial Studies	IV	40	60	
Business and Entrepreneurship	V	40	60	
Accountancy	V	30	70	
Media Studies	V	40	60	
Rigzhung Elective	V	20	80	
TVET	IV	20	80	Term examinations consists of written as well as practical examination
	V	20	80	
TVET for Deaf	III	20	80	Term examinations consists of written as well as practical examination
	IV	20	80	
	V	20	80	
SEN	As per the respective subjects			
HPE	100% CFA			
Arts Education	100% CFA			
Values Education	100% CFA			
Language and Culture Studies (Rigzhung Stream)				
Rigzhung	IV	30	70	
	V	20	80	

11. The detailed breakdown of the CA and Term Examination marks is given in *Annexure* I.

12. The minimum pass mark for each subject for key stage II-V (Class IV-XII) is 40%. However, a student should pass in both CA and written examinations with a minimum of 40% each respectively.

Note:

i. *In the current practice, the pass mark is 40% from class IV to VIII and classes XI and XII. The change concerns only with classes IX and X in order to make the pass mark uniform across all key stages.*

ii. *The CA distribution across subjects and across key stages is different because of the nature of the subjects. A student should obtain 40% of the marks allotted to CA by combining the CA scores for both the terms. He/she should also obtain 40% of the marks allotted to Term I and Term II by combining the marks obtained in the two terms.*

iii. *Refer to Sl. No. 14 below for key stage IV Science and Social Sciences for pass mark for grouped subjects.*

iv. *Refer respective subject curriculum frameworks in regard to segregation of paper into Paper 1 and 2.*

13. For a student to be considered pass, he/she should pass in the subjects as given below:

Key Stage	Should pass in	Remarks
I (PP-III)	Dzongkha, English, Mathematics and ICT	Assessment done through CFA. Having to pass in ICT will be subject to readiness of ICT infrastructure and resources in all schools.
II (IV-VI)	Dzongkha, English, Mathematics plus one subjects among ICT, Science and Social Studies	Having to pass in ICT will be subject to readiness of ICT infrastructure and resources in all schools.
III (VII -VIII)	Dzongkha, English, Mathematics plus any two subjects among ICT, Science, History and Geography	Having to pass in ICT will be subject to readiness of ICT infrastructure and resources in all schools.
IV (IX- X)	Dzongkha, English, plus any three among ICT, Mathematics, Science, History & Geography or optional subject opted	Optional subjects are Economics, Environmental Science, Commercial Studies, AgFS & TVET Having to pass in ICT will be subject to readiness of ICT infrastructure and resources in all schools. Science - Physics, Chemistry and Biology combined to form one subject. HCG – History, Civics and Geography combined to form one subject. Mark sheet to reflect individual marks for three science subjects and History & Geography along with the average marks. The mark sheet will reflect the both CA and written examination marks (To be integrated into BCSEA's new Result Processing System (RPS) and implementable from 2022).

Key Stage	Should pass in	Remarks
V (XI-XII)	Science: 1. 5 subjects – Dzongkha, English and plus any two (among Physics, Chemistry, Biology or Mathematics or other optional subjects) 2. 6 subjects - Dzongkha, English plus any two (among Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics)	If students fail in Physics and Chemistry, options for further studies in the field of science will be limited. Optional Subjects: Environmental Science & AgFS and TVET ICT will be made mandatory for students to pass once the ICT infrastructure and resources are ready.
	Commerce: 5 subjects - Dzongkha and English plus any other two subjects (among Business Mathematics, Economics, Accountancy, Business and Entrepreneurship, AgFS and TVET) 6 subjects - Dzongkha and English plus any other two subjects (among Business Mathematics, Economics, Accountancy, Business and Entrepreneurship, AgFS and TVET)	ICT will be made mandatory for students to pass once the ICT infrastructure and resources are ready.
	Arts: 5 subjects: Dzongkha and English plus any other two subjects Business Mathematics, History, Geography, Economics, AgFS, Media Studies, Rigzhung, Environmental Science and TVET 6 subjects: Dzongkha and English plus any other two subjects Business Mathematics, History, Geography, Economics, AgFS, Media Studies, Rigzhung, Environmental Science and TVET	ICT will be made mandatory for students to pass once the ICT infrastructure and resources are ready.
Language and Culture Studies (Rigzhung Stream)		
Key stage IV	Class IX (Taktse) Dzongkha and English plus any other 3 subjects ལེགས་བཤད་ལྷོན་དབང་། དག་སྒྲིན། ཆུ་དང་ཤིང་གི་བསྐྱན་བཅོས། གཏམ་ཁའི་ཚོས་ཚན། ཇོ་སྐོན་ཚ། ཇེས། ལྷ་རིས། མངོན་བརྗོད།ེ།	ICT will be made mandatory for students to pass once the ICT infrastructure and resources are ready.
	Class X (Taktse) Dzongkha and English plus any other 3 subjects སུམ་རྟགས་སྡུད་སྟོམ། དག་སྒྲིན། སྐོན་དག། གཏམ་ཁའི་ཚོས་ཚན།ོ་རྒྱལ་རབས། སྐོན་ཚ། ཇེས། ལྷ་རིས།ེ།	ICT will be made mandatory for students to pass once the ICT infrastructure and resources are ready.

Key stage V	Class XI (Taktse) Dzongkha and English plus any other 2 subjects སྒོར་འཛུགས། སྐན་དག། དག་སྒྲིན་སྡུམ་རྩགས། གདམ་ཁའི་ཚོས་ཚན།།འབྱུང་རབས། རྩིས། སྐན་ཚ། སྒྲིག་ལམ།།	ICT will be made mandatory for students to pass once the ICT infrastructure and resources are ready.
	Class XII (Taktse) Dzongkha and English plus any other 2 subjects སྒོར་འཛུགས། སྐན་དག། དག་སྒྲིན་དང་རྩགས་ཀྱི་འཛུགས། གདམ་ཁའི་ཚོས་ཚན།།འབྱུང་རབས། རྩིས། སྐན་ཚ། སྒྲིག་ལམ།།	ICT will be made mandatory for students to pass once the ICT infrastructure and resources are ready.

14. In key stage IV (IX and X), for both CA and written examination, a minimum average score of 40% obtained by combining Physics, Chemistry and Biology is considered pass mark in Science. Similarly, a minimum average score of 40% obtained by combining History, Civics and Geography is considered a pass mark in Social Science.

15. Subject teachers shall use the assessment data to infer problems and challenges of the learners, and accordingly adjust instructions to facilitate improvement in learning.

16. School shall institute an assessment committee to audit and analyze assessment records on a regular basis to track progress of the student learning in different subjects and to ensure that assessment is carried out as intended.

17. Regular mentoring and support services for assessment, including assessment auditing, shall be provided by curriculum and BCSEA professionals.

18. The recording of the assessment shall be as per the requirement given in the respective curriculum framework and Instructional Guides.

19. The progress report for all classes shall be revised from time to time based on the changes in requirements of the different subject curriculum frameworks. (*Annexure II*)

20. The Department of School Education shall review the existing criteria for admission into different streams in class XI, from time to time, based on emerging trends and needs.

21. The question papers for annual examinations for classes VI and VIII shall be set by BCSEA and send to schools for administration and evaluation.