

“We see the EQAO test not as an end in itself but as a learning process that begins as early as elementary school.”

Michael Bak, Former Principal, Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School, Durham Catholic District School Board

Quick Facts

Administration Dates

The assessment is to be conducted over a two-day schedule within the following ranges:

- Winter 2010: January 7–22
- Spring 2010: June 3–18

Booklets

- Each student completes two booklets.

Field-Test Questions

- Field-test questions are randomly embedded in each student booklet.
- Responses to field-test questions are not included in the students' EQAO scores.

Duration

- Each booklet is allotted 50 minutes.

FORMAT OF THE ASSESSMENT

DAY 1: BOOKLET 1 50 MINUTES

- seven multiple-choice questions
- four open-response questions
- seven multiple-choice questions

DAY 2: BOOKLET 2 50 MINUTES

- seven multiple-choice questions
- four open-response questions
- six multiple-choice questions

- The Student Questionnaire is at the end of *Booklet 2* and will be completed after the assessment on Day 2. The time to complete the Student Questionnaire is not included in the 50 minutes allotted to *Booklet 2*.

Assessment Content

The assessment is based on *The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 9 and 10: Mathematics* (revised 2005).

Students will complete eight single-part open-response questions and 27 multiple-choice questions, each related to a strand and category, through which they will demonstrate achievement of curriculum expectations and mathematical understanding.

STRANDS

Academic	Applied
• Number Sense and Algebra	• Number Sense and Algebra
• Linear Relations	• Linear Relations
• Analytic Geometry	• Measurement and Geometry
• Measurement and Geometry	

Guidelines for Administering the Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics—General Steps

For Principals

1. Complete Student Data Collection (SDC) information.
2. Read the guides.
3. Plan for the administration (including identification of students with special education needs and English language learners) and meet with teachers administering the assessment.
4. On the morning of the first day of the administration, distribute materials and Class Tracking Sheets.
5. Monitor the administration of the assessment.
6. Return the materials to EQAO.

For Teachers

1. Read the guides.
2. Organize the classroom.
3. Administer the assessment.
4. If all or some components of the assessment will be included in the course grade, mark these parts.
5. Return all assessment materials to the principal.

Reporting

- Schools may decide to mark all or a part of the assessment for course grades.
- Reports provide overall scores at the school, board and provincial levels.
- Individual Student Reports provide overall scores.
- Profiles of Strengths and Areas for Improvement provide a graphic summary of how well the students in the school or board are meeting curriculum expectations.

To Learn More

The following educator and student resources are available on the EQAO Web site:

The *Grade 9 Framework* assists educators in understanding the purpose of the assessment and the connection between the assessment and the curriculum.

Administering the Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics, Winter and Spring 2010: A Guide for Teachers and Principals details the assessment process.

The Guide for Accommodations and Special Provisions provides information and outlines the required documentation for English language learners and students with special education needs.

Schools will be required to provide student information online using EQAO's SDC system.

Generic rubrics give the criteria for scoring open-response questions and describe the type of student response that receives each of the codes.

EQAO's 2008–2009 *Provincial Report* for the primary and junior divisions and Grade 9 contains suggested strategies for instruction.

The Sample Assessment Questions contain questions from past assessments and their scoring guides.

Professional Responsibilities for the Administration of the Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics

EQAO relies on principals and teachers in the development, administration, scoring and reporting of the Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics.

Principals are responsible for ensuring that

- they and the teachers administering the assessment have read the 2009–2010 administration guide and board direction/policy.
- all students eligible for the assessment are accounted for, including those writing with accommodations and special provisions.
- **any student receiving an accommodation has an Individual Education Plan (IEP) that outlines the accommodations that are necessary for and consistent with regular classroom assessment practices used for the student. The student must normally receive the accommodation for all forms of assessment, including summative assessment work.**
- complete and accurate information is provided to EQAO for each student eligible to write the assessment, including those writing with accommodations or special provisions.
- complete and appropriate assessment materials are ordered for each student, using the EQAO SDC system, including, if necessary, additional materials requested after receipt of the initial shipment.
- all material necessary for the preparation for and administration of the assessment is provided to all participating teachers and support staff.
- all teachers and other personnel (e.g., scribes, prompters and principals themselves) participating in, preparing for and administering the assessment have received training this year and follow this year's administration guide and the *Guide for Accommodations and Special Provisions*.
- all assessment materials are kept secure prior to, during and after the administration.
- the locations and conditions for writing the assessment allow each student to work independently of every other student and conform to EQAO requirements as defined in the administration guide and the *Guide for Accommodations and Special Provisions*.
- there is no deviation from the EQAO guidelines and instructions without explicit written direction from the relevant supervisory officer and EQAO's Chief Assessment Officer.
- any breach or suspected breach of security is reported to EQAO.

Principals and teachers are responsible to ensure the fair and consistent administration of the assessment as outlined in the administration guide. These procedures must be followed:

Before the Administration

- Ensure that all materials and types of materials ordered have been received.
- Student and teacher assessment packages **must not** be opened prior to the administration of the first booklet.
- Only staff members administering the assessment may have access to assessment materials.
- Teachers administering the assessment may receive the student assessment materials and the teacher's package of assessment materials no earlier than on the morning of the day the administration begins.
- Scribes and prompters may have access to the assessment materials only during the administration sessions.
- Assessment materials must not be copied in any way for any reason.

During and After the Administration

- Only staff members administering the assessment may have access to assessment materials.
- Unused assessment packages (e.g., for absent students) must not be opened for any reason, except with EQAO's permission.
- All classroom materials containing mathematics content of an instructional nature must be removed from view or covered. The "Key Words" and "Formula Sheet" available at www.eqao.com may be posted or distributed to students. No additional tips or reminders may be posted in the classroom, written on the blackboard or handed out to students.
- Only those individuals directly involved in the administration and testing activities (e.g., scribes and prompters) should enter the testing room.
- Students must be supervised at all times during the administration. This includes students with accommodations or special provisions who are permitted additional time to complete the assessment.
- Once the assessment materials have been opened, no one may use information from the assessment to provide instruction on any concept or item being tested prior to, during or after the administration of the assessment.

- During the assessment, no one may explain, define or provide examples of mathematics terminology to students, including those with accommodations.
- During the assessment, nothing may be said or done to influence student responses, including, but not limited to, actions such as drawing a student's attention to an unanswered question.
- At no point during or after the assessment may anything be said or done to encourage students to alter or revise their responses.
- No one may read or review student work during or after the administration unless a school is marking student work for class marks.
- Student work must not be corrected, darkened, rewritten, edited, erased or altered in any way.
- Each assessment booklet must be completed in one continuous session. A session may not be interrupted by lunch or by any other school programming. A session may include water fountain, stretch and washroom breaks.
- At the end of each session, all assessment materials must be collected and stored in a secure place without review except by teachers who are marking the assessment as a part of the student's class mark.
- After a booklet has been administered, it must not be returned to students for further review, correction or completion.
- If a component of the assessment will be marked by the teacher, ensure that the assessments are stored in a secure place in the school throughout this process.
- All assessment materials must remain in the school until they are returned to EQAO.
- All assessment materials, used or unused, must be returned to EQAO.
- Student responses must not be copied in any way for any reason. The only exception is for the recommended photocopying of the Student Answer Sheets prior to returning them to EQAO.
- Any circumstances that may affect the scoring of student work (e.g., package ID number issues) or may have affected the validity of any student performance (e.g., a discussion between two students during the assessment) must be documented and reported to EQAO on the **Issues Envelope**.