OXFORD



PLANNER & TRACKER

Social Sciences Grade 4

- Progress tracker
- Intervention strategies
- Photocopiable worksheets
- Assessment support



Contents

Progress trackers	4
Geography	
Term 1 Places where people live	4
Term 2 Map skills	5
Term 3 Food and farming in South Africa	7
Term 4 Water in South Africa	8
History	
Term 1 Local history	9
Term 2 Learning from leaders	10
Term 3 Transport through time	11
Term 4 Communication through time	12
Formal assessment worksheets	13
Geography	
Term 1: Describe and draw your own route	13
Term 2: Map skills	14
Term 3: Find information from a case study	15
Term 4: Get information from a diagram about piped water	17
History	
Term 1: Local history	18
Term 2: Writing about leaders	19
Term 3: Make a poster	20
Term 3: (alternative) Sailing to South Africa	21
Term 4: Communication in the past and present	23
Quartery assessment worksheets	24
Quarterly assessment: Term 1 (Modules 1–2)	24
Quarterly assessment: Term 2 (Modules 3–4)	28
Quarterly assessment: Term 3 (Modules 5–6)	32
Quarterly assessment: Term 4 (Modules 7–8)	36

Additional content	40
How to develop rubric and checklist assessment tools	40
Intervention strategies	43

Note to teachers

The formal assessment worksheets in this book are taken from the *Oxford Successful Social Sciences Grade 4 Learner's Book*.

The answers to the worksheets can be found in the *Oxford Successful Social Sciences Grade 4 Teacher's Guide*. The page references are given below.

Formal assessment worksheets	LB page reference	TG page reference
Geography Term 1	16	51
Geography Term 2	48	75
Geography Term 3	77	97
Geography Term 4	107	121
History Term 1	34	62
History Term 2	68	88
History Term 3	90	107
History Term 3 (alternative option)	93	109
History Term 4	124	134

The quarterly assessments can be found at the back of *the Oxford Successful Social Sciences Grade 4 Teacher's Guide*. These assessments test the knowledge of the work done in that particular term. Section A of the assessment covers the Geography module, and Section B the History module. The page references are given below.

Quarterly assessment worksheets	TG page reference for assessment	TG page reference for memo
Term 1	140	142
Term 2	144	146
Term 3	148	150
Term 4	152	154

Geography Term 1 Module 1: Places where people live

Planned timeline	Content and concepts (as per CAPS and 2023/2024 ATP)	Learner's Book pages	Time allocated (as per CAPS)	Worksheet page number and name	Date of completion	Teacher reflection
Week 1	 Orientation Grade 4 Social Sciences (Geography) Introduction of topic Places where people live 		1,5 hours (1 week)			
Weeks 2–4	 People and places Places to live in: farm, village, town, city Work: Jobs people do Buildings and their uses Roads and footpaths: how they are used within settlements 	8–12	4,5 hours (3 weeks)			
Weeks 5–6	 Landmarks and explaining the way Identifying landmarks: natural and human-made Describing and drawing a short journey Explaining how to get from one place to another 	13–15	3 hours (2 weeks)	Page 13 Describe and draw your own route (Activity 9 LB p. 16; TG p. 51)		
Weeks 7–8	People and their needs What all people need	17	3 hours (2 weeks)			
Weeks 9–11	Revision and assessment	21	4,5 hours (3 weeks)	Page 24 Quarterly assessment (TG pp. 140 and 142)		

Geography Term 2 Module 3: Map skills

Planned timeline	Content and concepts (as per CAPS and 2023/2024 ATP)	Learner's Book pages	Time allocated (as per CAPS)	Worksheet page number and name	Date of completion	Teacher reflection
Week 1	 Introduction to Map skills Side views and views from above Plan views Pictures showing plan views and side views 	38–39	1,5 hours (1 week)			
Weeks 2–3	 Symbols and keys Symbols as simple pictures or letters Symbols on a large-scale map Keys as lists of symbols with their meanings on South African maps Reading a map using symbols and keys Drawing own map using symbols and a key 	40-42	3 hours (2 weeks)			
Week 4	 Grid references Concept of alpha-numeric grid references Reading and giving grid references on a simple, large scale map 	43–44	1,5 hours (1 week)			
Week 5	Compass directionsThe four compass directions (N, S, E and W) on a map	45	1,5 hours (1 week)			

Planned timeline	Content and concepts (as per CAPS and 2023/2024 ATP)	Learner's Book pages	Time allocated (as per CAPS)	Worksheet page number and name	Date of completion	Teacher reflection
Weeks 6–8	 A map of South Africa Land and sea on a map: how this is shown Names of Oceans Provinces: names and locations on a map of South Africa Main cities and towns of own province, location of own settlement 	46-47	4,5 hours (3 weeks)	Page 14 Map skills (Activity 8 LB p. 48; TG p. 75)		
Weeks 9–11	Revision and assessment	53	4,5 hours (3 weeks)	Page 28 Quarterly assessment (TG pp. 144 and 146)		

Geography Term 3 Module 5: Food and farming in South Africa

Planned timeline	Content and concepts (as per CAPS and 2023/2024 ATP)	Learner's Book pages	Time allocated (as per CAPS)	Worksheet page number and name	Date of completion	Teacher reflection
Week 1	Introduction to the topic: Food and farming in South Africa • Food people eat: From plants and animals (classifying)	72	1,5 hours (1 week)			
Week 2	People and foodWays people get their food	73	1,5 hours (1 week)			
Weeks 3–4	Ways of farmingSubsistence farmingCommercial farmingGrowing food in towns and cities	74–75	3 hours (2 weeks)			
Weeks 5–8	 Crop and stock farming Crop farming: important crops of SA Case study of fruit farming in SA Stock farming in SA Case study of stock farming in SA Location of the main crop and stock farming areas in South Africa 	76-80	6 hours (4 weeks)	Page 15 Find information from a case study (Activity 5 LB p. 77; TG p. 97)		
Weeks 9–11	Revision and assessment	83	4,5 hours (3 weeks)	Page 32 Quarterly assessment (TG pp. 148 and 150)		

Geography Term 4 Module 7: Water in South Africa

Planned timeline	Content and concepts (as per CAPS and 2023/2024 ATP)	Learner's Book pages	Time allocated (as per CAPS)	Worksheet page number and name	Date of completion	Teacher reflection
Weeks 1–2	 Introduction to the topic: Water in SA: Uses of water Daily uses in personal lives Other uses of water (farming, factories, mines, electricity generation, gardens, recreation) 	100–101	3 hours (2 weeks)			
Weeks 3–4	 Water as a resource Salt water and fresh water on Earth The natural water cycle Fresh water in nature Storing water Why people need to store water Ways of storing water 	102–105	3 hours (2 weeks)			
Weeks 5–8	 How people get their water Rivers, streams and springs Boreholes and wells Trucks with water containers Water from taps 	106–107	6 hours (4 weeks)	Page 17 Get information from a diagram about piped water (Activity 5, LB p. 107; TG pp. 121)		
Weeks 9–10	Revision and assessment	110	3 hours (2 weeks)	Page 36 Quarterly assessment (TG pp. 152 and 154)		

History Term 1 Module 2: Local history

Planned timeline	Content and concepts (as per CAPS and 2023/2024 ATP)	Learner's Book pages	Time allocated (as per CAPS)	Worksheet page number and name	Date of completion	Teacher reflection
Week 1	Revision of Grade 3 • How people lived long ago Introduction to the topic: Local history					
Weeks 2–5	Finding information about the history of a local area • Information from pictures • Information from stories and interviews • Information from objects	24–26	6 hours (4 weeks)			
Weeks 6–8	 History project How to do a project Learners find information, and organize, classify and make notes 	30	4,5 hours (3 weeks)	Page 18 Local history (LB p. 34; TG p. 62)		
Weeks 9–11	1 Revision and assessment	35	4,5 hours (3 weeks)	Page 24 Quarterly assessment (TG pp. 141 and 143)		

History Term 2 Module 4: Learning from leaders

Planned timeline	Content and concepts (as per CAPS and 2023/2024 ATP)	Learner's Book pages	Time allocated (as per CAPS)	Worksheet page number and name	Date of completion	Teacher reflection
Week 1	Introduction to the topic:	56	1,5 hours			
Weeks 2–4	ļ. •		(1 week) 4,5 hours (3 weeks)			
Weeks 5–7	≠≥	59-63	4,5 hours (3 weeks)	Page 19 Writing about leaders (Activity 5 LB p. 68; TG p. 88)		
Weeks 8–11	11 Revision and assessment	69	6 hours (4 weeks)	Page 28 Quarterly assessment (TG pp. 145 and 147)		

History Term 3 Module 6: Transport through time

Planned timeline	Content and concepts (as per CAPS and 2023/2024 ATP)	Learner's Book pages	Time allocated (as per CAPS)	Worksheet page number and name	Date of completion	Teacher reflection
Week 1	Introduction to the topic: Transport through time	98	1,5 hours (1 week)			
Weeks 2-4	 Transport on land Animal carts, wagons and coaches The bicycle The steam engine and the train The motorcar Common forms of transport on land today Case study Environmental damage: Exhaust fumes in a big city 	86–89	4,5 hours (3 weeks)	Page 20 Make a poster (Activity 1 LB p. 90; TG p. 107)		
Weeks 5–6	 Transport on water Rafts, canoes and reed boats The first sailing ships The first steamships and modern forms of water transport 	91–94	3 hours (2 weeks)	Page 21 Sailing to South Africa (Activity 2 LB p. 93; TG p. 109)		
Weeks 7–8	 Transport in the air Wright brothers and the invention of the first aeroplane Balloons and airships Modern forms of air transport 	95–96	3 hours (2 weeks)			
Weeks 9–11	Revision and assessment	76	4,5 hours (3 weeks)	Page 32 Quarterly assessment (TG pp. 149 and 151)		

History Term 4 Module 8: Communication through time

Planned timeline	Content and concepts (as per CAPS and 2023/2024 ATP)	Learner's Book pages	Time allocated (as per CAPS)	Worksheet page number and name	Date of completion	Teacher reflection
 Week 1	Introduction to the topic: Communication through time • Language, symbols, songs, art and dance • How the San people communicated	114–116	1,5 hours (1 week)			
 Weeks 2–7	Change in modern forms of communication The postal system Radio Early typewriters The telegraph The telephone The camera Television Computers and the Internet	118–123	9 hours (6 weeks)	Page 23 Communication in the past and present (Activity 12 LB p. 124; TG p. 134)		
Weeks 8–10	Revision and assessment	124	4,5 hours (3 weeks)	Page 36 Quarterly assessment (TG pp. 153 and 155)		





Geography Term 1 Worksheet

Describe and draw your own route

Name.	Class:
Heading: My route from home to	
Description of the route:	Write a description of the route. Remember to: use direction words, such as left, right and straight on name roads identify landmarks you pass on the route.
Drawing of the route:	Make a drawing of your route. Remember to: draw neatly and clearly name roads and landmarks clearly mark your home and the end point of your route.

Total: 15 marks



Geography Term 2 Worksheet

Map skills

Na	ıme:_	Class:	
		the map of tourist attractions in South Africa (page 48 of yo's Book).	our
1	Write	e down the tourist attractions in:	
	1.1	E4	
	1.2	G4	
	1.3	G3	[3]
2	Give	the grid reference where you will find:	
	2.1	the Garden Route	
	2.2	a casino	
	2.3	the Winelands	
	2.4	the Cango Caves	[4]
3	In w	nich province could a tourist:	
	3.1	go to a game park?	
		go fishing?	
	3.3	sit on a beach?	
	3.4	look at wildlife?	[4]
4	Give	the direction from Upington to:	
	4.1	Cape Town	
	4.2	Kimberley	[2]
5	woul	u travelled from Sun City to Port Elizabeth, which direction d you be going?	[2]

Total: 15 marks



Geography Term 3 Worksheet

Find information from a case study

nan	ne:	Class:
	ad the case study on page 77 of the Learner's Bo se questions about the Du Toit's farm.	ok. Then answer
1.1	Is this a commercial or subsistence farm?	(1)
1.2	Give a reason for your answer.	(2)
		[3]
2	Identify the crop grown on this farm.	[1]
3	List six expenses that Mr Du Toit has.	[6]



	Total: 15	marks
6	Explain the difference between table and wine grapes.	[1]
5.2	Why does Mr Du Toit need extra workers?	(1) [2]
5.1	How many people work here all year round?	(1)
4	How does he make money out of his farm?	[2]

16



Geography Term 4 Worksheet

Get information from a diagram about piped water

Na	nme:Class:	
	udy the diagram on page 107 of your Learner's Book and answeese questions.	er
1	What brings water to the land?	[1]
2	How is water from the river collected and stored?	[2]
3	Describe the three stages of cleaning the water at the waterwo	rks. [3]
4	How is the water stored in the town?	[2]
5	The reservoir is often on top of a hill. Where is the nearest reservoir to your home?	[1]
6	Who do you think pays for the water to be collected, cleaned, stored and piped to homes?	[1]

Total: 10 marks



History Term 1 Worksheet

Local history

Name:	Class:

What are you going to do for your project on your local area?

- Step 1 Choose your project: You will do this project with a partner. Your teacher will help you choose something to research. It can be anything that you want to find out about. It could be the history of your school, the local area around the school or the place where you live.

 Most of the project has to be done in class. You may do research at home. Choose two things in your area that you would like to look at.
 - Your project will take the form of an information brochure.
- Step 2 Think about where you will find information: Your teacher will help you find information for your project. Remember what you have learnt in class. You must also look at books, photographs and pictures. You can do interviews and ask your parents to help you on the Internet.
- **Step 3** *Write notes:* As you read or look at old pictures or photographs, write down the information in your own words. If you are interviewing someone, write down their answers to your questions.
- **Step 4** *Organise your own work*: Each of the things you chose must have five good sentences about it, as well as a drawing or photograph.
- **Step 5** Check with your teacher: Look carefully at your information brochure to make sure you have done what you were asked to do. Do you need to make any changes to improve your project?
- **Step 6** Show your work to the class and tell them about your project. Hand your project in to your teacher for marking.

Total: 25 marks

Remember

You must use your own words.



History Term 2 Worksheet

Writing about leaders

Name:	Class:
the informa again. Cho	formation about leaders in Unit 1 of this module and read ation about Mahatma Gandhi or Nelson Mandela in Unit 2 cose one and find examples of when he lead in the four below. Write your answers in the table.
Leader	
Teacher	
Vicionary	
Visionary	
Soldier	
Healer	

 $[4 \times 4 = 16]$

Total: 16 marks



History Term 3 Worksheet

Make a poster

Name:	Class:	

Read the case study about the impact of exhaust fumes on the environment (see page 89 of your Learner's Book). Find out more about exhaust fumes and the dangers to the environment and our health.

Make a poster that will help people to understand more about the pollution from exhaust fumes. Your teacher will help you find the information. Write a paragraph in your notebook about pollution from exhaust fumes.

Total: 15 marks

You will be assessed according to the following criteria:

Total	/ 15
The poster is visually effective.	/ 5
The poster demonstrates the message about pollution clearly.	/ 5
The paragraph has correct information about pollution due to exhaust fumes.	/ 5



History Term 3 Worksheet

Sailing to South Africa

Na	ıme:Class:	
wh	ead the information about The Chapman and Henry's experience nile on the ship on page 93 of your Learner's Book. Then answer estions.	
1	What did the family take with them on the ship to set up their farm in South Africa?	[5]
2	What were the sleeping arrangements for the family?	[2]
3	Why was Henry afraid during the voyage?	 [1]
4	What was Henry's job each day on board ship?	 [1]
5	How did the passengers get onto the shore when they arrived Algoa Bay?	d in [1]



6	Try to imagine what it must have been like on board ship. Look the picture of the ship to help you think about it. Then write a paragraph of about five sentences pretending that you are on ship sailing from England to South Africa. What are you thinkin about? Are you excited? Are you afraid?	а

Total: 15 marks



History Term 4 Worksheet Communication in the past and present

Name:		Class:
Look at the diffe	erent forms of commu	unication:
speaking drawing singing	radio TV dancing	using symbols using a cellphone using a camera

Fill in the forms of communication in the correct columns. The first two have been done for you as examples:

Communication in the distant past	Communication in the present
Speaking	Speaking
	Radio
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	

Total: 15 marks



Class:____

Quarterly assessment: Term 1 (Modules 1–2)

Name:

	Column A		Column B	
1.	1 City	Α	a place where people live together	
1.:	2 Settlement	В	large piece of land that is used to product food	
1.:	3 Town	С	a place where a couple of families live together, and there are a couple of shops and a small school	
1.4	4 Farm	D	a large place with many shops, factories, hospitals and schools	
1.	1		1.3	
1.2			1 1	
			ark	
		ıral h	eacon with a beacon made by people and	





Describe a route from one place to another that you know well route must include two beacons made by people and two natubeacons, and you must use direction words in your description	ıral
Explain why large towns need municipalities.	(3)
Make a recommendation to friends of your family. They are	
emigrating from New York to South Africa and must choose to live in a small town or large city. Explain why you would sugge the family settle in this place.	
	[25]



Section B Local history (25 marks)

1 Fill in the missing words:

		When events are ordered from the oldest to the newest event we call it order. When we arrange a meeting with someone in order to ask	
		the person questions about a specific topic, we are conductan with the person.	
	1.3	Yournewspaper can tell you about events close to your home or school.	
	1.4	Important documents are kept in special places, called	(4)
			(4)
2	List	four ways in which we can collect information about local eve	nts. (4)
			•
			•
0			
3		e an example of each of the four ways of collecting information you mentioned in Question 2, above.	า (4)
4	•	plain why we should think carefully about the name of a place en we are trying to find out more information about the place. (4)	•

5	Explain why older people who lived in Alexandra might have bot good and bad memories of the place.	th 4)
6	Evaluate how valuable the information is that the donkey-monur in Upington provides.	 nen 5)

[25] Total: 50 marks



Quarterly assessment: Term 2 (Modules 3–4)

Name:		Class:	
Sec	Section A Map skills (25 marks)		
1	Explain what the following is:		
	1.1 a grid map		
	1.2 a compass	(2)	
	1.3 a coast line	(1)	
2	Name the four compass directions.	$(\frac{1}{2}\times 4=2)$	
3	Define "provincial capital".	(2)	
4	Compare "side view" with "plan view".	(2)	



where the door and window is. Make use of symbols a	e you sit and and a key. (
Explain why symbols are used on maps.	(



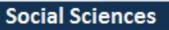
Section B Learning from leaders (25 marks)

List eight qualities of a good leader.	. (8 <u>)</u>
	-
Explain how a person can fight against conflict.	(2)
Give examples of two advantageous (good) influences that result from Nelson Mandela's traditional upbringing.	- - ed (2)
Discuss Nelson Mandela's decision to study law.	. (3)
	Explain how a person can fight against conflict. Give examples of two advantageous (good) influences that result from Nelson Mandela's traditional upbringing.



5	Choose and recall two examples of events that occurred in prison show what an exceptional leader Nelson Mandela was.	that (2)
6	Explain why it is significant that Gandhi always lived in simple, sm houses?	all (3)
7	Critically evaluate Nelson Mandela's approach. Do you think that	he
	should have supported more or less violence, or do you think that had exactly the right approach? If you feel that he should have supported more or less violence, say what you think the end resul thereof would have been.	
	Total: 50 ma	[25] rks

31





Quarterly assessment: Term 3 (Modules 5–6)

Na	me:	Class:	
S	Sectio	on A Food and farming in South Africa (25 marks)	
		llowing sentences relate to how people get their food. Fill in ssing words:	
	1.2	Some peopletheir food in shops or from street vendors. People who live close to the sea or a river can The San animals with bows and arrows kill them.	to
2	2.1 2.2 2.3 2.4	me the word that describes each of the following terms: chicken that is kept for its meat food for plants chickens that run free on farms corn and maize place where chickens are kept in small cages (5)	5)
3		t two reasons why people who live in towns or cities sometimes ep goats. (2	2)
4		mpare the following terms: subsistence farming and commercial farming	



5

6

here it is most comr	•	vith the area in South Afri n B, and give a reason w Column C.
Column A: Type of farming	Column B: Area of South Africa	Column C: Reason why this area is ideal for this type of farming
sheep	a	b
c	d	Summers are long and dry and the winters wet and cool. (<i>Hint</i> : the crop is harvested in summer.)
e	Eastern part of Kwazulu-Natal and Mpumalanga	f
iscuss the processi	ng of sugar from the	(6)
n our supermarket s	_	(t

[25]



Section B Transport through time (25 marks)

1 Fill in the missing words:

	There are two ways in which animals namely people ride the animals or animal's,,	goods on a , , or animals can pull thing	s like
	Horses, donkeys and, years to transport people and goods. use, which are a without needing to drink	People who live in the des ble to walk a great distance	ert,
2	List two ways in which the first bicycle	es differed from modern one	es. (2)
3	Explain why people didn't make muc beginning.	h use of the steam train in t	 the (2)



Give examples of four types of sail boats that revolutionized sailin and explain what each of them contributed.	(8)
	-
	-
	-
	_
Critically discuss whether our lives are better or worse as a result the discovery of the wheel.	of (5)
	-
	-
	-
	-
	_
	Critically discuss whether our lives are better or worse as a result

35





Quarterly assessment: Term 4 (Modules 7–8)

Name:Class						
		outh Africa (25 ma				
1	Choose a word/term from the box below to describe each of the descriptions from (1.1) to (1.6).					
	sewage water sewage pipe recycling water cycle		borehole purification reservoir			
	1.1 plant food that is manufactured					
	1.2 small hole that is dug in the ground to get to water					
	1.3 the equipment that keeps places clean					
	1.4 waste water from toilets *					
	1.5 to remove dirty or dangerous substances					
	1.6 to re-use something for a different purpose(
2	Fill in the missing words: Most South Africans get their water from the tap. In towns and cities,					
	many people have taps in their homes. This water is called					
	because it runs through pipes from a					
	that It is a large tank that is built on a					
	place in the town.		town.	(4)		
3	Explain how the daily habits of some people can pollute water.*		(6)			
				· - ·		
(* not	part of 2023/2024 ATPs)					



Social Sciences

	(3)
Draw a flow diagram to illustrate the water cycle. Make utilities to be concepts: sea; sewage water; clean water flow	s in pipes to
houses; water gathered from the natural water cycle; sevecycling, water purification plant.	wage (6



Section B Communication through time (25 marks)

Defi	ne the concept "communications".	(3)
Nan	ne one advantage of the written message.	(1)
List	three types of symbols that are used for communication.	(3)
	ne two examples of communication that takes place without alking.	 words (2)
Stat	e whether the following are true or false:	
5.1	In 1895, the inventor Henry Ford demonstrated that radio- communication could work.	
5.2	Radio stations and radio programs began in the 1920s.	
5.3	Radio signals move through the air to an antenna (a receptor that changes the signals back into images.	,
5.4	In the beginning, radio signals were used to communicate viships at sea.	vith (4)



Social Sciences

6	Explain how cell phones work. Use the following words in your explanation: signals; satellites; orbit; network.	(4)
7.1	Imagine that you rediscover a lost family member, and you want tell the person all about your household. Explain how you can use camera to provide the information.	
		-
7.2	Provide a supporting argument to explain why a camera would provide a better source of information than any other method of communication in this situation.	(3)
	Total: 50 m	[25]

39

How to develop rubric and checklist assessment tools

Rubrics

A rubric is a tool teachers use to assess a learner's performance on a specific task. It is presented in the form of a grid that clearly outlines the criteria used for assessment as well as different levels of performance per criterion.

Benefits of using a rubric

- A rubric helps learners to understand objectives. Developing rubrics with your learners will help them to understand the purpose and content and help them to prepare for the assessment.
- A rubric has a clear and standardised approach to assessment, which ensures that learners are assessed consistently and fairly.
- A rubric allows teachers to provide specific feedback to learners, highlighting areas of strength and areas for improvement.
- A rubric helps learners get a clear idea on how to improve their performance after assessment.
- A rubric allows learners to self-improve. Encourage learners to use the rubric before they hand in their work.
- A rubric is easy to use and can be easily adapted to meet changing needs.

Steps to creating a rubric

Step 1: Clearly define the purpose of the assessment.

Use the assessment guidelines in the curriculum documents to determine what task/assignment the learners are required to complete.

Step 2: Define the criteria.

Use the objectives in the curriculum documents to consider what skills, knowledge or behaviours the assessment will evaluate.

Make sure that:

- criteria can be observed and measured
- criteria are important to the task at hand
- each criteria assesses a single aspect of the task.

Each criteria contains levels of performance. When creating these, consider:

- what will constitute outstanding achievement
- how will you define moderate or adequate achievement
- how would you define work that falls below expectations.

Ask yourself: Are there key criteria points that should carry a greater weight than others?

Step 3: Design a rating scale that clearly defines the levels of performance. Check your mark allocation to ensure that your rubric falls in line with curriculum expectations.

Make sure you use language and terminology that the learner is familiar with so that they have a clear understanding of what is required of them.

Provide a scale of achievement that can assess the learners' overall competency in completing the task. For example, you can provide an overall mark according to the seven-point rating code or scale of achievement:

Rating code	Description of Competence	Percentage
7	Outstanding achievement	80–100
6	Meritorious achievement	70–79
5	Substantial achievement	60–69
4	Adequate achievement	50–59
3	Moderate achievement	40–49
2	Elementary achievement	30–39
1	Not achieved	0–29

Step 4: Write descriptions of expected performance at each level of the rating scale. Describe observable and measurable behaviour and use parallel language across the scale. Indicate the degree to which the standards are met. Ensure that learners understand the expectations before and during the assessment.

Step 5: Create the rubric.

For ease of use, keep it to one page. Ask your colleagues for feedback and consider testing it before you use it for assessment. After you use the rubric, consider how effective it was and make any necessary revisions.

Checklists

A checklist is a simple assessment tool that provides a list of items or criteria to be checked off. It differs from a rubric in that it provides learners with the criteria of the requirements of an assignment rather than a means of assessing acquired knowledge. A checklist can be used solely by you as a teacher, or you can give your learners a checklist that they can refer to in order to make sure that they have included the required components for a task.

Checklists usually consist of a number of statements that refer to specific criteria and where the answer will be, for example, "Yes" or "No", or "Achieved", "Not yet" or "Almost".

Benefits of using a checklist

- A checklist ensures that all relevant criteria are assessed and evaluated.
- A checklist helps to ensure consistent assessment of specified criteria.
- A checklist can be used by learners as a self-assessment tool.
- A checklist identifies learning needs in a clear and simple way.
- A checklist is easy to create and use and provides an uncomplicated guide for assessment.

Steps to create a checklist

Step 1: Define the purpose and what you want to assess.

This could be specific skills or a general assessment.

Step 2: Identify the criteria.

What specific elements or content will be assessed?

Step 3: Create your checklist.

Check that it contains everything you want to assess.

Exemplar:

Presenting a poster

Presenting a poster checklist				
Did the learner:	Yes 2	Partially 1	No 0	
indicate the topic clearly?				
present sufficient information to convey the message?				
research the topic and site sources?				
make a credible attempt to create a visually effective poster?				
demonstrate originality?				
Total		_/ 10		

Intervention strategies

Baseline assessment and intervention strategies

Some learners may experience academic backlogs for various reasons, including the impact on learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic, underlying learning barriers or special education needs such as visual or hearing impairments or intellectual barriers. Baseline assessment will help you identify learners that may be experiencing these barriers.

Analysing baseline assessment questions will provide insight into learners' current knowledge and skills regarding certain topics, as well as their preparedness for the work ahead. The results of baseline assessments can help to identify the areas where learners require support and/or intervention.

Learners may require support and/or intervention for the following reasons:

- barriers to learning
- class size
- reading comprehension (the ability to understand what they have read).

Barriers to learning

Some learners may face barriers to learning. It is important to accommodate learners with barriers to learning to ensure that our classrooms remain inclusive. These learners may require and should be granted more time for completing tasks, acquiring thinking skills (own strategies), and completing assessment activities. Adapt the number of activities to be completed without interfering with learners gaining the required skills. Learners experiencing barriers to learning can also be paired with others who may be able to support them.

Class size

- Peer tutoring can be an effective intervention method when class size is problematic.
- Quieter learners often struggle in a large class, as they tend not to ask questions.
 Organising learners into groups or pairs can help to create a more inclusive and enabling learning environment.
- Ensure that groups are made up of learners with varying ability, so that learners who may be struggling are supported by their peers.
- Peer assessment can also be used successfully during informal assessment and allows you to gauge learners' understanding in a less intimidating manner than a formal test or assignment.

- The following strategies can be used in a large class:
 - Thumbs up/thumbs down: Check understanding by a show of thumbs. Thumbs up indicate that learners have understood; thumbs down show that they have not understood; thumbs sideways could show that they are not sure.
 - Response boards: These are small chalkboards or whiteboards where learners record their response to a question. When you say "Show your answers" they all hold up the board. This way you can quickly see who is struggling.
 - Show fingers 1-2-3: Ask learners to show fingers to indicate if they understand activity instructions before working in a group. 1 = I do not understand; 2 = I sort of understand but I need some help; 3 = I understand completely.

Reading comprehension

- Support learners by giving them pre-reading questions and post-reading strategies to
 organise what they have learnt. Pre-reading questions could include asking the
 learners what they already know about the topic. Teach learners to summarise the
 content into bullet points and make use of mind maps. This requires the learners to
 rewrite the content in their own words.
- Write difficult terminology on the board and give simple explanations.
- Diagrams can be very useful to explain concepts in a way that learners can visualise the situation.

General teaching intervention strategies

Teach from the learner's point of view

- Put yourself in the learner's position: If you were the learner, what would you like the teacher to explain or show you that you could not learn previously?
- Remember that learners might still have emotional issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic, which you may need to address.

Reteach topic(s) for which learners achieved low scores (closing the gap)

- Focus on concepts, and not only on factual content. Then use illustrations to support learners' understanding and avoid superficial rote learning. The more "real-life" examples used, the easier it will be for the learners to conceptualise the topic.
- Make the structure of your lessons and teaching materials clear: State specific, achievable goals, provide graphic organisers to link parts of the lesson and give frequent summaries of sections of the lesson. A graphic organiser can be any visual representation of content that gives an immediate overview of main points.
- Refer frequently to your progress in terms of the lesson structure. This will help learners to develop an overall and cohesive (holistic) grasp of the content.

• Skills, knowledge and concepts run like threads through the previous grades. Explain these threads to learners, as you begin teaching a new topic or module – it will help learners to link the new content to what they already know.

Metacognition

Metacognition is the ability to understand our own thought processes. It is essential that metacognition takes place during lessons.

Learners retain information best when they can visualise situations. Visual aids, such as flash cards and mind maps, and practical work can aid with developing metacognition, or getting learners to think about and understand their own thought processes. After completing practical tasks, give learners sentence starters to complete. For example: I learnt . . .; I wonder . . .; I still want to know . . .; I still don't understand . . .; I still have a question about

Retaining information

- Flash cards and mind maps can be useful tools to help learners memorise facts.
- Encourage learners to break down content into more manageable sections. They can then create a mind map for each sub-topic. Tables can also help learners summarise content into more manageable sections.
- A mnemonic is a word, sentence or poem that helps you remember something.
 Mnemonics help learners to memorise content. Use the first letter of each word to create a sentence that the learners can memorise easily. For example, a mnemonic such as "Eat An Apple As A Nice Snack" can help learners to memorise the names of the continents: Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, Antarctica, North America, South America.

Develop presentation skills

Many learners find it challenging to speak in front of the class, but this improves with practice. Encourage learners to answer questions in class and take part in class discussions by using one or more of the following strategies:

- Use the think-pair-share method: Posing a question and giving learners a short time to think about it, followed by discussion with a partner and then sharing with others. Learners who are shy will find it easier to share ideas with a partner first.
- *Tell-check-say:* A learner tells the answer to a friend, together they check if the answer is correct by referring to the textbook, and then the first learner says the answer out loud to the class or writes it down.

- Target basic and then more advanced questions to specific learners based on their readiness to answer them: A good strategy is to first ask the question to the whole class. This ensures that everyone thinks about it. Then, ask a specific learner the question.
- *Keywords on cards:* These can be used to help the learner remember their presentation. Eye contact is essential, so emphasise to learners that they should not read their presentation.

Interventions for learners with special education needs

- Special educational needs may include visual or hearing impairments or intellectual barriers. Do not form an opinion about a learner too early This could lead to an inaccurate assessment of a learner's barrier, or an inaccurate assessment of the existence of a barrier (when in fact there may not be one). If the barrier is obvious after the first term and becomes a serious obstacle to the learner, seek professional help from the district office.
- Immediate steps could include: observing the learner inside and outside of the classroom, contacting the learner's previous teachers and consulting learner progress reports to understand their needs.

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Published in South Africa by Oxford University Press Southern Africa (Pty) Ltd

Vasco Boulevard, Goodwood, N1 City, PO Box 12119, Cape Town, South Africa

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First published 2017

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Oxford Successful Social Sciences Grade 4 Teacher's Resource Book

PROM0190725136

First impression 2017 Updated impression 2023

Typeset in Ariel 14pt
Printed on [insert paper quality e.g. acid-free paper]

Acknowledgements Publisher: Elaine Williams Editor: Lize Venter-Horn

Printed and bound by: XYZ Printing Company

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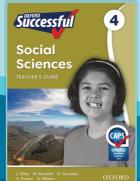


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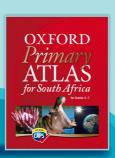
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