

CDC Key Learning Area Committee on English Language Education 2002-2003
Minutes of the Second Meeting

- Date: 26 November 2002
- Time: 4.30 p.m.
- Venue: Rm 1023B, 10/F Wu Chung House, Wan Chai, Hong Kong
- Present: Mr. Stephen CHAN (Chairperson)
Ms CHAN Wai-ming (Vice-Chairperson)
Mr CHEUNG Man-biu
Mrs Shirley DUTHIE
Mrs Christina LEE
Mrs LIU LU Lee-Ching
Ms MOK Fung-ye, Emily
Dr Gordon SLETHAUG
Ms Truly SIU
Mr Simon THAM
Mr Derek TOO
Mr Raymond NG (Secretary)
- Apologies: Ms CHENG Woon-kai
Mrs FUNG Sin Lai-wan
Mr KUAN Yuk-kin
Dr Angela MOK
Mr Lindsay MILLER
Mrs Catherine LI
Professor William LITTLEWOOD
Ms WAN Koon-Har
- In attendance: Ms Cindy CHAN
Ms Eunice CHENG
Mrs Sheila Anne IP
Mrs Helen KUNG

Document tabled:

Proposed Descriptors of Learning Outcomes (LO) and Basic Competency (BC) at the end of KS3 (S3) and KS4 (S5) (Tryout Version 1)

1. Confirmation of Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 October 2002 were confirmed.

2. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Vice-Chairperson referred to paragraph 4.1 of the minutes of the last meeting, and said that an additional seminar session on the English Language Education KLA Curriculum Guide (P1-S3) for Primary Teachers had been arranged to take place on 9 December 2002 because of over-subscription to the October event.

3. Proposed Descriptors of Learning Outcomes (LO) and Basic Competency (BC) at the end of KS3 (S3) and KS4 (S5) (Tryout Version 1)

3.1 Ms Eunice Cheng reported on the suggestions/comments by the Ad Hoc Committee on Assessment for Learning (Secondary) and the Focus Group on Assessment for Learning (Secondary), which were incorporated into the draft LO and BC descriptors tabled at the meeting.

3.2 Members of the English Language Education Committee considered the tabled document, focusing particularly on the sections on Reading and Listening. After much deliberation, the following comments and suggestions for revision were made:

pp.3 &15

The phrase “on the media” should be revised as “in the media”.

pp.4 & 16

The footnote for KS3 and KS4 Speaking is to be revised to read: “Speaking refers to both process and the product. The descriptors listed can be used for assessing speaking as a product and for helping learners improve their fluency, accuracy and communication skills in the communication process. Some speaking activities (e.g. preparing, practising and rehearsing for oral presentations/dramas/debates) more readily lend themselves to changes/re-adjustment and feedback for improvement than others (e.g. impromptu conversations/discussions/questions and answers sessions).”

pp.7 & 19 KS3 and KS4 Reading – Interpersonal Strand/Dimension

The first Learning Outcome and Basic Competency descriptors that appear on these two pages are to be revised as:

S3-B-IR-1

- understanding messages and requests in simple texts

S3-LO-IR-1

- showing some ability to understand messages and requests in a variety of texts

S5-B-IR-1

- showing some ability to understand messages and requests in a variety of texts

S5-LO-IR-1

- understanding messages and requests in a variety of texts

p.15 **KS4 Listening – Experience Strand/Dimension**

The phrase “including those in the media” was used with texts referred to in the Experience Strand/Dimension for Listening. Members questioned why texts under this Strand were singled out and suggested that an overall footnote be included to tell readers that all texts referred to in the three Strands/Dimensions (Interpersonal, Knowledge and Experience) for the skills of Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking would include those in the media.

pp.8 & 20 **KS3 and KS4 Reading – Knowledge Strand/Dimension**

It was agreed that the third Learning Outcome and Basic Competency descriptors that appear on these two pages are to be revised as:

S3-B-KR-3

- showing some ability to extract relevant information and ideas from written texts on familiar topics through oral, written or graphic means

S3-LO-KR-3

- showing some ability to extract relevant information and ideas from written texts on familiar and less familiar topics through oral, written or graphic means

S5-B-KR-3

- showing some ability to extract relevant information and ideas from written texts on familiar and less familiar topics through oral, written or graphic means

S5-LO-KR-3

- extracting relevant information and ideas from written texts on familiar and less familiar topics through oral, written or graphic means

It was also agreed that examples be provided to illustrate what is meant by “oral, written or graphic means” such as note-taking, summarizing, paraphrasing, mind maps, diagrams, spidergrams, sketches.

p. 20 **KS4 Reading – Knowledge Strand/Dimension**

The fourth Learning Outcome and Basic Competency descriptors on this page are to be revised as:

S5-B-KR-4

- showing some ability to evaluate different ideas, information, arguments, views and attitudes

S5-LO-KR-4

- evaluating different ideas, information, arguments, views and attitudes

pp.9 & 22 **KS3 and KS4 Reading – Experience Strand/Dimension**

The third Learning Outcome and Basic Competency descriptors on p.9 are to be revised as:

S3-B-ER-3

- predicting the development and outcome of simple stories or plays

S3-LO-ER-3

- showing some ability to predict the development and outcome of various stories or plays

Further, it was felt that making predictions is an important skill which should not only be confined to KS3 level but also be included in the Learning Outcome and Basic Competence descriptors for KS4 on p.21, as follows:

S5-B-ER-3

- showing some ability to predict the development and outcome of various stories or plays

S5-LO-ER-3

- predicting the development and outcome of various stories or plays with justification based on evidence from the texts

3.3 Members endorsed the “Proposed Descriptors of Learning Outcomes (LO) and Basic Competency (BC) at the end of KS3 (S3) and KS4 (S5) (Tryout Version 1)” in principle. They were requested to forward further feedback, if any, to the Secretary by 2 December 2002 (Tuesday).

3.1 The Vice-chairperson informed the Committee that the “Proposed Descriptors of Learning Outcomes (LO) and Basic Competency (BC) at the end of KS1 (P3) and KS2 (P6) (Tryout Version 1)” are currently revised in terms of presentation format. To facilitate clearer reporting of students' performance, the LO and BC descriptors are re-organized by skills rather than Strands/Dimensions. This way, the presentation will become more streamlined because descriptors under different Strands that appear similar to each other can be grouped together under specific skills. It is anticipated that the proposed LO and BC descriptors for KS3 and KS4 will also undergo revision in this light.

4. Any Other Business

4.1 Knowledge Fair

The Secretary reported that the presentations on the three English Language Education Research and Development (“Seed”) projects at the Knowledge Fair on 12 November 2002 were well-attended and very successful. The attendance rate for the various presentations was as follows:

Seed Project	No. of Participants (AM)	No. of Participants (PM)
Case Studies of English Language Learning through Cross-curricular Modules at Primary Level	101	95
The Learning and Teaching of Language Arts at Junior Secondary Level	NA	134
Self-access Language Learning (SALL) in Hong Kong Secondary Schools	124	NA

Members are encouraged to visit the website, <http://cd.ed.gov.hk/KnowledgeFair2002/eng/handout.htm>, if they are interested in accessing the Knowledge Fair presentation handouts.

4.2 English Language Curriculum Guide (Primary 1-6)

The Vice-Chairperson informed members that the Guide in preparation is to replace the 1997 Primary English Syllabus, and that ideas and views from panel chairs and teachers of English at primary level are being collected through curriculum visits and focus-group meetings. She also reported that more teacher members are now sought to join the Ad Hoc Committee on English Language Curriculum Guide (Primary 1-6), whose first meeting is to take place in early December 2002. The Committee was informed that the first consultation for the Guide has been scheduled for June 2003, and the second consultation for late November or December 2003.

4.3 There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 6.55pm.

Confirmed on: _____

Mr Stephen CHAN
(Chairperson)

Mr Raymond NG
(Secretary)