

Supporting Primary Schools in Pupil Progress and Attainment

Lessons from research and practice around the world



Tim Oates CBE | Group Director of ARD | December 2018



Purposes of assessment in the English education system



Phonics check

Phonics check needs rethink after data shows 'something dodgy' – Freddie Whittaker Schools Week 0710 2016

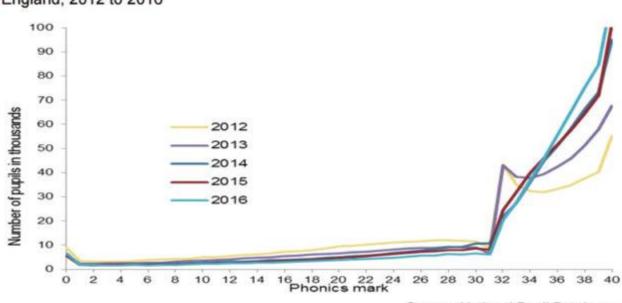
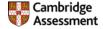


Figure 1: Year 1 phonics screening check mark distribution: England, 2012 to 2016

Source: National Pupil Database



Baseline Test

What will be assessed?

Schools will administer the assessment soon after pupils enter reception. It will be an activity-based assessment of pupils' ability in: communication, language and literacy early mathematics skills

We are also exploring whether **selfregulation** can form part of the assessment. The assessment will be age appropriate, last 20 minutes and teachers will record the results. It will not be used to judge, label or track individual pupils.

Contemporary comment: attacking too soon...

What Gibb does not mention is that the overwhelming evidence is that assessments at this age, especially if they are quick and simple, are unreliable. Results are heavily dependent on how old the child is; they cannot make accurate assessments in the case of children who speak English as a second language. This makes them particularly unsuitable for use as instruments for accountability, by which Gibb means rankings or league-tables of schools.

Gemma Moss, Harvey Goldstein, Pam Sammons, Gwen Sinnott and Gordon Stobart Friday 4 May 2018





Formative assessment

Summative assessment

Low stakes

High stakes



Pupil A – level 4 – no entry testing – KS3 weak on assessment – poor test prep – low score – predicted 5 Lower tier route

Pupil B – level 4 – no entry testing – KS3 weak on assessment – poor test prep – low score – predicted 5 Lower tier route

Low quality primary provision in maths

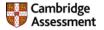
Tracking systems can lock in low expectations Opportunity to Learn (OTL) Bill Scmidt – self fulfilling low demand reduced curriculum experience Statistical creation of low expectations and low performance but just meeting targets Continuation of orthodoxy of 'borderline grade C' targetting behaviour



An ice cube floats in a glass of water

Will the level of water in the glass rise when the cube melts?

How many trees does it take to make one edition of the New York Times? Enrico Fermi



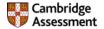
Many are reluctant to ask questions out of fear of failure

What's the difference between 'gas' and 'smoke'? Did Shakespeare have a sense of unconscious motivation?

Discussion questions Diagnostic Hinge-point Exit pass

Underneath the **deployment** of these are principles (explicit/implicit) regarding:

the extent of practice variation theory for the purpose of learning repetition for moving ideas into long term memory extent and depth of understanding-tracing points of breakdown the structure of knowledge (there are such things as 'subjects')



Intrusive

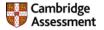
Ideas of powerful knowledge – important issues of epistemology and ontology

Moving from 'common experience' to profound counterintuitive knowledge and behaviour informed by this knowledge – Hidden Figures, Soviet Maths

Uncomfortable (affect) – requires deep engagement & concentration (cognitive re-orientation)

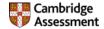
Constructs and constructivism – naïve constructivism re 'authentic experience of the child'; 'discovery learning'

Production

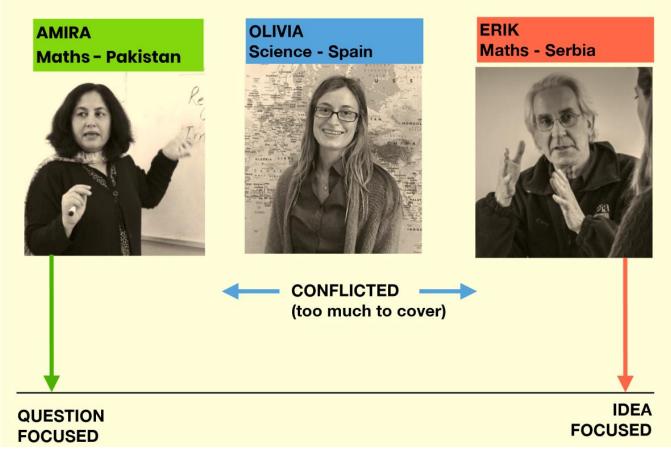


Vicki Crisp

Learning to pass Learning Learning to learn

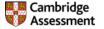


TEACHER TYPES

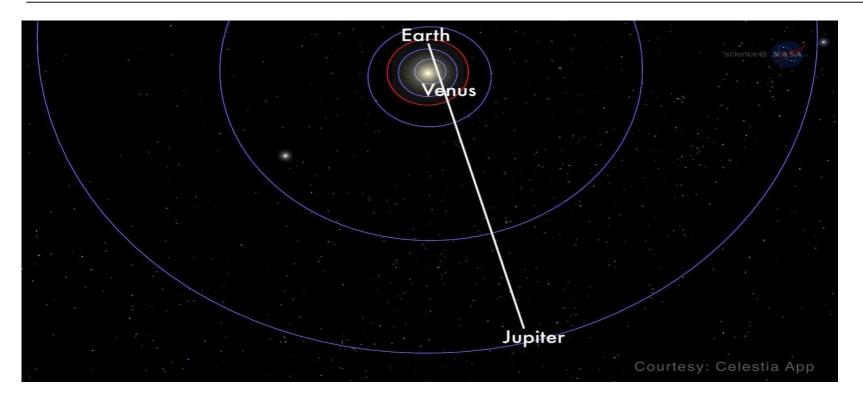


You can see Venus, Jupiter and it's dark – where are they?

Rich questions



You can see Venus, Jupiter and it's dark – where are they?





Constructs...knowing, doing, understanding

Spectrum Frequency Colour Reflection Absorbtion

A question

Blue things reflect blue light and absorb the rest of the spectrum Red things reflect red light and...



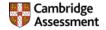
Questions

The electron

Charge Properties of substances Chemical combination Electrical energy

Questions we ask and the answers we expect (item and marking/response frame) What we do with the outcomes and the feedback we give Mastery

Revealing misconceptions Depth of treatment Supporting thinking



But I looked in the archive ... and it just had questions....

Polish and re-use – Rong Fang; Stigler; Christodoulou; Warner & Jardine-Wright

1923 1601 403

Quantum – crowd-sourced assessment

Flooding as a means of avoiding instrumentalism & encouraging 'intelligent practice'



Select Committee evidence January 2017

... We are the most tested system in the world

... Only, we aren't

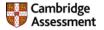
... Only we have high accountability

... In fact, we really aren't the only ones

... High density assessment and accountability are not associated with 'improving systems'

... Actually, they are

We need more assessment of a different kind



The Game

From Inside the Black Box

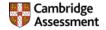
-Wait long enough and the teacher will tell you the answer – pupil perspective -I have to move fast because there's so much to go through – teacher perspective -Pace, pace – Ofsted myth

-We must demonstrate progress – school leader perspective

-Boaler on maths

-Cunninghan on quiet reflection

-Lisa Jardine Wright on first year Physics at Cambridge



Impediments to improvement

- Interference with need fulfilment
- Selective perception
- Habit
- Inconvenience or loss of freedom
- Economic implications
- Security in the past
- Fear of the unknown
- Threats to power or influence
- Knowledge and skill obsolescence
- Organisational structure
- Limited resources

Resistance to change and ways of reducing resistance in educational organisations Yilmaz D & Kilicoglu 2013



Teaching is exceptionally complex

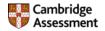
Ted Wragg & Caroline Wragg

Dreyfus & Dreyfus

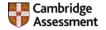
- -Unconscious incompetence
- -Conscious incompetence
- -Conscious competence
- -Unconscious competence

'... You can't teach an old dog new tricks...''....Old habits die hard...'

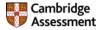
Evidence on novice performance in teaching – stress; why no textbooks? 20



- 1 knowledge versus skills
- 2 subjects versus themes
- 3 abstract versus concrete
- 4 rote learning versus understanding
- 5 didactics versus pedagogy
- 6 teacher-led versus individualised learning
- 7 assessment versus learning



- 1. Discipline-specific knowledge, skills and understanding in broad range of disciplines
- 2. Orientation to learning, 'learning to learn'
- 3. Physical and mental well-being
- 4. Personal and social identity
- 5. Personal dispositions and attitudes (Bynner et al)
- 6. Social networks and relationships (Schuller et al)
- 7. Cultural capacity
- 8. Moral, civic and political understanding, including international awareness
- 9. Facility in technology



Taught curriculum – subjects Taught curriculum – cross curriculum elements 'Taught' curriculum – extra-curriculum elements Expected activities outside school: school-home linkage – homework, parental support

Extra-curriculum elements – guided (school trips, link activities etc) unguided (student clubs etc)

Institutional participation – student councils etc, learner voice Support elements – Information Advice and Guidance (IAG) etc

Ethos – values and value-driven practices

Culture - lived experience of the institution

Impact of incentives and drivers - eg labour market pressures, identity



'Curriculum'

Aims	Singapore, Hong Kong, Finland, Alberta
Content	Transnational comparisons of scope, sequencing and framing
Methods	Models of ability, complexity (Stigler and Stevenson)
Assessment	Formative and summative
Evaluation	Shanghai
After Michael Eraut	

Curricular and extra-curricular Taught and untaught curriculum Unstated curriculum (ethos, culture) The constructed curriculum Ability models Progression models

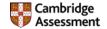
Curriculum coherence



Intended curriculum Enacted curriculum Assessed curriculum

Learned curriculum

Hattie, EEF, Coe, Crehan



Curriculum 2014 - more than a shift in content

- Powerful knowledge counterintuitive focus of powerful knowledge
- Fewer things in greater depth
- National Curriculum and School Curriculum
- Contextualisation controlled by teachers
- A focus on constructs
- Removal of levels
- New models of ability
- Different concepts of progression
- Scale score (triage)
- Competence in reading, wide reading for pleasure
- Oracy
- Production; higher quality formative assessment



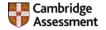
'Stand out element - ability models and pedagogy

Concentration on a **small number of attainable goals**, mostly of an academic variety or concerned with the individual's relationship to society, rather than a spread of effort across many academic, social, affective and moral goals.

Mechanisms to ensure that **things are taught properly the first time around**, and that there is no 'trailing edge' of children who have to be returned to later (an example from Taiwan is that children have to repeat in the homework books any exercises that they got wrong in their previous homework).

The use of the **same textbooks by all children**, which permits teachers to channel their energy into classroom instruction and the marking of homework, rather than into the production of worksheets that is so much a feature of English teaching.

Reynolds and Farrell 1996 p56



Purpose of study

Mathematics is a creative and highly inter-connected discipline that has been developed over centuries, providing the solution to some of history's most intriguing problems. It is essential to everyday life, critical to science, technology and engineering, and necessary for financial literacy and most forms of employment. A high-quality mathematics education therefore provides a foundation for understanding the world, the ability to reason mathematically, an appreciation of the beauty and power of mathematics, and a sense of enjoyment and curiosity about the subject



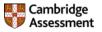
The national curriculum for mathematics aims to ensure that all pupils:

- become **fluent** in the fundamentals of mathematics, including through varied and frequent practice with increasingly complex problems over time, so that pupils develop conceptual understanding and the ability to recall and apply knowledge rapidly and accurately.
- **reason mathematically** by following a line of enquiry, conjecturing relationships and generalisations, and developing an argument, justification or proof using mathematical language
- can **solve problems** by applying their mathematics to a variety of routine and non-routine problems with increasing sophistication, including breaking down problems into a series of simpler steps and persevering in seeking solutions.



Mathematics is an interconnected subject in which pupils need to be able to move fluently between representations of mathematical ideas. The programmes of study are, by necessity, organised into apparently distinct domains, but pupils should make rich connections across mathematical ideas to develop fluency, mathematical reasoning and competence in solving increasingly sophisticated problems. They should also apply their mathematical knowledge to science and other subjects.

The expectation is that the majority of pupils will move through the programmes of study at broadly the same pace. However, decisions about when to progress should always be based on the security of pupils' understanding and their readiness to progress to the next stage. Pupils who grasp concepts rapidly should be challenged through being offered rich and sophisticated problems before any acceleration through new content. Those who are not sufficiently fluent with earlier material should consolidate their understanding, including through additional practice, before moving on.



Information and communication technology (ICT)

Calculators should not be used as a substitute for good written and mental arithmetic. They should therefore only be introduced near the end of key stage 2 to support pupils' conceptual understanding and exploration of more complex number problems, if written and mental arithmetic are secure. In both primary and secondary schools, teachers should use their judgement about when ICT tools should be used.

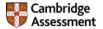
Spoken language

The national curriculum for mathematics reflects the importance of spoken language in pupils' development across the whole curriculum – cognitively, socially and linguistically. The quality and variety of language that pupils hear and speak are key factors in developing their mathematical vocabulary and presenting a mathematical justification, argument or proof. They must be assisted in making their thinking clear to themselves as well as others and teachers should ensure that pupils build secure foundations by using discussion to probe and remedy their misconceptions.



School curriculum

The programmes of study for mathematics are set out year-by-year for key stages 1 and 2. Schools are, however, only required to teach the relevant programme of study by the end of the key stage. Within each key stage, schools therefore have the flexibility to introduce content earlier or later than set out in the programme of study. In addition, schools can introduce key stage content during an earlier key stage, if appropriate. All schools are also required to set out their school curriculum for mathematics on a year-by-year basis and make this information available online.

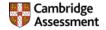


Aims and content statement - Estonia

The aim of mathematics education is to develop in basic school students mathematics competence, which is adequate for their age; it means the ability to use the language, symbols and methods characteristic of mathematical applications to solve various problems in mathematics as well as in other school subjects and walks of life, to understand social, cultural and personal meaning of mathematics; the skill to formulate problems, identify and implement suitable solution strategies, analyse solution ideas and test the accuracy of results; the skill of logical reasoning, justification and proof by using and understanding different presentation methods.

The number of weekly mathematics lessons per stage of study is divided as follows: 1st stage of study -10 lessons per week; 2nd stage of study -13 lessons per week; 3rd stage of study -13 lessons per week

Cultural and values - self-management - learning to learn



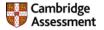
Aims and content statement - Estonia

2.1.4. Learning Outcomes and Learning Content of Mathematics in the 1st stage of study The students:

Calculation Learning Outcomes

- 1) read, write, order and compare natural numbers from 0 to 10,000;
- 2) present a number as the sum of units, tens, hundreds and thousands;
- 3) read and write ordinal numbers;
- 4) add and subtract up to 100 mentally and up to 10,000 in writing;
- 5) recite the multiplication table (multiply and divide with a one-digit number up to 100 mentally);
- 6) know the names of the components and results of the four arithmetic operations;
- 7) find the numerical value of a letter in equations by means of trying or on the basis of analogy; and

8) determine the correct order of operations in expressions (parentheses, multiplication/division and adding/subtracting).



2014 National Curriculum Maths Year 1

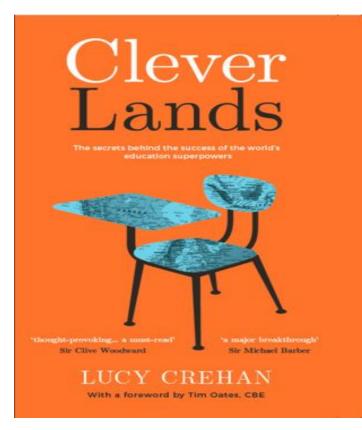
- 1. Number addition and subtraction
- 1. Pupils should be taught to:
- read, write and interpret mathematical statements involving addition (+), subtraction (-) and equals (=) signs
- represent and use number bonds and related subtraction facts within 20
- add and subtract one-digit and two-digit numbers to 20, including 0
- solve one-step problems that involve addition and subtraction, using concrete objects and pictorial representations, and missing number problems such as 7 = ? 9



Models of progression and ability

While much attention has been paid to the Confucian ideal (emphasising effort rather than ability) embedded in Asian systems, a model where differentiation is a finishing point rather than a starting point, and is seen as undesirable in the Primary phase, is an important part of arrangements in: Finland, France, Netherlands, Switzerland, Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Japan and Singapore. While it is vigorously enforced in Korea, it manifests itself more subtly in Finland through processes such as all students, of any ability, having dedicated 'catch-up' support, even after very short periods of absence. In some countries it is a shared, explicit strategy with moral connotations, and is enforced by explicit policy. In others, it is a more implicit strategy, embedded in ingrained practices and processes. But despite these difference in form and expression, detailed transnational comparison shows its extreme importance





'The other important point to emphasise is the feedback. Practising at length is not useful, and can even be harmful, if you're practising in the wrong way. Chinese teachers make the most of their extra non-teaching time to offer feedback to pupils in three ways. Firstly, they will often mark the students' classwork and homework on the same day it's handed in, using a set of symbols to indicate what the students got wrong so the students get immediate feedback. This doesn't always happen; in some schools I saw students in the staffroom marking their peers' work using the mark scheme, but this still gives the teacher an idea about distribution of mistakes, which they can use in their planning.

Secondly, they discuss common mistakes or misunderstandings at the beginning of the very next lesson, and ask students who got the tricky questions to demonstrate how they did it on the board to the rest of the class. On one occasion a maths teacher was hesitant to let me observe her class because, she said, 'we're only going over homework', yet this is probably where the most learning gains happen'.

Lucy Crehan, Cleverlands (p.183), 2016

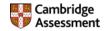
Levels – serious well-evidenced problems

3 contrasting, co-existing models

1 the score on a compensation-based test 2 best fit

3 threshold

Poor construct integrity – including subject differences John Blake's research on predictive validity in post-16 progression Contradictions between school and State Poor communication with parents Undue pace – expectations of Ofsted Labelling – contrary to TGAT Corrosive of primary secondary links



1 no meaningless summarisation – no 'levels' – a construct focus

2 immediate feedback and action

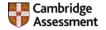
3 production – a focus on pupil work

4 effective assessment is more than marking

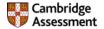
5 meaningful, manageable and motivational

6 parental understanding – all actors agreeing on approach and action

Report soon to be available.



What's multiplication - Wroxham The story of the lesson – Shanghai & Japan 120 questions – Crehan The protruding nail will be hammered in – Japan



Production

The externalisation of thinking

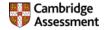
Making thoughts an object of study for the pupil

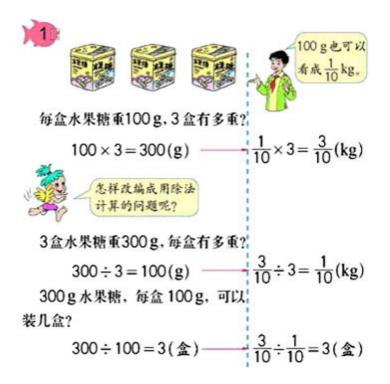
Revealing pupils' thinking to teachers

Complex language

Extended writing







Shanghai: interesting issues of sequencing; and research-based production and refinement of textbook material

Purpose

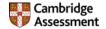
Construct focus
Production
Practice
Exposure

Conveying depth of treatment

Pre-assessment – on-going assessment – summary assessment – classroom questions

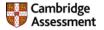
Feedback to learner, teacher, parent Progress check Concept check – misconceptions

Granular analytic assessment Focus on summary and 'grades'



Two sets of textbooks approved For curriculum support to Maths Hub schools, accessing matched funded

Small step variation Constant questionning to detect underying understanding Extended practice Detection of persistent learning Reinforcement and re-visiting concepts and operations



Singapore secondary textbook

Chapter overview – story, topic – engagement Discover – learning outcomes Use of diagrams explained

Key ideas - concepts/constructs - margin notes - focus on concepts

Worked examples Did you know – interesting facts Guidance on the use of a calculator Exercises 'Time out activity' Journal writing task Summary – recap and revision – checking main concepts Revision paper Ten-minute concept check Review paper Enrichment maths



Hong Kong Secondary Maths textbook

Pre-requisites

Review

Different forms of the equations of circles Features of circles from the equations Equations of circles from the different given conditions Intersection of a straight line and a circle

Learning objectives

Problems

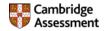
Check through assessment: 6 problems, 1 practice exam Q, 1 lively maths problem

Clear concepts/constructs

Good elaboration through application

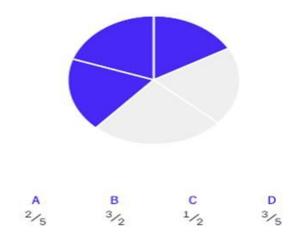
Checking understanding

Spiral curriculum model

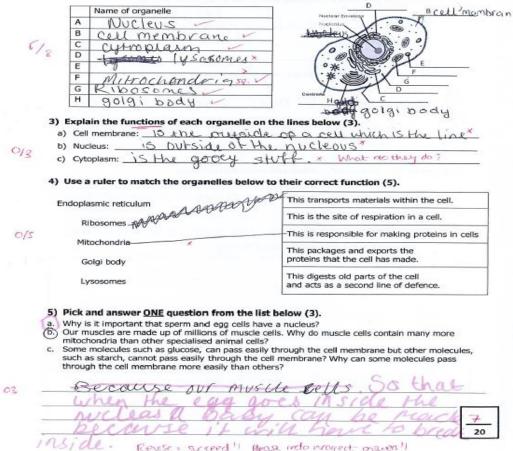




What fraction of this shape is shaded?



- **Recap Ouiz**
- 1) What are all living things made out of? (1)
- Cella
 - 2) Complete the table below filling in the names of each labelled organelle (8).

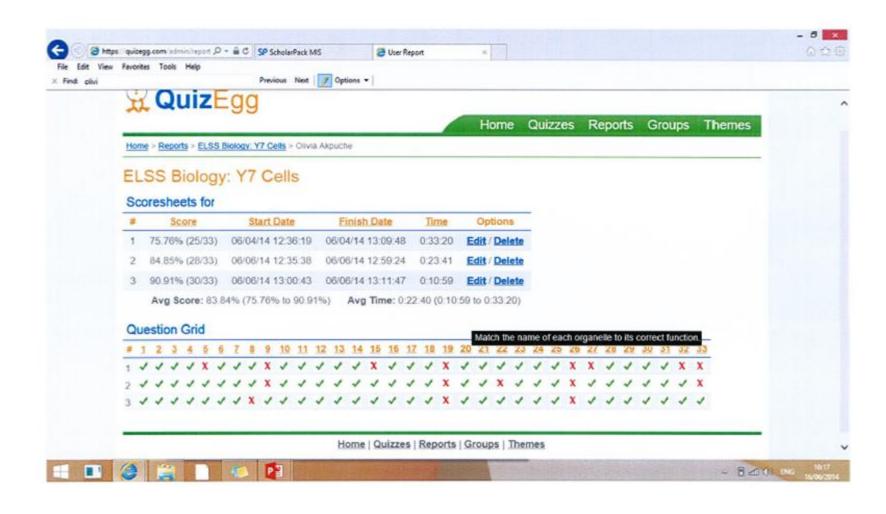


Revise = succeed !! VPD

miss

015

1/2





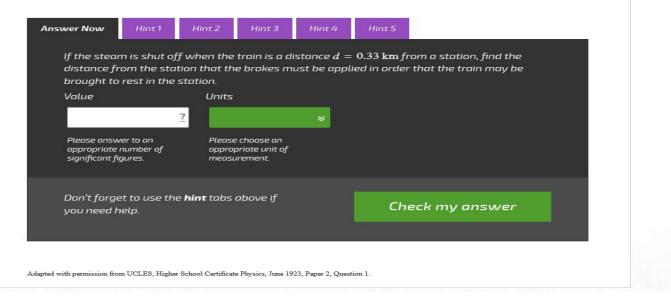
Q: Stop the Train



.....

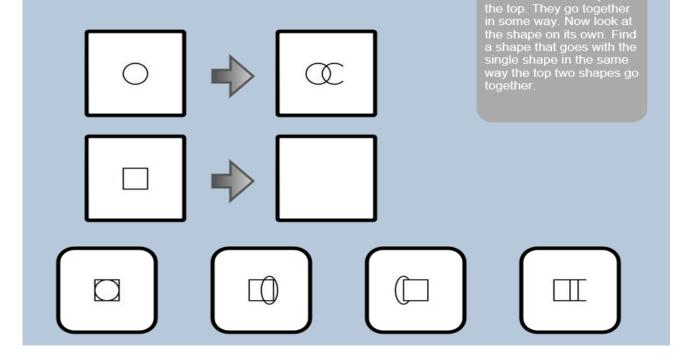
Level:

A steam train moving with a speed of $v_0 = 60 \text{ km h}^{-1}$ is brought to rest by first shutting off the steam, when the train runs against a resistance equal to 1/100 of its weight, and later by applying the brakes, at which point the train runs against a force equal to 1/8 of the weight of the train.





Quiz question (3)



 (\mathbf{i})



Purposes of assessment in the English education system

