

21st Century Item Writing for WESTEST 2

Check Here	Area	Use on Test
	<p>The focusing lens of the items should be based upon the interpretation of the skill sets of the CSOs. (It is easy to miss the intended skill set of the CSO. An example: The CSO skill set is to interpret relationships, but the item provided was actually measuring the student's ability to compare graphs.)</p>	
	Test Format	Set the stage with high interest engaging topics; use graphic organizers, Venn diagrams, graphs, etc. that can be completed in the test booklet.
	Rigor	Items skill sets that MUST match the rigor of the CSO skill sets.
	Language of 21st Century Skills	Use the types of skill sets found in the CSOs that students are expected to be able to use and apply. (Use PISA items as a guide for items to address extrapolation and application.)
	21st Century Tools	<p>Use Information, Media and ICT (Information, Communication & Technology) Literacy Skills to develop item stems, answers, and scenarios. For example, you can build your items using</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ appropriate technology tools/scenarios ▪ information and communication technologies ▪ examples of ways to access, manage, integrate and evaluate information ▪ scenarios that might include audio, video, and other media and multimedia and digital tools ▪ item stems, answers, and scenarios that might include electronic probes, iPods, electronic white boards, etc. ▪ snap shots, graphics, and resources with access to online learning communities and resources
	Real World Application	<p>Frame language in item to real life experiences and applications in the 21st Century.</p> <p>Use examples, applications and settings from students' lives, communities and modern workplaces to frame items</p>
	Critical Thinking	The clear, precise and purposeful use of higher order thinking skills and strategies to include extrapolation and application.
	Problem Solving	Identify a problem, evaluate options, propose solutions and evaluate results. Problem solving items built upon the context of the grade level CSOs that align to thinking skills in the objectives.

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	<p>When writing items the areas below are to be used to provide context, formats and scenarios, when appropriate, to the specific content of the CSOs. Please note, Policy 2520.14 will not be part of an alignment study, but certainly these are rich tools and skills to utilize in the manner defined above.</p>	
	Information and Media Literacy	How modern media combines sound, image and text to communicate meaning.
	Visual Literacy	Use images to communicate a message.
	Communication Skills	Convey messages across cultures and media.
	Systems Thinking	Recognize patterns. Understand how parts interact and how they form a whole system.
	Adaptability	Ability to adapt to changing situations and environments while keeping in mind time constraints, budgets, etc.
	Ethical Behavior	Act with integrity.
	Social/Personal Accountability	Accepting responsibility for one's own behavior. Understanding common good.
	Project Planning and Development	Organize work (projects) and achieve goals.
	Global Awareness	<p>Learning from and working with people from diverse cultures, religions and lifestyles. To include "green" environmental issues</p>
	Financial, Economic and Business Literacy	Understanding business, economics and finance (personal too).
	Civic Literacy	Understanding one's role in government and how government affects our lives.
	Health and Wellness Literacy	Understanding healthy lifestyles and their benefits.