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Title: Digital Assessment Literacy:

The Need of Online Assessment Literacy and Online Assessment Literate Educators

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Abstract

Creation of reliable Online Assessments have always been a concern by educators, this research article provides an idea for providing professionals training development for creating online assessments for the inexperienced assessment literate teachers. The research has placed importance on the training of the educators in the assessment literacy. With the proposed model it shows how to utilize Bloom's model to create digital online assignments using IT integrated tools. The proposed model inspired from Benjamin Bloom's Taxonomy and Andrew Churches Digital Bloom's Taxonomy may benefit the Educators. This paper uses mixed method research and examines the need of training for the creation of reliable assessments and assessment literate

educators which will caters to the different students' abilities. To further explore and understand the need of training for the assessment literacy, this research provides an insight of the year 2020 result analysis, where this research article might add a new dimension towards the professional development for the online assessment literacy skills. The collected data research was used as descriptive, inferential data; which was further analyzed and compared to the pretest and the current collected primary data. The purpose of this research study which is presented shows the importance of the online Assessment literacy and the need of the Assessment literate trained educators who might support in identifying the needs of online Assessment with help of Bloom's Model in connection with the digital Bloom's taxonomy.

Keywords: Assessment literate educators, Digital Bloom, Need of Online Assessment training,
Online Assessment Literacy, Reliable assessments

Title: Digital Assessment Literacy:

The Need of Online Assessment Literacy and Online Assessment Literate Educators

Assessment literacy is used as a tool that appraises the learners, by assessing the students' understanding, interpreting the assessment results in order to provide feedback (Webb & Pohs, 2000). The Assessment process helps in the identification of the effectiveness of the teacher's teaching capabilities along with the students' achievements (Khan et al., 2019). Success of the learner depends on the effective use of the Assessment Literacy. For a school educator, the assessment knowledge, skills, practices are necessary for the preparation of assessments. Therefore; to maintain the quality of the online Assessments, assessment literacy for educators has become an integral part of education system. Due to the Pandemic outbreak, most of the schools faced number of challenges in teaching, learning and assessments in the year 2020,

setting the need to establish online teaching and learning. As a result of 2020 pandemic outbreak, the educational institutes closure had affected around 1.5 billion (87%) of student population (UNESCO,2020). The history of corona Virus is not old and is known since 1960's, originating from the family of SARS and MERS-Cov (Fielding,2020). Though UNESCO encouraged the shutdown of the schools; teaching, learning and assessing continued on the online platform (Bender, 2020).

With that being said, this new normalcy poses the following statement, schools' Management might need to plan for future short comings as part of the contingency strategic plan. Most of the schools in 2020 have been a victim of the crises, as the results were quite appalling; it seemed that the schools had never planned out for any setbacks for the 2020 pandemic times.

England's 2020 results had almost 36% of lower grade entries after the exams were cancelled out due to the pandemic, and the exam watchdog Ofqual, called in to review the moderation process where grades were altered (Coghlan et al.,2020). It is also imperative for the school Management, to keep up with the changes in the learning styles of the students and provide the necessary online training to the educators, which might further help in enhancing the effectiveness of the educator's online teaching capabilities.

Purpose of study

The purpose of this research study is to present how the online Assessment literacy could support in identifying the needs of online Assessment with help of Bloom's Model in connection with the digital Bloom's taxonomy. This Model is integrated with Information communication technology tools for the online assessment literate educators to cater to the needs of different ability students (Husain, 2021). The original Bloom's Taxonomy was actually designed for

Assessment purpose, however through Bloom's magnifying lenses it was discovered that this can also be used for designing a course and setting up a curriculum (Persaud,2018). Therefore, according to this research, during these pandemic times the educators could get professionally trained with the online planning, teaching and learning methods.

To prepare the teachers as online assessment literates, the focus of this article is to train the educators as professional trainers. With the use of digital integration, the creation of reliable online assessments might benefit the schools and the management as part of the in-service training plans. Therefore, by presenting this research, the educators might like to get effectively trained as assessment literate educators to motivate themselves and would also like to challenge their students in order to reach Higher Order Thinking skills (Churches, 2008). The Cognitive concept of Digital Bloom's Lower Order Thinking Skills to Higher Order Thinking skills, can help to prepare the educators in writing up the online assessments. The School management might need to take in consideration the need of assessment literate educators as part of their professional development training plan, which could also pave a way to contribute to updating the schools' curriculum.

The yearly planned curriculum could be effectively designed for the schools; however, the proper integration of the assessments raises the standards of the learning (Fletcher & Shaw,2012), and to prove the effectivity of the curriculum along with good teaching strategies, effective testing is important as well. Proficiency in assessments and evaluation practices could enhance the quality of teaching and learning skills (Volante & Fazio, 2012). Therefore, reliable assessments make testing effective which can determine the students' achievement to reach the learning outcomes.

Literature Review

Due to the pandemic outbreak, some of the international results were based on the coursework, historical data from the school and the predicted grades, which were internally assessed by the moderators as part of the online assessment school requirements. Furthermore, to measure the success of the educational institute and its stake holders, and to provide guidance for the students' academic success, might depend on the reliability of properly designed online or non-online assessments by the assessment literate educators (Ryan, 2018). For the IB results, there was a decrease in the world wide average as compared to the previous years, however the results did manage to get slightly adjusted after some of the complaints and petitions raised by the students. The management might take in consideration for setting up the online assessment policies; which might set a guidance level, that could measure the effectivity of the learner's outcome.

Therefore, the assessment policies are usually in place with regards to their resources and teaching-learning practices, which forms the basis of student testing for entry to further education. (Best.M, et al, 2013). And with the proper rules and policies set for the online assessment literacy training, a model as guidance could benefit the educators to understand the students' assessment abilities during these pandemic times (Husain, 2021).

Importance of Trained Assessment Literate Educators

Due to the inadequate training, misuse and wrong application of handling the assessments might impact negatively on the students' lives; whether it be for their promotion, graduation or grading. Therefore; looking at the schools' training needs, trained assessment literate educators are highly in demand as educational professionals (Fabry,2016). Effective integration of online assessments is necessary for the online classrooms to support the curriculum and to monitor

students' learning. In order to evaluate, and measure the students' capabilities; effective assessments are set as a reliable tracking tool for the assessment literate educators (Husain, 2020).

For Assessment Literate Educators, creation of reliable online assessments begins with the understanding of the basic concepts (Popham,2011). Online Assessment literacy (Digital Bloom's Model) provides the educators to innovatively design new assessments, reducing the chances of biasness which might place students at disadvantage (Husain,2021).

Online assessments:

Online assessments do not require pencil-paper option; presenting easier online access (Vipin,2019) by moving on to the electronic version and eliminating the need of traditional style. Teachers might like to get trained on the online assessments practices and set themselves as innovative assessment literate educators. Therefore; in order to challenge the students, and to provide a proper guidance to other inexperienced educators, assessment literate educators might also show interest in providing training needs professionally(Husain,2021).

Innovative educators might like to take up the initiative to be more creative, by utilizing the Digital Bloom's taxonomy effectively and setting an example for a new improved method of online classes and assessments (Bender, 2020), with the integration of ICT applications tools. Digital Bloom's Model might also help the educators to educate and train in creation of reliable online assessment (Husain, 2021).

Study Beneficiaries

This study may be beneficial to the School's Management and the teachers, as this will help the school by providing training on the online assessment education with the integration of Information technology tools. This study might be useful to the Head of Curriculum and

Assessments, Head of School etc. The assessment literate trainers may also benefit the school educators as they can train them further.

Research Methodology

This research study is based on the mixed method using qualitative and quantitative analysis. This research is designed to know the significance of assessment literacy and need of assessment literate trainers. The quantitative correlation analysis is used to find the relationship between the Assessment literate educators and their willingness to provide a Professional development as trainers.

As part of the first analysis procedure, a secondary research report, data is collected from the UK and American International board results, which is further analyzed. These results are taken from the past 2-3 years and are compared against the newly 2020 released results, which were based on the online school formative results, predicted grades, historical data instead of the face to face final written examinations.

Population and sample

This research was set to test for pilot testing and 32 respondents were collected, to test the validity and reliability of the questionnaire. The educators chosen at random from different schools comprised of teachers and administrators such as head of schools, heads of department.

Data Collection Tool

Secondary results collected from the international boards of UK and American Board. The IGCSE, ALevel and AS level are from the UK Board and International Baccalaureate is from the American Curriculum. These results were collected from the year 2018 – 2020 for the result analysis report (ALEVEL/AS Level/ IGCSE/ IB level), to check how 2019 and/or 2018 results differed from that of 2020 results.

As a primary research a questionnaire survey was distributed to international school educators comprising of teachers and administrators. The questionnaire was distributed using online google forms. This questionnaire's purpose was to gain an insight of assessment literacy knowledge of the educators.

Data Analysis Tool

The collected data were used to present as descriptive and inferential data analysis by the use of Microsoft Excel. Different advanced functions such as "What if Analysis", "Count if", "Coorel", "t.test", "STDEV.S" and basic formulas such as "Sum", "Average" were used.

The secondary data was further analyzed by presenting the data as percentages and graphs. The percentage and the graphical representation provided a clear comparison between the overall world averages of different boards from Grade 10/ year 11 to Grade 12/Year 13 results achievements.

The collected data from the online questionnaire responses of 32 respondents were separated as demographics variables as form of frequencies and percentages. The collected responses from the school educators such as the teachers and the Management were segregated to compare the teachers or management according to their qualification and their knowledge of assessment literacy or the willingness to train others educators etc. The data collected were used to identify the significance and measure the relationship of assessment literacy and to that of the assessment training.

Findings and Results:

For the first analysis of descriptive and inferential statistics, the world average results were interpreted as form of percentages and graphs to compare the 2020 result score to that of 2019 and/ or 2018.

Analysis before the research (International results analysis)

The 2020 result inferential data analysis was conducted to compare it with the previous results, in order to show whether the 2020 results were marked up or were the results marked down or were the results able to maintain an average in comparison with the last 2-3 years' analysis.

A LEVEL		A*			Α			В			С	
Year	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018
ACCOUNTING	10.6	5.9	5.1	23.9	11.8	12	39.8	21.4	20.6	57.2	35.6	35
BIOLOGY	8.5	9.8	10.3	21.3	23.7	23.9	37	39.1	39.4	59.5	55.8	56.1
BUSINESS	4.3	1.7	2.2	16.6	5.8	5.9	32	13.2	13.1	51.2	28.1	28.5
CHEMISTRY	11.3	12.2	12.3	24.2	22.8	23.5	39.4	36	36.5	58.7	51.9	52.4
MATH	8.3	8.3	7.1	23.1	22.2	22.9	43.2	37	37.7	64.7	55.9	56.2
PHYSICS	10.7	9.4	9.9	23.8	20	21.2	39	34.1	35.9	59.9	51.4	51.6

Table 1: A Level result 2018-2020

Figure 1: A Level result 2018-2020

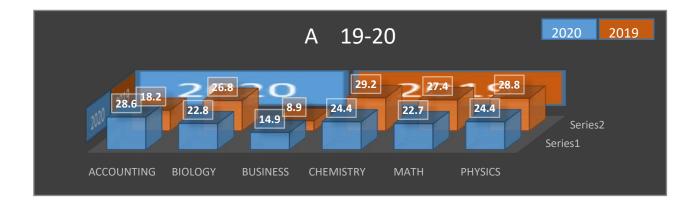




Table 2: AS Level result 2019-2020

AS LEVEL						
A3 LEVEL	A 2020	2019	B 2020	2019	2020	2019
ACCOUNTING	28.6	18.2	39.8	32.6	52.5	48.8
BIOLOGY	22.8	26.8	38.2	44.4	53.1	60.7
BUSINESS	14.9	8.9	30.8	18.9	46.4	33.3
CHEMISTRY	24.4	29.2	35.6	49	50	63.6
MATH	22.7	27.4	39.3	41.4	59.6	59.4
PHYSICS	24.4	28.8	36	49.2	54.6	64.2

Figure 2:AS Level result 2019-2020



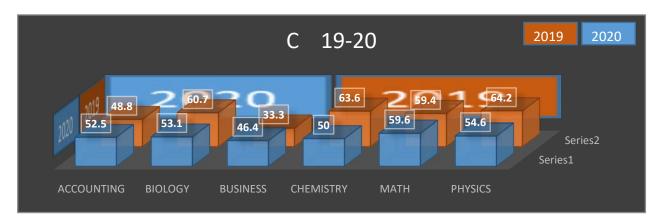
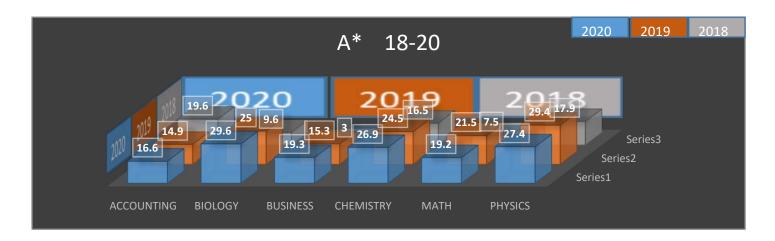


Table 3: IGCSE result 2018-2020

IGCSE LEVEL	A*			Α		В			С			
IGCSE LEVEL	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018	2020	2019	2018
ACCOUNTING	16.6	14.9	19.6	39	40.7	38.1	58.3	60.6	58.2	77.8	78.8	78.2
BIOLOGY	29.6	25	9.6	48.9	47.2	24.3	64.7	65.3	42.4	80.7	81	65.9
BUSINESS	19.3	15.3	3	38.3	38	10.6	59	61	25.9	77.7	77.9	49
CHEMISTRY	26.9	24.5	16.5	51.7	52.2	35.9	68.6	68.9	55.4	84.4	84	75.8
MATH	19.2	21.5	7.5	39	40.6	20.3	57.5	61.6	34.5	78.9	79.9	61.1
PHYSICS	27.4	29.4	17.9	51.9	51.6	35.5	68.7	69.5	55.9	83.2	83.4	75.3

Figure 3: IGCSE result 2018-2020



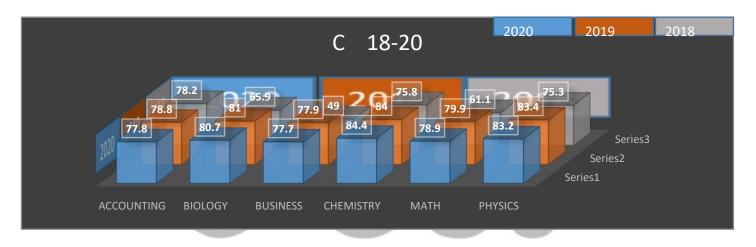
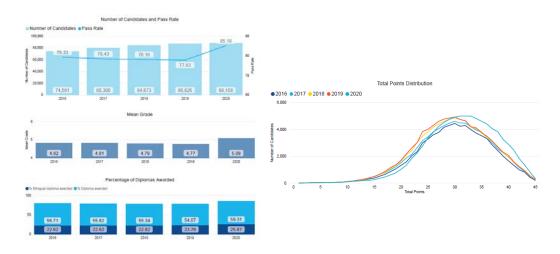


Figure 4IB: IB Level result 2018-2020



Source: IB Diploma Programme Final Statistical Bulletin: May 2020 Assessment session

Looking at the results year 2020, the world wide averages for the international boards, subjects' score can be seen either increased or pulled down. *Table 1* and *figure 1* illustrates the results from 2018-2020 comparison. Accounting and Business score doubled with A level, however with the AS level students' performance for grade "A", was much better as compared to the other subjects, *Table 2* and *Figure 2* as the results had doubled, but the grade "B's and "C's" were moderately effected. A Level results for the Sciences and Math were almost similar in comparison with the previous grades (*Figure 1*) and for the AS level results the scores had been seen with minor fluctuation (*Figure 2*). Table 3 illustrates the IGCSE's results with minor fluctuation and for few scores the scores were hardly effected.

Figure 4IB illustrates the IB results comparison. The worldwide averages for overall pass rate for 2019 represents 77.83% and 85.18% for year 2020. The mean score had increased from 4.77(2019) and 4.79(2018) to 5.08(2020).

Analysis of the primary research:

The primary research conducted with the educators and the management shows the inferential and descriptive analysis of the Assessment literacy and the need of the training regarding the online assessment. The demographic data is presented in form of frequencies and percentages, representing the qualification and whether or not they had received assessment literacy training, which could also affect the online teaching, learning and assessment.

Table 4: Survey Collection Table-Educators qualification and whether or not Trained for Assessment Literacy(AL) in figures and Percentages.

			Not AL		Yes AL	
Qualification		%	Trained	%	Trained	%
M.A.	7	21.87	5	29.41	2	13.33
B.A.	13	40.62	5	29.41	8	53.33
M.S.Ed.D.	2	6.25	2	11.76	0	0
B.S.	7	21.87	3	17.65	4	26.66
M.S.	1	3.13	1	5.88	0	0

Not on the list	2	6.25	1	5.88	1	6.67
Total	32	100	17	100	15	100

Table 4 illustrates that out of 32 respondents, highest number representing 53% with B.A qualification have been trained with assessment literacy and with the B.S. qualification is around 26%. However; with the Master's degree there are none and 6% represents with unknown or not on the list qualification. Table 5 illustrates the further segregation of their working experience that the 13 administrators with 40% of 1-5 years of experience where as 50% have been working as teachers in the same range of years.

Table 5: Survey Collection Table-Educators number of experience as Teachers and Management Administrators

ADMIN		%	TEACHER		%
16-20 years	1	3.125	16-20 years	3	9.375
11-15 years	1	3.125	11-15 years	4	12.5
6-10 years	0	0	6-10 years	7	21.875
1-5 years	13	40.625	1-5 years	16	50
none of the above	17	53.125	none of the above	1	3.125
25-30 years	0	0	25-30 years	0	0
21-25 years	0	0	21-25 years	0	0
more than 30 years	0	0	more than 30 years	1	3.125
	32	100		32	100

Figure 5: Survey Collection Graph- Educators number of experience as Teachers and



Management Administrators

Where the 68% of these experienced educators have shown interest stating that the students should be tested on both (formatives and summative) the assessments during the online

teaching and learning phase as it gives a clear picture of the students' performance, but 25% disagreed to only setting online formatives assessments as the feel that the students might not perform well if the students score low on the summative due to fear factor, or not taking the summative seriously, represented in table 6 and figure 6.

Table 6: Survey Collection Table-Educators acceptance of Formatives or Summative during online assessment

		%
Summative	2	6.25
Formative	8	25
Both	22	68.75
	32	100

	SD	MEAN
Online Confidence Level with the online assessment planning	0.72	2.84
Understanding on the application of Bloom's or Marzano's frame work	0.76	3.00
Interest as an Assessment Literate Educator trainer	0.59	3.19
Students' achievement based on lesson objectives.	0.86	3.19
Students' achievement on Higher percentage on the formatives.	0.89	2.68
Students' performance on the online formative tests score.	0.93	0.97
Confidence Level integration of ICT skills online teaching and learning.	0.59	3.19
Confidence Level integration of ICT skills online assessments.	0.59	3.09
Online assessment Training needs integration of ICT tools.	0.75	3.34
Interest in training other educators as Assessment literate trainers.	0.5	3.2
School managements' and completion of the curriculum on time.	0.52	0.28
Students' fear factor: students tend to freeze up on the Summative test	s. 0.60	3.12
Students take summative tests less seriously.	0.80	2.75
Students see the summative tests to recall of information while the form measure more complex thinking.	mative class 0.57	room assessments 3.00

Further taking to the next level of why the online assessments are important and the reason that the educators might need to get trained in the online assessment literacy, the standard deviation sample calculated to find the significance and correlation of assessment literacy. The t-test shows that $2\text{-}E_{18}$ significance on assessment literacy and practice is calculated and 0.8127 significance on educators willing to receive training and train others as online assessment literate educators. To test this significance against 0.05 or .01 alpha, as stated the sample size is low, the score of significance is quite low. Where the correlation between the assessment literacy and train as assessment literate educators come around to 0.68 which shows a moderate relationship good enough to prove that Educators as teachers or management showing interest as they want to progress and making sure that the students are receiving proper online teaching and learning and prepared for reliable online assessments (table 7).

 Table 7: Survey Collection Table-t test significance and correlation

significance of receiving Assessment literacy training and training as PD trainers	0.812
Significance test of assessment literacy and practice	0.00
PEARSON COORELATION r =	0.68

Discussion:

As per the findings of the pretests which had led to the further research, the fluctuation in the 2020 academic results lead the students all around the world that they had felt cheated, as 17,000 students had signed a petition stating the injustice in the grading system. The IB grades had gone significantly low than what had been predicted and had sent for the final moderation

reported as per the Inside Higher Ed report. However, the IB defended itself stating the fact that the average rouse from 29.62 to 29.90 for the year 2020 (Jaschik, 2020).

The primary research findings revealed that there are qualified and experienced teachers and school administrators with bachelors' and masters' degree, however; they lack the online assessment literacy skills. The highest percentage of the educators believe in testing the students with properly designed online formatives and summative; as the students' confidence level, emotions, ethics and their behavior gets affected either in positive or negative aspect. The experienced teachers and administrators possess the understanding of the Bloom's frame work, but some of the educators lack the application process in the online assessment strategies. Furthermore, they have shown interest in receiving the necessary training requirements.

Conclusion:

The year 2020 has taught an imperative lesson that students need to be well assessed with reliable online assessments. Due to the ongoing pandemic crises, the educators need to be trained as the assessment literate educators, with information communication technology tools integration using the Digital Bloom's Model. This research reveals that some experienced educators lack the need of online Assessment literacy training skills and are inclined towards getting trained and would further develop the importance of online assessment literacy by educating others.

Recommendation:

The fact cannot be neglected that the educators need to be trained as an online assessment literate educators. The school management might need to think about an online assessment literacy Model built on the frame work such as Digital Bloom to cater to the needs of the students. As the students are equipped with different learning abilities, and according to the

Bloom's Taxonomy Model, teaching and learning has been made easy for the educators and the professional development trainers. Bloom's Taxonomy caters to the different needs taking in consideration of critical thinking skills and future researchers might be interested in designing a model with the integration of Digitally designed Assessments which also caters to the needs of educators in the preparation of reliable online assessments. The schools' Training plans might need to accommodate the online Assessment Literacy as part of the professional development program which can benefit the educators and the school administrators. The online assessment practices are also recommended for the student educators in the field of Educational degree level program. The Ministry of Education can initiate online assessments training courses to train the trainers regarding the online assessment literacy practices.

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Email:_____

1.	Inc	luding the current year, how many years of experience do you have as a classroom teacher?
		1 – 5 years
		6 – 10 years
		11 – 15 years
		16 – 20 years
		21 – 25 years
		26 – 30 years
		more than 30 years
		None of the Above
2.	Inc	luding the current year, how many years of experience do you have as an Administrator?
		1 – 5 years
		6 – 10 years
		11 – 15 years
		16 – 20 years
		21 – 25 years
		26 – 30 years
		more than 30 years
		None of the Above
2	VA /I-	
3.		nich best describes the educational level you have attained?
		B.A.
		B.S.
		M.A.

	□ M.S. Ed. D.
	□ Ph.D
4.	To the best of your knowledge, did you take a stand alone course in classroom assessment literacy as
	part of your teaching or administration preparation program?
	□ Yes
	□ No
5.	As per your opinion what is the best method of the online assessment that you would consider during
	these pandemic times?
	□ Formatives assessments
	□ Summative Assessments

	Please rank how much you personally agree or disagree with the following statements on a scale of 1 to 4.				
	1: Strongly Disagree 2: Disagree 3: Agree 4: Strongly Agree	1	2	3	4
6.	How would you rate your capability (Confidence Level) with the online assessment planning as part of your Online teaching, learning and assessment strategy.				
7.	How would you rate your understanding on the application of the usage of learning objective model such as of Bloom's or Marzano's frame work?				
8.	How would you rate your level of interest in receiving a professional development training as an Assessment Literate Educator?				
9.	To what level do you agree that the level of students' achievement is based on the understanding and whether or not the objectives were attained.				
10	To what level do you agree that the level of students' achievement can be judged on mostly on setting higher percentage on the formative assessments than the summative.				
11.	To what level do you agree that according to your experience during these pandemic times, students' performance on the online formative tests score is no different from that of the formatives taken in face to face class assessments.				
12.	How would you rate your level of confidence with the integration of Information Technology skills in preparation of the activities during the online teaching and learning ?				
13.	How would you rate your level of confidence with the integration of Information Technology skills in creation of the activities during the online assessments ?				
14.	To what level do you agree that all educators should be trained with the online assessment preparation; including the proper use and integration of Information Technology tools.				
15.	If you were given a chance in future to train other educators, what level of interest would you present as an Assessment literate trainers for your own school and/or outsiders.				
16.	To what level do you think that the school management focuses on the completion of the curriculum on time and also encourages the teachers to do the same.				
17.	How would you rate this statement that Students' scores on their final test as a Summative- Final exams are sometimes inconsistent with their performances on classroom assessments (Ongoing e.g., teacher tests or other in-class activities). The reason for such discrepancies				

	occur due to students' fear factor as some students tend to freeze up on the Summative tests.		
18.	How would you rate this statement that Students' scores on their final test as a Summative-Final exams are sometimes inconsistent with their performances on classroom assessments (Ongoing e.g., teacher tests or other in-class activities). The reason for such discrepancies occur due to the students often take summative tests less seriously than they take the formative classroom assessments.		
19.	How would you rate this statement that Students' scores on their final test as a Summative-Final exams are sometimes inconsistent with their performances on classroom assessments (Ongoing e.g., teacher tests or other in-class activities). The reason for such discrepancies occur due to the students see the summative tests as means to recall of information while the formative classroom assessments measure more complex thinking.		
20.	How would you rate this statement that Students' scores on their final test as a Summative-Final exams are sometimes inconsistent with their performances on classroom assessments (Ongoing e.g., teacher tests or other in-class activities). The reason for such discrepancies occur due to students' low level of confidence which affects their performance on the Summative tests.		

