

ASSESSMENT GUIDE FOR LEARNERS & LEARNER WORKBOOK

Irrigation

Level 3

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Title:		Monitor the Operation and Maintenance of Irrigation Systems					
Applied Title:		Monitor the Operation and Maintenance of Irrigation Systems in Citrus Orchards					
Field:		Agriculture and Nature Conservation					
Sub-Field:		Primary Agriculture					
SETA (SGB):		AgriSETA					
Skills Area:		Irrigation					
Context:		Citrus Production					
US No:	116266	Level:	3	Credits:	3	Notional Hours:	30
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Based on the Production Guidelines of:



Supported by:



Unit standard alignment and assessment tool development:

Cabeton Training and Development

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Directions

This material is aimed at learners wishing to complete this unit standard. The guide contains all necessary activities and instructions that will enable the assessor and learner to gather evidence of the learner's competence as required by the unit standard.

This guide is designed to be used by the learner with guidance from a facilitator and a trained assessor to develop competence in all knowledge, skills and attitudes required by this unit standard.

This guide contains step-by-step instructions for the assessment process. These steps are as follows:

Step	Description	Timeframe
1	Learner Assessment Contract	Before delivery of program
2	Learner Declaration of Authenticity	Before delivery of program
3	Learning Assumed to Be in Place	Before delivery of program
4	Learner Assessment Plan for Gathering of Evidence	Before delivery of program
5	Assessment Activity Workbook	During delivery of program, assessment after delivery of program
6	Write a Report	After delivery of program
7	Attitudes and Attributes Assessment	After delivery of program
8	Re-assessment Procedures	After completion of assessment
9	Documentation	After completion of assessment
10	Administration and Completion of Portfolio of Evidence	After completion of assessment

Step 1

Learner Assessment Contract

The assessor and / or the facilitator holds a pre-assessment briefing with you before the learning program starts in order to guide you and assist you to make sure that you understand exactly what is expected from you in order to become competent in this learning module.

As part of the pre-assessment briefing, the learner assessment contract must be signed. The assessor will assist you and explain the agreement to you in detail.

Learner Assessment Contract	
Learner's Name:	
Assessor's Name:	
Unit Standard:	116266
Your rights as a learner are: 1. You have a right to appeal against any judgment given as a result of any assessment. You must have valid reasons for doing this. 2. You have the right to an interpreter if you need one. However, if one of the learning assumptions for the unit standard is that you are competent within the language of assessment, you may not have an interpreter. 3. You can ask that an impartial observer attend any assessment. This observer may not take any part in the assessment. 4. If you do not agree with the assessment, you have the right to have your assessment internally moderated. If you still do not agree with the result of the assessment you can ask that the ETQA to perform an external moderation on the assessment. If any verification upholds the assessment findings, you will be held liable for all the costs of the verification. If any verification rules that you have been aggrieved as a result of the assessment, your assessor will be held liable for all cost of verification. 5. If during the assessment you are found not yet competent, your assessor will encourage you to master the areas where you have not reached competency. This will be recorded on a development plan. You are required to arrange with the assessor for a new assessment schedule. The assessor can only permit three such re-assessments. If a learner has not reached mastery after three additional attempts, the assessor reserves the right to remove you from the program.	
<u>Qualification</u> This standard leads to the award of credits for unit standard 116266. Once the assessment is complete application will be made to register and certify you for that standard with the AgriSETA. You may contact the assessor or facilitator at any time for information to assist you with further studies.	
<u>Confidentiality</u> Each assessment application, the outcomes, results and reviews will be treated as a confidential matter by you, the learner, the facilitator(s), assessor(s), and moderator(s). No references will be made to anyone or any organisation outside the SETA about the status of an application during the assessment process.	

Consent

I, the learner, hereby state that I have read the above and understood the contents thereof. I was given the opportunity to clarify any issues relating to the assessment process and my assessment plan. I have requested this assessment of my own free will and without duress.

Learner's Signature		Date:	
Assessor's Signature		Date:	



Step 2

Learner Declaration of Authenticity

It is important that we make sure that each learner supplies original evidence completed by himself / herself and according to the level of knowledge and skill that he / she has acquired from the learning process.

Please sign the following declaration:

I hereby declare that the following documentary evidence is my own. I certify that the process followed was ethical and did not infringe on the copyright of any individual or organisation.			
Learner's Signature		Date:	
Assessor's Signature		Date:	



Step 3

Learning Assumed to Be in Place

Do you have all the knowledge and skills necessary to begin this learning process?

This is a level 3 module of learning, and we have to make sure that you have already learnt all the skills, knowledge and attitudes that you will need to use in this module. It will help you to understand and learn more easily in this module, and it is important that we know whether you are ready to move on.

Please look at the list of unit standards below of modules that you should have completed before undertaking this one. Tell us whether you have completed each of the unit standards or modules, and if you did, tell us when you learnt this.

If you need help in understanding this list, please ask the facilitator or assessor.

<i>NQF Level</i>	<i>Unit Standard Number</i>	<i>Learning Module Name</i>	<i>No, I Have Not Completed It</i>	<i>Yes, I Have Completed It</i>	<i>If Yes, When Did You Complete It?</i>
NQF2		Literacy and Numeracy			
2	116066	Operate and maintain specific irrigation systems			
3	116275	Apply routine maintenance and servicing plans and procedures			
Learner's Signature			Date:		
Assessor's Signature			Date:		

Step 4

Learner Assessment Plan for Gathering of Evidence

As the assessor has explained to you, the aim of an assessment is not to catch you out, but rather to help you develop all the skills, knowledge and attitudes that you need to move forward. It is important that you know what is expected from you and that you play an active role every step of the way.

Let us plan for the assessment together. Below are the steps that you have to work through in order to show that you are competent in this module. Check them carefully and discuss each step with the assessor. Agree with the assessor on the dates on which each step has to be completed or documents handed in. Write the dates in the right-hand column as a reminder.

Learner Assessment Plan		
Module / Unit Standard Name:	Monitor the Operation and Maintenance of Irrigation Systems	
Module / Unit Standard Registration Number:	116266	
<i>Step Number</i>	<i>Step Description and Learner's Tasks</i>	<i>Completion / Submission Date</i>
5	Assessment Activity Workbook - In this step, you complete certain tasks in class or as homework. - It is important that you complete every task and understand why it is necessary, because it will help you to gain the knowledge, skills and attitudes that you need to be found competent in this learning module. - If there are things that you are unsure about, please ask the facilitator or the assessor to explain it to you again. - You hand in the completed workbook to the facilitator or assessor who will help you to check your progress. - The assessor or facilitator mark it and discuss areas that need more work with you.	
6	Write a Report - There are many important things that you need to remember about irrigation in order to be found competent in this learning module, and so that you can do your job well and move on to level four. - You have to write a report to check if you have gained all this knowledge. - There is a detailed list of things that you need to know in this guide and examples of the types of questions that you could be asked. - Please prepare yourself well and remember to ask the facilitator or assessor to explain anything that you don't understand.	

7	Attitudes and Attributes Assessment - You have to develop very specific character traits and attitudes and have to be able to do very specific tasks to be competent in this learning module, be good in this job, and to be able to move on to level four. - Going out into the field, and showing and explaining certain skills and attitudes, is the most appropriate way for you to show that you are competent in the skills and attitudes that are needed. - You will have an opportunity to practice these tasks and develop these attitudes during your practical learning module. - There is a list of all the things that you would have to be able to show and explain in this guide. - Please prepare yourself well and remember to ask the facilitator or assessor to explain anything that you don't understand.		
8	Re-Assessment Procedure - What if the assessor tells you that you have not met the right standard or that you still need more evidence to prove your competence? - The assessor explains to you exactly what you need to do or learn to become competent. - You and the assessor and / or facilitator, develop an action plan together, and you may be granted a second or even a third opportunity to prove your competence. - Remember you have the right to appeal against the assessor's decision, if you feel it is unfair. There is a copy of the form in the back of this guide if you need it.		
9	Paperwork - If you have met the standard that is explained for each step of the process you will be found competent in this unit standard. - The assessor will discuss everything with you in detail and will ask you to fill in and sign forms throughout the process. - You will also be given an opportunity to write down any comments you might have on the assessment process. - Once the assessor has given you the final declaration of competence, you will be asked to give some feedback in order to help everyone to improve the learning and assessment process. - Please think carefully. It might really help other learners in the future.		
10	Administration and Completion of Portfolio of Evidence All the documents, or copies of them, must be kept on file as part of your portfolio of evidence.		
Into the Future - The assessor will discuss what happens next and when you will get a certificate of competence. - It is also important to remember that you learnt this module for a specific reason. Discuss with the assessor, facilitator, mentor, and / or coach how you can move forward in your career with this level of competence. - Also remember that the learning process never stops. Plan together with the assessor, facilitator, coach, and / or mentor what you need to learn next.			
Learner's Signature		Date:	
Assessor's Signature		Date:	

Step 5

Assessment Activity Workbook

- The activities that follow are designed to help you gain the skills, knowledge and attitudes that you need in order to become competent in this learning module.
- It is important that you complete all the activities and worksheets, as directed in the learner guide and at the time indicated by the facilitator.
- It is important that you ask questions and participate as much as possible in order to play an active role in reaching competence.
- When you have completed all the activities and worksheets, hand this workbook in to the assessor who will mark it and guide you in areas where additional learning might be required.
- You should not move on to the next step in the assessment process until this step is completed, marked, and you have received feedback from the assessor.

Activity 1 – Practical Experiment			
- Fill a garden pot with dry soil. Ensure the pot has drainage holes at the bottom. - Weigh the pot with dry soil. - Pour water into the pot until water starts running through the drainage holes in the bottom of the pot. - Leave the pot until the water has stopped running from the drainage holes. - Weigh the pot again. - Answer the questions below?			
What did the pot weigh before and after the water was added?			
Before:		After:	
Why is the weight of the pot different after water is added?			

Activity 2 – Practical Task	
- Get the operations table, the irrigation schedule and the pressure table from the irrigation manager on your farm and implement the schedule practically. - Make notes for yourself as to what you did. - Attach signatures and dates from your mentor, coach, or the irrigation manager confirming that you completed the task.	
Key Notes:	

Learner's Signature		Date:	
Assessor's Signature		Date:	

Activity 3 – Worksheet

Complete the worksheet below.

Why do plants extract different amounts of water every day?
Name some of the instruments we use to assess the rate of water extraction by the plant.
Describe what happens when you pour water into a pot of dry soil.
Describe the concept of mm/m.
Name the three components of the irrigation schedule.

Define and describe the following terms:	
Field Capacity	
Permanent Wilting Point	
Plant Available Water	
Easily Available Water	
Effective Root Depth	
Operations Table	
Irrigation Schedule	
Pressure Table	
What problems should you look out for in blocks in low-lying areas and what can be the causes?	
What problems should you look out for in blocks in high-lying areas and what could be the causes?	

Activity 4 – Worksheet

Complete the worksheet below.

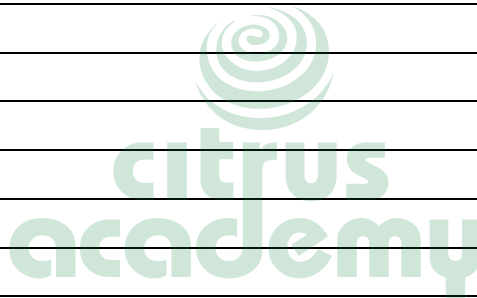
What is an evaporation pan used for?	
What type of pan is used and recommended by the Weather Bureau?	
What is the rain gauge used for?	
What does the tensiometer determine?	
Define osmotic pressure.	
What are probes and what are they used for?	
Describe how you would take readings from the following equipment and record the relevant data:	
E-pan	
Rain gauge	
Tensiometer	
Probe	

Complete the table below:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Rainfall</i>	<i>Water Level Before Regulating</i>	<i>Water Level After Regulating</i>	<i>Calculations</i>	<i>Evapo- transpiration</i>
2006/01/06			50		
2006/01/07		68	68		
2006/01/08	20	56	76		
2006/01/09		98	98		

Using data and other relevant information on the farm you work on, describe how you would do the following:

1. Draw up a water balance sheet.
2. Use the system application rate and data from the water balance sheet to determine the stand-time.
3. Schedule the irrigation using tensiometers.
4. Schedule the irrigation using probes.




In general terms what should the tensiometer readings be kept at?
Describe how you would take a reading with a probe.
Describe the maintenance required for an E-pan.
Describe the maintenance required for a rain gauge.
When must the tensiometer be reset?
How would you fill the tensiometer with water?

Activity 5 – Worksheet

Obtain the irrigation schedule from your farm and complete the worksheet below:

Explain step-by-step what you would instruct your team members to do to implement the schedule.

for different problems that might occur on

Complete the worksheet below.

Name the five components of the pump system that must be inspected?

Describe how you would clean and inspect a sand filter.

Describe how you should clean disc filters. What should you be looking for when cleaning the filters?

Name three other items that are associated with filters that need to be inspected.

Name the three items that should be inspected with regards to infield irrigation. Describe the specific points that should be noted.

Name the function of the following:

Amp meter

Volt meter

Pressure gauge

Flow meter

Name the factors that should be considered when normal operating characteristics are determined for a pump and motor.

Describe how you would adjust the pressure on a block fitted with a hydraulic valve.

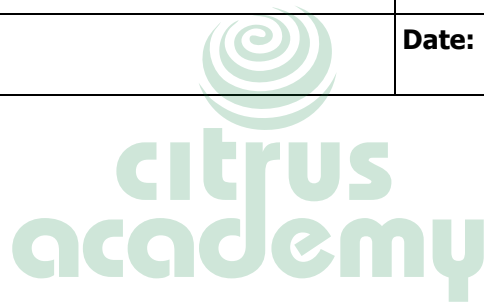
Activity 7 – Worksheet

Draw up a concept maintenance plan, keeping in mind the life expectancy and the replacement of equipment.

Activity 8 – Worksheet

Draw up a contingency plan for emergencies on your farm.

Assessment Feedback Form – Activity Workbook			
		Comments / Remarks	
Feedback to learner on assessment			
Feedback from learner to assessor			
Learner's Signature		Date:	
Assessor's Signature		Date:	



Step 6

Write a Report

You are now ready for step six of the assessment process, during which you will be asked to write a report about the operation and maintenance of the irrigation system on the farm where you work. Check your plan carefully to make sure that you prepare in good time.

You have to score an overall mark of at least 85% in this task in order to be found competent.

Inform the assessor if you have any special needs or requirements **before** the agreed date for the hand in of the assessment task. You might, for example, require an interpreter to translate the questions to your mother tongue, or you might need to take this test orally. Please write your request down in your activity workbook on the front page and explain why you have made this request. Ask the assessor to sign next to your request to prove that they are aware of your special request.

Use this checklist to help you plan and prepare for the writing of the job description. These are examples of possible questions that will help you to organise and plan your task. All the information you need was taught in the classroom and can be found in the learner guide that you received.

<i>Example Questions</i>	<i>I Have Revised This and Understand It Well</i>	<i>I Am Unsure of This and Need to Ask the Facilitator or Assessor to Explain It Again</i>
Explain to a new member of the team how to read and implement an irrigation schedule on the farm.		
Explain to a new member of the team what "irrigation scheduling" is and why it happens.		
Explain the terminology to a new member of the team and explain to them what is expected from them: • Stand time • Flow rate • Start time • Stop time • Pressure • Electric measurements such as Volt, Amp		
How would the irrigation schedule be adapted if: • It rained 5mm last night • The berg wind is going to blow today at 30km/h • There is a frost warning for this morning		
Explain which parts of the system have to be checked and maintained.		
Explain when these parts of the system have to be checked and maintained.		
Explain how these parts of the system must be checked and maintained.		
Explain the start-up and shut-down procedures of the irrigation system.		

Example Questions		<i>I Have Revised This and Understand It Well</i>	<i>I Am Unsure of This and Need to Ask the Facilitator or Assessor to Explain It Again</i>
Explain which measurement instruments are used on the farm to assist with developing the irrigation schedule.			
Give a brief explanation of how these instruments work.			
Explain which problems you might encounter with the instruments.			
Explain the reporting system on the farm for any problems or faults encountered with the irrigation system.			
Explain which irrigation system emergencies you could expect and how you would react if it occurred. An example of an emergency is when floods occur.			
Explain the safety regulations that people have to adhere to when working with the irrigation system.			
The assessor or facilitator has explained this step to me and I have revised these questions.			
Learner's Signature		Date:	
Assessor's Signature		Date:	

The assessor will give you feedback on the test and guide you if there are areas in which you still need further development.



Step 7

Practical Assessment

You are now ready for step seven of the assessment process, the practical assessment. Check your plan carefully to make sure that you prepare in good time.

- This part of the assessment requires you to go into the orchard and practically show the assessor that you can perform specific tasks correctly.
- The assessor will also ask you questions about the tasks that you are required to perform to make sure that you understand it well.
- Remember that this module of learning also helps you to develop certain attitudes and personality traits. The assessor will ask you specific questions and observe you throughout the process to judge whether you have developed these.
- You will have to score an overall mark of at least 85% in every section of this practical assessment in order to be found competent.
- You will also need to score a minimum mark of three out of five for the attitudes and attributes section in order to be found competent.

Inform the assessor if you have any special needs or requirements before the agreed date for the assessment test. You might, for example, require an interpreter to translate the questions to your mother tongue, or you might need to take this test orally. Please write your request down in your activity workbook on the front page and explain why you have made this request. Ask the assessor to sign next to your request to prove that they are aware of your special request.

Use the checklist below to help you prepare for the practical assessment. This is a list of the skills that you may be asked to show. You will be asked specific questions regarding these tasks and the knowledge that you need to apply in order to do it correctly. All the information you need was taught in the classroom and you should have practiced them during the practical part of your learning.

<i>Tasks and Questions</i>	<i>I Have Revised This and Understand It Well</i>	<i>I Am Unsure of This and Need to Ask the Facilitator or Assessor to Explain It Again</i>
Start-up the irrigation system		
Shut-down the irrigation system		
Irrigate the crop correctly according to interpretation from an irrigation schedule		
Check and maintain the irrigation system		
Report faults or problems encountered with the irrigation system		
Maintain the irrigation system		

Use the checklist below to help you prepare for the part of the practical assessment when you are observed on the attitudes and attributes that you need to have to be found competent for this learning module.

<i>Observations</i>	<i>I Am Sure of This and Understand It Well</i>	<i>I Am Unsure of This and Need to Ask the Facilitator or Assessor to Explain What It Means</i>
Can you identify problems and deficiencies correctly?		
Are you able to work well in a team?		
Do you work in an organised and systematic way while performing all tasks and tests?		
Are you able to collect the correct and appropriate information and / or samples as per the instructions and procedures that you were taught?		
Are you able to communicate your knowledge orally and in writing, in such a way that you show what knowledge you have gained?		
Can you base your tasks and answers on scientific knowledge that you have learnt?		
Are you able to show and perform the tasks required correctly?		
Are you able to link the knowledge, skills and attitudes that you have learnt in this module of learning to specific duties in your job or in the community where you live?		

- The assessor will complete a checklist that gives details of the points that are checked and assessed by the assessor.
- The assessor will write commentary and feedback on that checklist. They will discuss all commentary and feedback with you.
- You will be asked to give your own feedback and to sign this document.
- It will be placed together with this completed guide in a file as part of your portfolio of evidence.

Step 8

Re-Assessment Procedure

The assessor will discuss in detail with you what to do in case you require a re-assessment, and when the re-assessment will take place.



Step 9

Paperwork

Please assist the assessor by filling in these forms and signing then as instructed.

Learner Information Form			
Unit Standard	116266		
Program Date(s)			
Assessment Date(s)			
Surname			
First Name			
Learner ID / SETA Registration Number			
Job / Role Title			
Home Language			
Gender	Male	Female	
Race	African	Coloured	Indian/Asian White
Employment	Permanent	Non-permanent	
Disabled	Yes	No	
Date of Birth			
ID Number			
Contact Telephone Numbers			
Email Address			
Postal Address			

Assessor Report, and Formative and Summative Evidence Collection Summary for Unit Standard 116266 – Level 3					
Description	Evidence Gathered		Benchmark	Competent / Not yet Competent	Feedback and Comments
	Foundational and Embedded Knowledge	Practical Skills, Underpinning Knowledge and Reflexive Competence			
Specific Outcome 1: Modify and implement irrigation schedules for various crops <i>Range:</i> Includes but is not limited to the implementation of prescribed programs, adaptation of programs as a result of soil structure/depth, age of crop, growth of crop, prevailing climatic conditions, etc.	Attend all lectures Complete workbook as per instruction	Summative Report. Observation checklist of practical tasks integrated with knowledge and reflexive competence assessment.	85% competence in all areas		
Specific Outcome 2: Ensure the efficient operation of irrigation systems <i>Range:</i> Includes but is not limited to checking the functioning of pumps and motors, valves, timers, filters, sprinklers, etc.	Attend all lectures Complete workbook as per instruction	Summative Report. Observation checklist of practical tasks integrated with knowledge and reflexive competence assessment.			
Specific Outcome 3: Collect and record data in an agricultural field <i>Range:</i> Includes but is not limited to soil moisture recorders (tensiometers, evaporation pans, neutron probes, manual determination of soil moisture, etc.), climatic data (manual/automatic weather stations), water application, fertigation, stage of crop growth, etc.	Attend all lectures Complete workbook as per instruction	Summative Report. Observation checklist of practical tasks integrated with knowledge and reflexive competence assessment.	85% competence in all areas		
Specific Outcome 4: Prepare maintenance programs for irrigation systems	Attend all lectures Complete workbook as per instruction	Summative Report. Observation checklist of practical tasks integrated	85% competence in all areas		

Assessor Report, and Formative and Summative Evidence Collection Summary for Unit Standard 116266 – Level 3					
Description	Evidence Gathered		Benchmark	Competent / Not yet Competent	Feedback and Comments
	Foundational and Embedded Knowledge	Practical Skills, Underpinning Knowledge and Reflexive Competence			
<i>Range:</i> Includes but is not limited to daily, weekly and seasonal maintenance, preventative maintenance, unforeseen maintenance, etc.		with knowledge and reflexive competence assessment.			
Specific Outcome 5: Supervise irrigation activities <i>Range:</i> Includes but is not limited to implementing Irrigation Manager's instructions, supervising junior workers, adapting/modifying in-field operations as and when required, preparing daily work programs for staff, etc.	Attend all lectures Complete workbook as per instruction	Summative Report. Observation checklist of practical tasks integrated with knowledge and reflexive competence assessment.			
Embedded Knowledge: The learner is able to demonstrate a basic knowledge of: 1. Occupational Health and Safety Act. 2. Regulations pertaining to water/irrigation utilisation. 3. Names and functions of all tools and equipment used during irrigation 4. Names and functions of Irrigation systems and components used in a particular crop.	Attend all lectures Complete workbook as per instruction	N/a	Overall minimum test score of 85%		

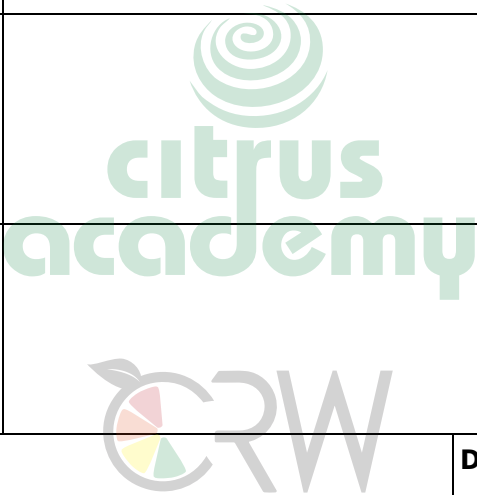
Assessor Report, and Formative and Summative Evidence Collection Summary for Unit Standard 116266 – Level 3					
Description	Evidence Gathered		Benchmark	Competent / Not yet Competent	Feedback and Comments
	Foundational and Embedded Knowledge	Practical Skills, Underpinning Knowledge and Reflexive Competence			
Unit Standard CCFOs: 1. Problem solving relates to specific outcomes 1-4. 2. Teamwork relates to all specific outcomes. 3. Self-organisation and management relates to all specific outcomes. 4. Communication relates to all specific outcomes. 5. Self-development relates to all specific outcomes. 6. Inter-relatedness of systems relates to all specific outcomes. 7. Information evaluation relates to all specific outcomes. 8. Use science and technology relates to all specific outcomes.	N/a	Rating Scale	Minimum rating of 3:5 in each criteria or overall average of 3:5		

Learner Assessment Re-Actionnaire			
Questions		Response	
How did the assessor encourage you to be involved in the assessment process?			
Did the assessor take your special needs into account? If so, how?			
Did the assessor agree on the assessment procedures with you?			
Was feedback relevant to your needs?			
Were you always aware of the outcome of the assessment?			
Did the assessor help you to explore ways of becoming competent whenever you were judged NYC?			
Did the assessor allow you to ask questions?			
Did you always agree with assessment decisions?			
Was all appropriate documentation completed and signed and did you receive copies?			
Did the assessor assist or prevent you in any way when gathering evidence so as to obscure its authenticity?			
All the evidence submitted in my name is my authentic work, which was not acquired by any unethical means.			
Learner's Signature		Date:	
Assessor's Signature		Date:	
Moderator's Signature		Date:	

Assessor's Assessment Review and Improvement Document	
Issues	Comments
Did the assessment go according to plan?	
Did anything unexpected happen?	
Were you pleased with the assessment decision; i.e. was it what you expected?	
How could the process have been carried out more efficiently?	
How could the process of assessing the knowledge be improved?	
How could the Performance Observation checklist be improved?	
Was the evidence you gathered sufficient to make a judgment of competence?	
Was the way you obtained feedback from the learner effective?	
Were you pleased with the way you communicated your decision to the learner? If not, how could this have been improved?	
How would you improve the assessment process?	

Assessment Appeal Form

Any candidate has the right of appeal against any not-yet-competent decision by the assessor. If you wish to appeal, please complete the form below.

Appeal Form			
I hereby appeal against the outcome of my assessment.			
Date:			
Learner's Name:			
Assessors Name:			
Organisation:			
Assessment Details: Criteria, role, standards Used, etc.			
Issue to be Reviewed:			
Learner's Signature		Date:	
Assessor's Signature		Date:	

Step 10

Administration and Completion of Portfolio of Evidence

All the documents or copies thereof, as prescribed previously, must be kept on file as part of the learner portfolio of evidence.

