

Development and Validation of CanTEST¹ Versions for Canadian Language Benchmarks

Within the research project, one of the objectives was to establish the relationship between achievement on CanTEST and the detailed descriptions of performance presented in the Stage II (benchmarks 7 & 8) and Stage III (benchmarks 9 - 11) of the *Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB)* (Pawlikowska-Smith, G., 2000). A second objective of the research project was to address the issue of content validity of CanTEST with respect to the CLB and then, within a test development phase of the project, modify, where needed, test versions to ensure as high a level of content validity as possible.

One outcome of this project is a table in which results on CanTEST are identified as indicating levels of performance as they appear within the academic/professional strands of the CLB descriptions (benchmarks 7 - 11). See Table 1 below. (St.John/Des Brisay, 2001, p.6)

Table 1

Canadian Language Benchmark	CanTEST Listening Comprehension	CanTEST Reading Comprehension	CanTEST Oral Communication	CanTEST Written Expression
CLB11	Band 5.0+	Band 5.0+	??	Band 5.0+
CLB10	Band 5.0	Band 5.0	Band 5.0+	Band 5.0
CLB 9	Band 4.5	Band 4.5	Band 5.0	Band 4.5
CLB 8	Band 4.0	Band 4.0	Band 4.5	Band 4.0
CLB 7	Band 3.5	Band 3.5	Band 4.0	Band 3.5
CLB 6	Band 3.0	Band 3.0	Band 3.5	Band 3.0

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References

Pawlikowska-Smith, G. (2000). *Canadian Language Benchmarks 2000*. Ottawa: Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks.

St. John, J. / M. Des Brisay. *Final Report - Development and Validation of CanTEST Versions for Canadian Language Benchmarks*. January 2001

¹ CanTEST is the Canadian Test of English for Scholars and Trainees. For more information about CanTEST, consult www.uottawa.ca/academic/arts/ils/e-cantest.html or e-mail inquiries to cantest@uottawa.ca.