



iSkills™

Listening. Learning. Leading.

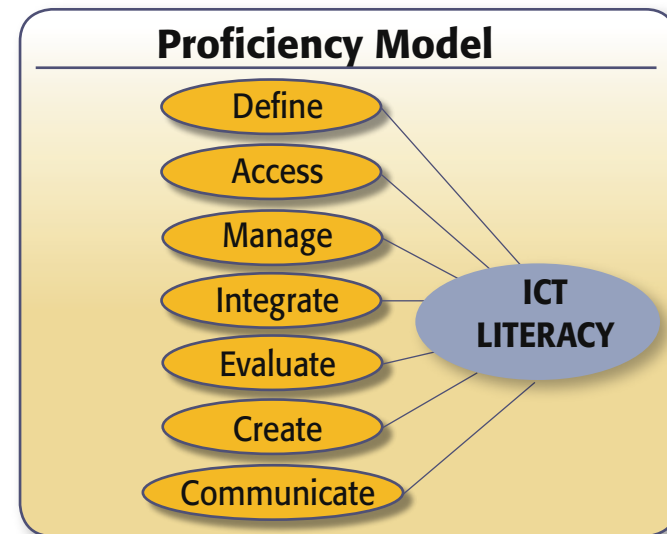
ICT Proficiencies Measure Both Cognitive and Technical Skills

The *ICT Literacy Assessment* is now called the *iSkills™* assessment. All references to the *ICT Literacy Assessment* in the following document apply to the *iSkills* assessment.

Measure both cognitive and technical skills

The ICT Literacy Assessment uses real-time, scenario-based tasks — NOT multiple-choice questions — to assess seven ICT skills required of today's higher education students. The test measures not only knowledge of technology but the ability to use critical-thinking skills to solve problems within a technological environment.

The 75-minute test contains two different types of tasks: 14 short tasks, each of which addresses a single ICT skill, and one long task, which addresses multiple skills. Short tasks are designed to take no more than four minutes each to complete. The long task should take no more than 15 minutes to complete.



Tasks assess the following ICT proficiencies:

Define

The ability to use ICT tools to identify and appropriately represent an information need.

Student activities include

- creating an academic research topic to fit a particular information need
- asking questions to clarify a customer's information need
- filling in a concept map

Access

The ability to collect and/or retrieve information in digital environments. This includes the ability to identify likely digital information sources and to get the information from those sources.

Student activities include

- searching through databases for information
- browsing through linked Web sites for information
- locating information through online Help
- downloading and installing a (simulated) video player



Task Interface

In this **access** task, students must use the Web to find relevant articles, editorials and papers that they will place in their reference list.

Manage

The ability to apply an existing organizational or classification scheme for digital information. This ability focuses on reorganizing existing digital information from a single source using preexisting organizational formats. It includes the ability to identify preexisting organizational schemes, select appropriate schemes for the current usage and apply the schemes.

Student activities include

- sorting e-mails into appropriate folders
- reordering a table to maximize efficiency in two tasks with incompatible requirements
- documenting relationships using an organization chart

Integrate

The ability to interpret and represent digital information. This includes the ability to use ICT tools to synthesize, summarize, compare and contrast information from multiple digital sources.

Student activities include

- comparing and contrasting information from Web pages in a spreadsheet
- synthesizing information from IMs into a word processing document

Evaluate

The ability to determine the degree to which digital information satisfies the needs of the task in ICT environments. This includes the ability to judge the quality, relevance, authority, point of view/bias, currency, coverage and accuracy of digital information.

Student activities include

- selecting the best database for an information need
- determining the sufficiency (or lack) of information in a Web site, given the information need
- ranking Web pages in terms of their meeting particular criteria
- determining the relevance of postings on a Web discussion board

Create

The ability to generate information by adapting, applying, designing or inventing information in ICT environments.

Student activities include

- creating a graph that supports a point of view
- selecting text and graphics that support a point of view

Communicate

The ability to communicate information properly in its context of use for ICT environments. This includes the ability to gear electronic information for a particular audience and communicate knowledge in the appropriate venue.

Student activities include

- formatting a word processing document
- recasting an e-mail
- adapting presentation slides

