

Essential College & Career Readiness Skills

Today's young people are challenged to meet a new standard of mastery that will help them be successful in an increasingly dynamic world. Students need to develop higher-order skills that transcend fact-based domain knowledge in order to take on the demands of secondary school and meet the expectations of college and career.

Use this checklist to see how your students measure up!

Analysis and Problem Solving

Data Literacy



How well can your students:

- Make inferences and hypotheses based on given results?
- Identify data that is connected and conflicting?
- Detect questionable assumptions?
- Support or refute a position using scientific evidence?

Critical Reading and Evaluation



How well can your students:

- Evaluate the reliability of information?
- Identify connected and conflicting information?
- Make justifiable inferences?

Critique an Argument



How well can your students:

- Detect logical flaws and questionable assumptions?
- Address information that could strengthen or weaken an argument?
- Evaluate alternate conclusions?

Writing Effectiveness



How well can your students:

- Present evidence in support of an argument?
- Elaborate on facts or ideas?
- Construct an organized and logically cohesive argument?

Connecting the Dots

Measure Students' Essential Learning Skills With the CCRA+ Performance-Based Assessment

Now that you have a sense of what these essential skills look like in action, what's next? The college and career readiness assessment (CCRA+) from CAE can help by providing rich, insightful data about your students' strengths and areas for improvement with these skills so you can help them develop and put them into practice. [Reach out to CAE to request a demo.](#)