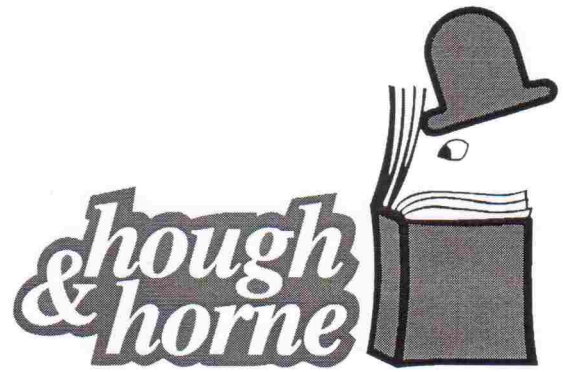


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**Evaluators and Consultants:
Literacy, Functional Literacy (ABET),
and Communication Skills**

9 June 2010

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Info: ELSA norms, dates, populations, etc.

The HSRC's Centre for Statistics guided and oversaw most of our exercises around ELSA Intermediate and ELSA Scanner norms.

In March 1993 a proportional sample involving 684 pupils and 26 schools countrywide was tested. The total sample — all mother-tongue users of English — had passed Std 6 at the end of 1992 and was composed as follows:

Population Group	Males	Females	Total
Asians	118	27	145
Blacks	16	4	20
Coloureds	63	30	93
Whites	<u>274</u>	<u>152</u>	<u>426</u>
	471	213	684

This particular ELSA Intermediate exercise was preceded by an exercise involving 216 mother-tongue candidates in 1991. A regression analysis was conducted and the coefficient of determination of 0,965 indicated a very good fit. Correlations among the seven ELSA Intermediate sub-tests were all significant except for quantitative numeracy (non-verbal) which did not correlate significantly with phonics and with vocabulary in context.

During June 1995 intervals were fine-tuned following two HSRC calibration exercises involving 117 + 110 grade 10 learners, 96 + 90 grade 11 learners, 832 + 783 grade 12 learners and 212 + 199 grade 12+ learners respectively. All these learners were, needless to say, mother-tongue users of English and a fair (i.e. proportionate) mix of population groups.

Between 1996 and 2007 no significant adjustments were made to ELSA Intermediate intervals/norms.

At the beginning of 2008 we surveyed intervals at three high schools in the Eastern Province. We tested 47 completed grade 8s, 43 completed grade 9s and 45 completed grade 10s. We were pleasantly surprised. The mean average for grade 8s was 3% above our ELSA norm, the grade 9s 1% above and the grade 10s spot on.

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