

Overview of the Item Bank

In conjunction with the IA tests a Benchmark Assessment Item Bank (BAIB) is available to teachers through ExamView for the purpose of constructing formative classroom assessments. Currently, multiple choice items are available in the BAIB in reading and mathematics for grades 3-10 that measure a range of cognitive and difficulty levels. In Summer 2008, additional items will be added in reading, mathematics, and science with item formats to include multiple-choice, short, extended, and gridded response items.

The BAIB items should be used as part of a rich curriculum in reading, mathematics, and science and not simply as “test prep.” As a result of students’ results on the IA, classroom teachers should determine students’ deficiencies, make instructional adjustments, and utilize the item bank to develop classroom formative assessment. The selection of the BAIB items should be relevant to the needs of the teacher and student(s).