

Guidelines for Use of the Written Model Cultural Orientation Assessment

The written version of the Model Cultural Orientation (CO) Assessment consists of 10 questions that can be administered to refugees who participate in Reception and Placement (R&P) cultural orientation to assess their understanding of key CO concepts. This assessment was adapted from the oral version of the Model CO Assessment.

The assessment is designed to be administered at the completion of R&P CO. It is intended to be one measure that can be used along with others to evaluate the effectiveness of CO. Please see the [CO Assessment Toolkit](#) for additional general information about assessment and evaluation and how the results of the Model CO Assessment can be used.

Participation

- The written Model CO Assessment may be given to refugees who meet the following criteria:
 - Are literate and have good language comprehension skills in the language of the assessment
 - Have at least some formal secondary education in any country
 - Have demonstrated the ability to fill out forms or complete written work independently (excluding assistance with translation to English)
- The assessment may be administered in a group setting, but each participant should fill out her or his own form without conferring with others.
- The assessment should be administered in one sitting if possible.

Language and adaptation

- Whether administered in English or other languages, locally- or culturally-relevant terms should always be used when terms in the original question might be unfamiliar (for example, “grocery store,” “supermarket,” or “bodega” would all be acceptable based on local circumstances).
- For #3, you may substitute an actual name for “local resettlement agency.” For #5, you may substitute an actual program name for “initial cash assistance.” For #10, you may substitute an actual name for “local transportation system” and/or delete “or subway” if not applicable.
- During administration of the assessment, any term used in English or other languages that the participant does not understand may be defined or re-translated.
- Assessment implementation should follow guidelines as per each agency’s local assessment plan (see plan template and checklist in [Online CO Assessment Toolkit](#)).

Scoring

- There is no universal “passing score.” Depending on the use of assessment results and after some initial data is gathered on how well participants do, agencies or affiliates may create guidelines for what constitutes a “good” result.
- Each question is worth a maximum of one point. Give full or partial credit as follows:
 1. 1 point for correct answer
 2. 0.5 point for correct address (both lines) and 0.5 point for correct telephone number
 3. 0.5 point for each correct answer
 4. 1 point for all 6 correct, 0.5 point for 3-5 correct, and 0 points for 0-2 correct
 5. 1 point for correct answer
 6. 0.5 point for each correct answer
 7. 1 point for correct answer. Note that the point is awarded if the participant provides evidence of knowing where the grocery store is; the question is not testing the participant’s ability to provide directions.
 8. 1 point for correct answer
 9. 1 point for all 3 correct, 0.5 point for 1-2 correct, and 0 points for 0 correct
 10. 0.5 point for each correct answer