

Figure 1.16
Assessment Instrument Quality-Evaluation Tool

Assessment Indicators	Description of Level 1	Requirements of the Indicator Are Not Present	Limited Requirements of This Indicator Are Present	Substantially Meets the Requirements of the Indicator	Fully Achieves the Requirements of the Indicator	Description of Level 4
Identification and emphasis on essential learning standards (specific feedback to students)	Learning standards are unclear and absent from the assessment instrument. Too much attention is given to one target.	1	2	3	4	Learning standards are clear, included on the assessment, and connected to the assessment questions.
Visual presentation	Assessment instrument is sloppy, disorganized, difficult to read, and offers no room for work.	1	2	3	4	Assessment is neat, organized, easy to read, and well-spaced, with room for teacher feedback.
Balance of higher- and lower-level-cognitive-demand tasks	Emphasis is on procedural knowledge with minimal higher-level-cognitive-demand tasks for demonstration of understanding.	1	2	3	4	Test is rigor balanced with higher-level and lower-level-cognitive-demand tasks present.
Clarity of directions	Directions are missing and unclear. Directions are confusing for students.	1	2	3	4	Directions are appropriate and clear.
Variety of assessment task formats	Assessment contains only one type of questioning strategy, and no multiple choice or evidence of the Mathematical Practices. Calculator usage not clear.	1	2	3	4	Assessment includes a blend of assessment types and assesses Mathematical Practices modeling or use of tools. Calculator expectations clear.
Tasks and vocabulary (attending to precision)	Wording is vague or misleading. Vocabulary and precision of language are a struggle for student understanding and access.	1	2	3	4	Vocabulary is direct, fair, accessible, and clearly understood by students, and they are expected to attend to precision in response.
Time allotment	Few students can complete the assessment in the time allowed.	1	2	3	4	Test can be successfully completed in the time allowed.
Appropriate scoring rubric (points)	Scoring rubric is not evident or is inappropriate for the assessment tasks presented.	1	2	3	4	Scoring rubric is clearly stated and appropriate for each task or problem.

Source: Kanold, T. D. (Ed.), Kanold, T. D., & Larson, M. (2012). Common Core mathematics in a PLC at work, leader's guide. Bloomington, IN: Solution Tree Press. (See p. 94.)