**NEW LOWER SECONDARY CURRICULUM**

**Continuous Assessment Item (CAI)**

It is a stimulus which prompts the learner to demonstrate the competence/skills in solving a real life situation.

It comprises of:

1. Scenario/context/situation: This is a set of information that a learner needs in order to mobilize his or her learnings (knowledge, skills and values) to solve a real-life problem/task/challenge.
2. A task: It is a set of instructions or action points to be undertaken by the learner.

**Purpose of CAIs**

1. To evaluate a learner’s ability to apply their knowledge and skills to real-world situations, rather than just testing their ability to memorize or repeat information without analyzing it information
2. To stimulate learners to analyze and evaluate complex information, make decisions, and apply their knowledge and skills in new and unfamiliar situations.
3. To engage learners in active learning, encouraging them to explore and apply their knowledge in meaningful ways

**Qualities of CAIs**

The qualities of Continuous Assessment Items includes:

1. **Alignment with the competencies**: The item should be aligned with the competencies that are being assessed, to ensure that it provides a valid and reliable measure of the learner’s competency in a specific area or competency.
2. **Authenticity**: The item should be realistic or representative of real-world situations, to ensure that it provides a meaningful way to assess the learner’s ability to apply their knowledge and skills in context.
3. **Clarity**: The items should be clearly written and easy to understand, to ensure that learners are able to focus on the problem or challenge presented, rather than struggling to understand the instructions.

iv) **Accessibility**: The item should be accessible to all learners, regardless of their background, language, Special Educational Needs (SENs), to ensure that it provides an equitable, flexible and inclusive assessment experience.

v) **Relevancy**: The item should be within the learner’s experience as provided for in the curriculum. It should be engaging, motivating while allowing learners to connect to their existing knowledge and skills.