



Yellow Card Participants with inadequate reading and writing skills

It is at the discretion of the AT that a verbal assessment can be undertaken for participants whose writing skills are poor or inadequate. The participant must be able to understand the English language. Prior arrangement or a separate appointment may be required for verbal assessment.

The reason being, the EWPA has aligned itself with the document [*National Standard for Licencing Persons Performing High Risk Work*](#), on page 13 part 6.7 (B) states, 'To achieve competency the trainee must be able to demonstrate that he or she can use the English language at a level that enables the safe performance of the high risk work as specified in the competency standard.'

This does not mean that a person with poor reading and writing skills cannot participate in training; however they must be able to understand and communicate to the trainer. What this does mean is the learner must be able to understand and communicate in English. The use of an interpreter for the purpose of training and assessing is not permissible.

Condition 54 from conducting HRW assessments under the WHS regulation 2011 states, 'Under no circumstances may an assessor use a language interpreter.....'

Without being able to speak and understand the learner's language the trainer cannot be 100% sure that the answer is the learner's or the interpreter's.

As a trainer/assessor you must be confident that the knowledge and skills imparted have been absorbed and developed by the learner and assessed to a level that you can deem the person competent.