CSET®

California Subject Examinations for Teachers®

TEST GUIDE

ARABIC

General Examination Information

Test Structure for CSET: Arabic

CSET: Arabic consists of two separate subtests, each composed of constructed-response questions. Each subtest is scored separately.

The structure of the examination is shown in the table below.

CSET: Arabic		
Subtest	**Domains**	**Number of Constructed-Response Questions**
I	General Linguistics	1 short (focused)
	Linguistics of the Target Language	3 short (focused)
	Literary and Cultural Texts and Traditions	1 extended
	Cultural Analysis and Comparisons	1 extended
	Subtest Total	4 short (focused) 2 extended
II	Language and Communication: Oral Expression	2 short (focused)
	Language and Communication: Listening Comprehension	2 short (focused)
	Language and Communication: Reading Comprehension	2 short (focused)
	Language and Communication: Written Expression	1 extended
	Subtest Total	6 short (focused) 1 extended

Bilingual Authorization Information

Effective fall 2007, specific CSET: World Languages subtests replaced Tests 4, 5, and 6 of the BCLAD Examinations as the required assessments for individuals who wish to use the exam route to earn a Bilingual Authorization. For more information refer to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) website at **www.ctc.ca.gov** or the California Educator Credentialing Examinations website at **www.ctcexams.nesinc.com**.

To verify competence in the knowledge and skill areas necessary for effective teaching of English learners for the Bilingual Authorization, candidates must pass CSET: Arabic Subtests II*, IV, and V. The test structure for CSET: Arabic (used toward the Bilingual Authorization) is shown in the table below.

CSET: Arabic (used toward the Bilingual Authorization)			
Subtest	**Domains**	**Number of Multiple-Choice Questions**	**Number of Constructed-Response Questions**
II*	Language and Communication: Oral Expression	none	2 short (focused)
	Language and Communication: Listening Comprehension	none	2 short (focused)
	Language and Communication: Reading Comprehension	none	2 short (focused)
	Language and Communication: Written Expression	none	1 extended
	Subtest Total	none	6 short (focused) 1 extended
IV	Bilingual Education and Bilingualism	12	none
	Intercultural Communication	13	none
	Instruction and Assessment	25	none
	Subtest Total	50	none
V	Geographic and Historical Contexts	none	2 short (focused)
	Sociopolitical and Sociocultural Contexts	none	3 short (focused)
	Subtest Total	none	5 short (focused)

*This Arabic Subtest II is the same Arabic Subtest II that can be used toward the Single Subject Teaching Credential. Passage of this subtest is not required if (1) you hold a valid, non-emergency Single Subject or Standard Secondary Teaching Credential with a major in Arabic or (2) you hold a three-year or higher degree from a foreign institution in which all instruction is delivered in Arabic and the institution is equivalent in status to a regionally accredited institution of higher education in the United States.

Annotated List of Resources for CSET: Arabic

This list identifies some resources that may help candidates prepare to take CSET: Arabic. While not a substitute for coursework or other types of teacher preparation, these resources may enhance a candidate's knowledge of the content covered on the examination. The references listed are not intended to represent a comprehensive listing of all potential resources. Candidates are not expected to read all of the materials listed below, and passage of the examination will not require familiarity with these specific resources. A brief summary is provided for each reference cited. Resources are organized alphabetically and by content domain order in subtest order.

General Linguistics

Ellis, Rod. (1997). *Second Language Acquisition*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

> This book covers the essentials of second-language acquisition, including discussions of different theories and models of second-language learning.

Fromkin, Victoria; Rodman, Robert; and Hyams, Nina. (2006). *An Introduction to Language* (8th edition). Boston, MA: Thomson/Heinle.

> This book offers a good overview of all of the major aspects of linguistics, including phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, sociolinguistics, language acquisition, and historical linguistics.

Parker, Frank, and Riley, Kathryn. (2004). *Linguistics for Non-Linguists: A Primer with Exercises* (4th edition). Needham Heights, MA: Allyn & Bacon.

> This book offers a solid introduction to linguistics, including discussions of speech act theory and first- and second-language acquisition.

Wardhaugh, Ronald. (1993). *Investigating Language: Central Problems in Linguistics*. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell Publishers.

> This book offers a discussion of the major ideas and questions explored by the field of linguistics.

Linguistics of the Target Language

Abdulwarith, Saeed. (2004). *Muzara 'ulum al-Lugha al-'Arabiyya Parts 1 and 2*. Southfield, MI: Islamic American University.

> These textbooks provide an introductory-level course in Arabic language.

Badawi, Elsaid; Carter, M. G.; and Gully, Adrian. (2004). *Modern Written Arabic: A Comprehensive Grammar*. London and New York: Routledge.

> This is a reference book for Arabic grammar.

Bakalla, M. H. (1984). *Arab Culture through its Language and Literature.* London: Kegan Paul International.

> This book offers an overview of Arabic language and literature. Pre-Islamic poetry, proverbs, and literary criticism are covered in addition to major literary figures such as al-Mutanabbi, Bashar, and Al-Ma'arri.

Brustad, Kristen; Al-Batal, Mahmoud; and Al-Tonsi, Abbas. (2007). *Al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-'Arabiyya. A Textbook for Arabic: Part Three.* Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press.

> This advanced textbook helps learners improve their proficiency in listening, reading, writing, and speaking in Arabic. The book focuses on modern Arabic through the use of authentic linguistic and cultural material. It also presents some classical Arabic texts. A DVD and a CD complete the lessons.

Dickins, James, and Watson, Janet C. E. (1998). *Standard Arabic: An Advanced Course*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

> This textbook is divided into 20 chapters based on topics of direct relevance to the Arabic-speaking Middle East. The lessons aim to develop language skills by making extensive use of authentic materials in Arabic. A variety of exercises follows each lesson and two companion audiotapes are available.

Literary and Cultural Texts and Traditions

Abdulwarith, Saeed. (2004). *Dirasat fel Adab al-'Arabi al-Mu'asir. (Studies in Contemporary Arabic Literature).* Southfield, MI: Islamic American University.

> This textbook offers an introduction to contemporary literary works in Arabic.

Cachia, P. (2002). *Arabic Literature: An Overview.* London: Routledge.

> This book offers an overview of Arabic literature, including popular folktales of the classical and modern periods.

Caiani, Fabio. (2007). *Contemporary Arab Fiction: Innovation from Rama to Yalu.* London: Routledge.

> This book examines works of fiction from Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, and Iraq that were published between 1979 and 2002 and that are representative of new literary trends in contemporary Arabic fiction.

Frangieh, Bassam K. (Ed.). (2005). *Anthology of Arabic Literature, Culture, and Thought from Pre-Islamic Times to the Present.* New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.

> This anthology collects texts from a wide variety of different sources (cultural, political, religious, linguistic, literary) that were produced from the beginning of writing in Arabic to the present time. Together, the different texts constitute an overview of the Arabic literary tradition. The texts are all in Arabic with a glossary at the end of the book. The book is accompanied by an audio CD.

Starkey, Paul. (2006). *Modern Arabic Literature*. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press.

> This book provides a general introduction to literature in Arabic written over the course of the past two centuries. Following a brief survey of the beginning of Arabic literature, the text examines a variety of movements, genres, works, and authors. The book includes a bibliography of other resources pertaining to Arabic literature.

Cultural Analysis and Comparisons

Bakalla, M. H. (1984). *Arab Culture through its Language and Literature.* London: Kegan Paul International.

> This book offers an overview of Arabic language and literature. Pre-Islamic poetry, proverbs, and literary criticism are covered in addition to major literary figures such as al-Mutanabbi, Bashar, and Al-Ma'arri.

Bates, Daniel G., and Rassam, Amal. (2001). *Peoples and Cultures of the Middle East* (2nd edition). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

> This book examines important aspects of Middle Eastern societies and cultures.

Egger, Vernon O. (2004). *A History of the Muslim World to 1405: The Making of a Civilization*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

> This book examines important developments in the history of the Muslim world.

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Language and Communication: Listening Comprehension

Abdulwarith, Saeed. (2004). *Muzara 'ulum al-Lugha al-'Arabiyya Parts 1 and 2*. Southfield, MI: Islamic American University.

> These textbooks provide an introductory-level course in Arabic language.

Brustad, Kristen; Al-Batal, Mahmoud; and Al-Tonsi, Abbas. (2007). *Al-Kitaab fii Ta'allum al-'Arabiyya. A Textbook for Arabic: Part Three.* Washington, DC: Georgetown University Press.

> This advanced textbook helps learners improve their proficiency in listening, reading, writing, and speaking in Arabic. The book focuses on modern Arabic through the use of authentic linguistic and cultural material. It also presents some classical Arabic texts. A DVD and a CD complete the lessons.

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Language and Communication: Reading Comprehension

Abdulwarith, Saeed. (2004). *Muzara 'ulum al-Lugha al-'Arabiyya Parts 1 and 2*. Southfield, MI: Islamic American University.

> These textbooks provide an introductory-level course in Arabic language.

Bakalla, M. H. (1984). *Arab Culture through its Language and Literature.* London: Kegan Paul International.

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Language and Communication: Written Expression

Abdulwarith, Saeed. (2004). *Muzara 'ulum al-Lugha al-'Arabiyya Parts 1 and 2*. Southfield, MI: Islamic American University.

These textbooks provide an introductory-level course in Arabic language.

Badawi, Elsaid; Carter, M. G.; and Gully, Adrian. (2004). *Modern Written Arabic: A Comprehensive Grammar*. London and New York: Routledge.

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Language and Communication: Oral Expression

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Sociopolitical and Sociocultural Contexts

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