

SOFTWARE REVIEW

Choose one educational software title and review it as if you were evaluating it for use in your classroom. Assume you will recommend or not recommend it for purchase and gather the documentation to defend your position. Use the CLRN Clearinghouse guidelines to help you in your evaluation.

Indicate the specific California subject matter content standards that can be met with this software—be as comprehensive as possible. The California Subject Matter Guidelines are available on-line.

The evaluation consists of three parts: A summary sheet (page 2), a detailed checklist for various aspects of the software (pages 3 & 4) and a written narrative (divided into two parts) that includes the following: Description of the software (part 1), your opinion of it regarding its usefulness in your classroom, the basis for that opinion, and your recommendation concerning its purchase (part 2).

Package your review in the following order:

Summary sheet (page 2 attached)
Description of the Software (narrative)
Evaluation Form (Use pages 3-4 attached)
Your Opinion & Recommendation (narrative)

Software Review

Adapted by R. M. Roberts from CLERN and Carla Piper (Chapman University)

Reviewed by: _____

Date: _____ **School:** _____

Software Title:	
Publisher:	
Grade Level(s):	Subject Matter:
OS: Mac Win Dos Linux	Media: Floppy Disc CD-ROM Download* DVD
Available in a networked version? Yes No	
License type(s): Home/Single copy Classroom School Site (site license) District License other (please specify):	
Technical Support: none on-line (free or paid) phone (free or paid) on-site	
Term or length of support agreement:	

***Download URL:** _____

California Curriculum Content Compliance

___ Meets Legal Compliance
___ Covers California Curriculum Content Standards
Content Standard(s):
Grade Level(s):
Lesson Objectives:

Overall Recommendation:

	<i>Excellent</i> (Exemplary)	<i>Good</i> (Desirable)	<i>Minimal</i> (Not selected)

Review Criteria

I. Instructional Design for Learners

	<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Minimal</i>
Creative teaching and learning			
Critical thinking			
Information literacy			
Perspective			
English learners			
Challenged learners			
<i>Comments:</i>			

II. Program Design

	<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Minimal</i>
Objectives and pedagogy			
Effectiveness			
Interactive strategies			
Motivation			
Customizing features			
Online access			
Skill-building programs			
<i>Comments:</i>			

III. Assessment

	<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Minimal</i>
Assessment/classroom management			
Assessment strategies			
<i>Comments:</i>			

IV. Instructional Support Materials

	<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Minimal</i>
Presentation and organization			
Support materials			
<i>Comments:</i>			

V. Legal Compliance and Sensitive Content—Indicate any concerns in the following areas:

Sensitive Content:

- Nudity
- Excessive Violence
- Explicit Sexual Material
- Profanity
- Glamorization of Drugs or Dangerous Substances

Legal Compliance:

- Male/Female Roles
- Ethnic and Cultural Groups
- Older Persons and the Aging Process
- Disabled Persons
- Entrepreneur and Labor
- Religion
- Ecology and Environment
- Dangerous Substances
- Thrift, Fire Prevention, and Humane Treatment
- Declaration of Independence/US Constitution
- Brand Names and Corporate Logos
- Diet and Exercise