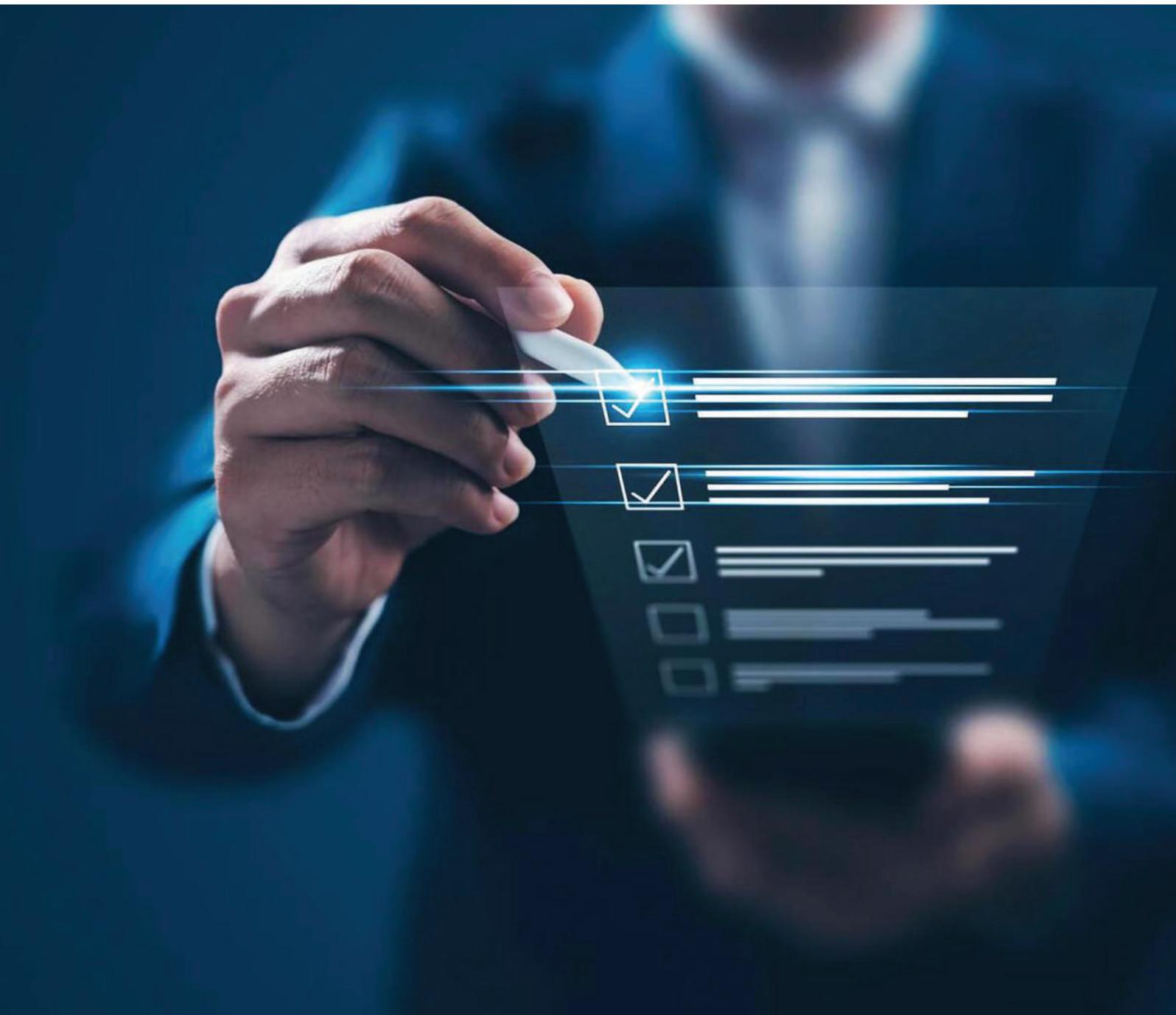


Platforms, Tools, and Caselets in Next-Gen Assessments

International Centre for Assessments Research and Data Sciences

mySATHI Foundation



Introduction

Assessments today form a mosaic of innovations across the globe, each illuminating a different path to fairness, relevance, and clarity. From ETS’s psychometric rigor to Cerebry’s AI-driven adaptivity, from Duolingo’s disruption to OECD’s frameworks for 21st-century competencies, the ecosystem is richer than ever before. What unites these diverse experiments is a recognition that rote recall no longer suffices; we must measure higher-order skills, adaptivity, and readiness for real-world challenges. Here are detailed caselets on leading platforms and frameworks shaping the future of assessment.

Caselet: ETS – Global Benchmark of Psychometric Rigor

The **Educational Testing Service (ETS)** has long set the global standard in large-scale assessments. Its innovations—*GRE Focus Edition*, *TOEFL iBT enhancements*, and psychometric rigor across decades—demonstrate how legacy institutions evolve without losing credibility.

- **Efficiency with Rigor:** The *GRE Focus Edition* is shorter, adaptive, and faster in reporting results, ensuring reduced fatigue without compromising validity. Universities now receive sharper diagnostic insights into reasoning and communication skills.
- **Language Proficiency Leadership:** TOEFL iBT continues to reinvent itself, with streamlined sections, at-home testing options, and security enhancements.
- **Psychometric Science:** ETS’s contribution lies not only in exams but in advancing Item Response Theory (IRT), fairness metrics, and evidence-based design principles that inspire assessment systems globally.

For higher education institutions, ETS illustrates that scale, validity, and fairness can coexist—a lesson critical for countries like India seeking to democratize admissions without diluting rigor.

Caselet: Cerebry – Adaptive Assessments Across Subjects and Sectors

Originally launched as a personalized math learning platform, **Cerebry** has scaled to multiple geographies and domains:

- **Global Reach:** Deployed across Southeast Asia and Central Asia in schools, universities, and vocational contexts.
- **Diverse Clients:** From Ministries of Education to professional agencies like traffic police training academies, Cerebry demonstrates adaptivity beyond academics.

- **Generative Assessment Design:** Using AI, the platform generates unique problem sequences for each learner. Errors are traced to specific misconceptions, enabling targeted interventions.
- **Multi-Subject Expansion:** While rooted in math, Cerebry has broadened into science, reasoning, and professional competency assessments, adapting content to local curricula and organizational needs.

Cerebry exemplifies how assessments can be not only adaptive but contextual, supporting learners from schools to workforce training programs.

Caselet: Duolingo English Test – Disrupting Language Proficiency Testing

The **Duolingo English Test (DET)** has disrupted traditional language testing (IELTS, TOEFL) by offering:

- **Accessibility:** Low-cost, at-home testing with results in 48 hours, democratizing access for students worldwide.
- **Innovative Item Formats:** Short, adaptive modules test integrated language skills, from speaking to writing.
- **Validity Evidence:** Multiple studies confirm strong correlation with IELTS/TOEFL and predictive power for academic performance, especially at the postgraduate level.
- **Equity Focus:** DET's cost and flexibility make it attractive for students in geographies where test centers are scarce.

The DET shows how digital design, if paired with rigorous validity studies, can redefine entire markets.

Caselet: mySATHI – India's 4C-Driven Alternative

mySATHI positions itself as a global thought-leader emerging from India. Unlike high-stakes elimination exams, it is designed as an **on-demand, multilingual, adaptive test** that explicitly measures the **4Cs—Critical Thinking, Creativity, Collaboration, and Communication**.

- **Diagnostic Compass:** Students receive a multi-dimensional profile, not just a rank.
- **Affordability & Inclusivity:** Priced at INR 500, mySATHI is accessible compared to international benchmarks.
- **University Dashboards:** Institutions gain deeper insights into applicants' strengths, aligning with NEP 2020's mandate for holistic admissions.

mySATHI reflects how India can create globally benchmarked assessments that blend fairness, relevance, and clarity with affordability.

Caselet: ASSET by Educational Initiatives – Early Diagnostic Pioneer

ASSET, pioneered by Educational Initiatives, was among the first to focus on **conceptual understanding over rote recall** in India's schools.

- **Diagnostic Design:** Identifies misconceptions in math, science, and language, helping teachers intervene early.
- **Influence on Pedagogy:** Thousands of schools shifted practices after ASSET data revealed how grades often masked conceptual gaps.
- **Relevance for Higher Ed:** By preparing learners to think critically long before university, ASSET underscores the importance of diagnostics as a developmental tool.

ASSET's legacy demonstrates the power of feedback-oriented testing in shaping educational culture.

Caselet: Talevate – Embedding Assessment into Learning

Talevate bridges content publishing and adaptive testing:

- **Embedded Micro-Assessments:** Digital textbooks with adaptive questions turn reading into a continuous assessment journey.
- **Real-Time Teacher Insights:** Analytics highlight where students struggle, enabling immediate pedagogical adjustments.
- **Integration of Teaching & Testing:** Talevate reduces the artificial boundary between learning and evaluation.

For professors and teachers, this illustrates the future of embedded assessment within everyday learning experiences.

Caselet: Evueme – Employability and Interview Diagnostics

Evueme focuses on the transition from education to work:

- **Video-Based Simulations:** Students record responses to structured interview prompts, analyzed for clarity, confidence, and collaboration cues.

- **Behavioral & Communication Analytics:** Provides universities with employability profiles of graduates.
- **Employer Alignment:** Employers access standardized yet personalized evidence of candidates' skills, reducing hiring uncertainty.

Evueme illustrates how assessments can measure not only knowledge but workplace readiness.

Caselet: OECD and PISA – Global Frameworks for Future Skills

The **OECD's Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA)** remains the most influential large-scale assessment globally. Conducted every three years across 80+ countries, it benchmarks 15-year-olds on reading, mathematics, and science—but increasingly also on **global competence and problem-solving**.

- **Framework for 21st-Century Skills:** PISA has evolved to include collaborative problem-solving, financial literacy, and global competencies.
- **Data for Policy:** Countries use PISA results to reform curricula, teacher training, and national assessment policies.
- **Equity Lens:** PISA data illuminates socio-economic and gender gaps in learning outcomes.

For India, aligning national assessments with PISA's multidimensional frameworks ensures global comparability and relevance.

Conclusion

From **ETS's psychometric rigor** to **Cerebry's AI adaptivity**, from **Duolingo's equity-driven disruption** to **OECD's global benchmarking**, the assessment ecosystem is diverse yet converging around the same imperatives: fairness, relevance, and clarity.

These are not isolated stories but a constellation of experiments and practices shaping a new era. For higher education leaders, the challenge is not whether to adopt such tools but how to integrate them thoughtfully—so that assessments become not mere filters, but compasses guiding learners toward a future of critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication.

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