

# Task-Based Activity



Interpreting written text and a recording about Richard Wagamese



## OALCF Link

### Relevant Goal Paths (Spirit-Vision):

<input type="checkbox"/>	EMPLOYMENT
<input type="checkbox"/>	INDEPENDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/>	POSTSECONDARY
<input type="checkbox"/>	SECONDARY SCHOOL CREDIT
<input type="checkbox"/>	APPRENTICESHIP

### Rationale:

Learners on the Employment, Independence, Secondary School and Postsecondary Goal Paths will be required to read and write continuous text and to perform simple digital tasks.



### Learning Plan Link (Heart- Feeling):

Learners often seek role models. Richard Wagamese is a self-taught author from a northern Ontario First Nations community. He grew up in foster homes, has a Grade 9 education and has won numerous awards for his books. His success as the result of focus and hard work may be inspirational to the learners.

### Task-Based Activity Description:

Learners will be given an internet link and asked to answer questions based on the text they find. Then, they will access and listen to an online recording of Richard talking about himself. A reporter adds further information. Learners will be asked to write a text about this information, as well as to answer a reflective question.



## Competency, Task Group and Level Indicator: (Mind - Knowledge)

### LEVEL:

Find and Use Information			Communicate Ideas and Information				Understand and Use Numbers				Use Digital Technology	Manage Learning	Engage with Others
Read continuous text	Interpret documents	Extract info from films, broadcasts & presentations	Interact with others	Write continuous text	Complete and create documents	Express oneself creatively	Manage money	Manage time	Use measures	Manage data			
A1	A2	A3	B1	B2	B3	B4	C1	C2	C3	C4	D	E	F
A1.2		A.3		B2.1 B2.2							D.2		

### Materials Required

A computer with internet access      Pen or pencil and eraser      Question Sheet



## Overview of Task (Body-Skills)

### Activity Introduction

This task-based activity asks learners to follow an internet link where they will read a text about Richard's success. They will access and listen to an online of Richard talking about himself. A reporter adds further information. Learners will answer questions about the text and recording.

### New Words/Phrases

Review the words/phrases and explain their meanings. You may need to review additional words as the learner works through the activity.

### Instructions

1. Have the learner fill in their name and the date.
2. Have the learner complete the pre self-assessment.
3. Review the Student Activity Sheet with the learner.
4. When the learner has completed the activity, have him/her complete the post self-assessment.
5. After the learner has completed the task-based activity, complete the assessment section and review the results with the learner.
6. Discuss next steps with the learner.

**Extension Activities:** Ask the learners to check at the library for one of Richard's books and to report on a chapter. **Or** Ask the learners to do further research on Richard to see how he addressed his struggles with life/education.



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**Learner Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Pre self-assessment

I need to improve my skills at reading texts to locate specific details.

- Yes
- No

I need to improve my skills at writing texts.

- Yes
- No

I need to improve my skills at extracting information from an audio-clip on the internet.

- Yes
- No

I need to improve my skills at performing simple digital tasks.

- Yes
- No

### New Words

Post-traumatic stress disorder  
Intergenerational impacts  
accolades

## Assessment

**Task-Based Activity:** Interpreting written text and a recording about Richard Wagamese

**Learner Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Practitioner Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Performance Descriptors	Needs Work	Improving	Excellent
<p>A1.2 Makes connections between sentences and between paragraphs in a single text</p> <p>Scans text to locate information</p> <p>Locates multiple pieces of information in simple texts</p> <p>Makes low-level inferences</p> <p>A3 <i>The tasks in this task group are not rated for complexity</i></p> <p>B2.1 Conveys simple ideas and factual information</p> <p>Uses sentence structure, upper and lower case, and basic punctuation</p> <p>Uses highly familiar vocabulary</p> <p>B2.2 Writes texts to explain or describe Connects ideas using paragraph structure</p> <p>Uses a limited range of vocabulary and punctuation appropriate to the task</p>			

<p>Begins to organize writing to communicate effectively</p> <p>D.1 Follows simple prompts</p> <p>Follows apparent steps to complete tasks</p> <p>Interprets brief text and icons</p> <p>Locates specific functions and information</p>			
<p><b>The learner needs to work on the following:</b></p>			
<p><b>This task was successfully completed ___ This task needs to be tried again ___</b></p>			
<p><b>Practitioner Comments:</b></p>			
<p><b>Learner Comments:</b></p>			

### **Question Sheet:**

Make sure the computer's internet connection is on. In the web browser, enter the website <https://indspire.ca/laureates/richard-wagamese/>

Read the text about Richard Wagamese. Click on the white arrow in the picture below the text and listen to the recording.

Answer the following questions:

1. List three topics of some of Richard's stories.
2. Describe Richard's education.
3. In at least 3 paragraphs, describe the teachings in Richard's experiences.

### **Post self-assessment**

I think my skills have improved as a result of this activity.

- Yes
- No

### **Text on the page**

Richard Wagamese has shared his incredible gift of writing with many audiences throughout the years. These works tell a story of his victory over numerous struggles including childhood abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder and the intergenerational impacts of residential schools. He has spent the last 30 years working in media and communications as a newspaper reporter, columnist, radio producer, broadcaster, documentary producer, and award-winning author. He has drawn national attention for the rich, motivating story of his life “For Joshua: An Ojibway Father Teaches His Son” and for his novel “Keeper’n Me” which is taught extensively in Canadian Universities. He was the first Aboriginal Canadian to be awarded a National Newspaper Award for column writing with many accolades in the same category to follow. In addition to his writing, Mr. Wagamese is also an inspirational speaker and lecturer and through his work has raised awareness of the strength, spirit and power of Indigenous Peoples. He now resides in British Columbia.

### **Oral Recording of Richard speaking about himself, as well as a reporter describing Richard’s achievements.**

I’ve never been afraid to write about my life as it was, as it is, and hopefully what it will be, so that people would get an idea that this is what it means to be First Nations in Canada today

Richard Wagamese of Wabaseamong First Nation is an award-winning author and journalist, and the only Aboriginal writer to be awarded the National Newspaper award. He has published 11 books and has twice received Native American Press Association award. His incredibly honest and visceral work earned Richard a honorary Doctorate of Letters degree from Thompson Rivers University. He received the best novel award from the Alberta Writers Guild for his first novel Keeper n Me, and his memoir One Native Life was among the Globe and Mail’s one hundred best books of 2008.

When I left my adopted home at 16 years old, all I had was a Grade 9 education and that’s all I’ve ever gotten. But I gave myself a liberal education from the pages of books. But at the end of it all, these are the lessons and these are the triumphs and these are the things that make us the same and not separate. I’m inspired by hope. First Nations people in this country have lived through some incredible things, and to know that I’m going to write a story about First Nations reality in this country, I have a plethora of things to write about now, because our forward motion has been incredible and we should all be really proud of that.

## **Answer Key**

1. Richard writes about:
  - childhood abuse;
  - post-traumatic stress disorder; and,
  - the intergenerational impacts of residential schools.
  
2. Richard has a grade nine education, but he gave himself a liberal education through books.
  
3. The learner's 3 paragraphs should touch on Richard's sharing his victory over several struggles in life and that he believes First Nations people should be proud about living through some incredible things.