Croatian educational system is facing the process of introducing student assessment system in order to determine information on the long term progress in the academic performance and factors that affect students’ accomplishment. The cooperation between CITO and Croatian National Centre for External Evaluation of Education (NCEE) represents the important progress in assessment within the international project Development of Instruments in Croatian National Assessment. The main objective of that project was the education and capacity building of NCEE experts. The most important activity within the project was the assessment of educational achievements of the 2nd grade gymnasium programme students. Along with broadly specified goal, the aim of the project was to analyze sample data in order to determine some of the factors that affect language domain constructs and possible external factors influencing students' performance. Structure of the assessed data was organized in four tested domains: grammar, theory of literature, reading of literary text (represented in Croatian language curriculum) and reading of non-literary text.

**Structure - Domains**

| G - Grammar |
| TL - Theory of Literature |
| RLT - Reading of Literary Text |
| RNT - Reading of Non-literary Text |

**Text Types - Clusters**

- Poetry
  - Ballad - Fisherman’s Jana (TL_1), Sonet - Shakespeare’s XVIII sonnet (TL_3, RLT_2), Poem part - Epic of Gilgamesh (RLT_8)
  - Fable - Sad Truce (TL_2, RLT_1)
- Prose
  - Novel fragment - Don Kuzma (RLT_3)
- Non Literary texts
  - Commentary about language & culture (RNT_1), Contract (RNT_2), Membership application form (RNT_3), Educational text about sport (RNT_4)

**Sample - Results in General**

Assessment was conducted on 989 2nd grade gymnasium programme students. Questions were divided into 3 booklets (IKH), according to equal representation of domains in each booklet. Sample is representative for Croatian population (region, gender, settlement size and school programme).

**Student - Text Types Interaction**

Female students are in general better in almost all text types - significant differences are for Sonnet (TL_3, RLT_2) and Commentary about language (RNT_1). For Membership application form (RNT_3) and Educational text about sport (RNT_4) male students are significantly better. Female students show significantly better results in RLT and G domain.

**Regional and Urban Factors**

In Croatia there are specific differences between regions regarding distribution of population density. Analyses was based on 5 regions and the city of Zagreb separately (capital with one forth of Croatian population). Distribution of settlement sizes was divided into 3 categories (small town up to 20,000 inhabitants; medium town from 20,000 to 80,000 inhabitants; large town from 80,000 and more inhabitants).

**CONCLUDING REMARKS**

Results indicate complex interaction of Student, Regional and urban and Text factors on students results into Croatian language assessment. For a better insight in this problem, future research should be focused on addressing every of this factors in comprehensive and specific way, considering wide spread of general demographic factors as control and possible additional influence on student achievement.