

LEVEL DESCRIPTOR: LEVEL 1A - KATA

AWARENESS

SUMMARY

A practitioner with a KCS Level 1A certificate shall have awareness and a basic understanding of Toyota Kata and the application of Scientific Thinking. The ability to understand and articulate the basic principles of Toyota Kata, and to have had first hand experience of using it in a training environment.

PREREQUISITE FOR L1A

No prerequisites.

LEVEL 1A KNOWLEDGE REQUIREMENT

The Level 1A practitioner shall know and understand the:

1. Origin and evolution of Toyota Kata.
2. Brain biases and the need for scientific thinking.
3. Meaning and purpose of a kata.
4. Concept of a Kata for developing new habits and mindset.
5. Four steps of the Improvement Kata.
6. Five questions of the Coaching Kata.

LEVEL 1A APPLICATION REQUIREMENT

The Level 1A practitioner shall be able to:

1. Participate in a controlled application through an instructional classroom experience for example, using the Kata in Classroom 1 exercise.

COURSE/PROGRAMME OUTCOMES

At the end of the course/programme aligned to L1A learners shall:

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- Be aware of the need for a more scientific way of thinking and working together and be interested in practicing Toyota Kata.
- Understand the Toyota Kata skill building process and decide if and how to get started in their organisation.
- Be able to work towards their first Target Condition through coaching.

TOPIC EXAMPLES

A training course aligned to Level 1A is likely to reference several of the topics below and the course's learning outcomes shall be closely aligned with these.

Note that for Level 1A, **awareness** is the main focus, rather than an in-depth understanding of topics.

- **Toyota Kata origins & evolution.**
 - Covering key contributors: Toyota, Rother, Liker.
- **The concept of Scientific Thinking**
 - Covering definition, theory v. evidence, PDCA.
- **Kata for building a new habit**
- **The Improvement Kata:**
 - The Four-step Pattern, a model for practical scientific thinking for everybody.
- **The Coaching Kata:**
 - The Five Questions, a Starter Kata for the Coach.
- **Human and Strategic Dimensions:**
 - How Toyota Kata can be used for developing organisational culture in a purposeful way.
- **Relation and contribution to known approaches**
 - Lean, Agile, PDCA (PDSA), Hoshin Kanri (Policy Deployment), Tiny Habits (Fogg), Atomic Habits (Clear).

LEVEL ASSESSMENT

The assessment shall demonstrate that the outcomes have been achieved.

Knowledge

An assessment that demonstrates the learner can remember and understand L1A Kata knowledge, for example, through a multiple choice test, problem or case-based exams, oral exam, or essay exam.

Practical Application

Evidence of participation in a controlled application through an instructional classroom experience using the Kata in Classroom 1 exercise or another adequate practical application.