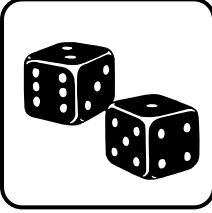# Assessment in Blended and Online Learning

Formative Assessment in Online Environments

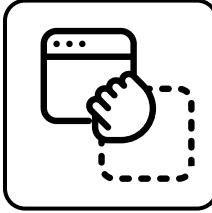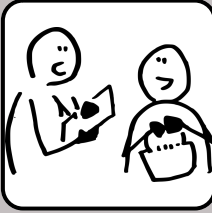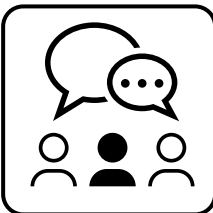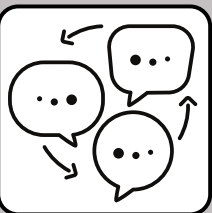**Formative assessments** aim to monitor and improve students' learning during a lesson or unit of study. There are both formal and informal means of facilitating formative assessments.

INFORMAL STRATEGIES

Online Polls

Elicit **opinions** or responses through polls. Polls can also be a useful tool to gather instructional **feedback**, identify student **interests**, and share **experiences**.

Game-based Activities

Increase student engagement in learning content via **gamified** learning activities and friendly **competition**. Game responses and records can **inform needed support**.

Peer Evaluation and Review

Include peer discussion and evaluation to enhance learning experiences. It is important to help **scaffold** students on how to provide kind and helpful feedback to their peers.

Self-Assessment

Self-assessment can prompt **deeper-level learning** and reveal details about the learning experience. It is important to provide support to students as they self-assess.

Learning Journals

Journaling about learning is beneficial in providing insights about students' **meta-cognitive abilities**. It also allows students to process their learning.

Informal ⟷ Formal

*Though these strategies are organized by **recommended categories**, there are many instances where **informal** strategies can be used as a **formal** strategy and vice versa.*

What other online assessment strategies have you used?

FORMAL STRATEGIES

Online Quizzes

Utilize multiple means (ex. multiple choice, fill-in-the-blanks, and labeling) to assess students. This process also provides **efficient** and **immediate** feedback.

Drag n' Drop

Allow students to demonstrate their knowledge through **identification,** such as dragging the parts of a plant cell or the sequencing of Shakespeare acts.

Interviews

Teacher-to-peer or peer-to-peer interviews can be conducted to have **students share** their learning or lived experiences.

Dialogue Simulations

Students can engage in **real-world scenarios** in a **low-stakes** environment through dialogue simulations, such as determining the appropriate culinary skills to complete a cuisine.

Forum Posts

Discussion forums, video and written, can be utilized to have students respond and **reflect** on prompts or case studies. They can also be used to connect students and facilitate **collaboration**.

References

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