Differentiated Assessments for Special Populations

Strategies for Differentiating Assessments

Differentiating assessments involves adopting different ways of assessment to **accommodate** student needs, abilities, and interests.

STRATEGIES

1 Involve Students in the Assessment Process

Students have more motivation and ownership of their learning when they are involved in the assessment process.

Teachers can guide students to use the following ways to improve their learning:

- Self-reflection
- Self-assessment
- A learning journal

2 Account for Students' Differences

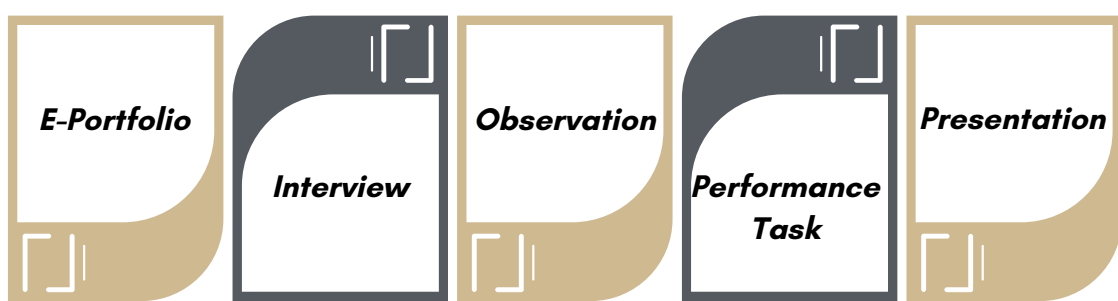Students' differences include their:

- Prior learning experiences
- Current understanding of the topic
- Preferred ways of learning
- Academic needs, abilities and interests

3 Provide Alternative Choices

Students benefit from choosing their preferred way to demonstrate knowledge and understanding.

Alternative choices can include:

| E-Portfolio | Interview | Observation | Performance Task | Presentation |

4 Provide Individualized Feedback

Individualized feedback identifies each student's individual strengths and areas for improvement.

Effective feedback

- Connects to the assessment objectives
- Provides timely, specific, and meaningful information
- Motivates students for self-reflection and improvement

References

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