

Examples of Alternative Assessments

EDS 113 - Principles and Methods of Assessment

Overview

Having duly recognized the need for new alternatives to doing educational assessment, we now delve into specific examples and applications to particular settings.

Objectives

After studying the materials and doing the activities in this module, you should be able to:

- *give examples and describe key features of alternative assessments*
- *identify particular types of assessments as appropriate for specific purposes*
- *show specific examples of various alternative assessments and demonstrate the alignment with high-order learning goals and educational visions*

Examples of Alternative Assessments

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Essential Questions:

- *Describe how alternative assessments align with the broader vision towards more meaningful, relevant, and globally competitive education.*
- *What challenges/ obstacles face the introduction of new assessment methods into the educational system?
How do you propose to hurdle these challenges?*

Students

learn

according to

how

they are

assessed.

Performance Assessment

Guide questions

What is “performance assessment”? Is it just another name for “authentic assessment” or “alternative assessment”?

How are performance assessments constructed?

What are performance task assessment lists and why are they important?

What criteria are used to assess performance tasks?

What are some examples of performance assessment tasks? (Explore the following:)

- Projects and authentic assessments
- Essays; written work
- Think-alouds
- Interviews
- Journals and portfolios
- Self, peer, group assessment
- Talent-Determination Tests (TDT)/ Talent Assessments

Primary Resources

Erlandson, C. **Performance Assessments: A Wealth of Possibilities.**

<https://scale.stanford.edu/system/files/beyond-basic-skills-role-performance-assessment-achieving-21st-century-standards-learning.pdf>

Hibbard, K. M., et al. (1996). *Chapter 1. What is Performance-Based Learning and Assessment, and Why is it Important?* **In A teacher's guide to performance-based learning and assessment.** Alexandria, VA: Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. Available at

http://www.ascd.org/publications/books/196021/chapters/What_is_Performance-Based_Learning_and_Assessment,_and_Why_is_it_Important%C2%A2.aspx

Chapters from **Great Performances: Creating Classroom-Based Assessment Tasks**, 2nd Edition, by Larry Lewin and Betty Jean Shoemaker:

- [Preface: Teaching and Assessing Meaningfully in a Standards-Based World](#)
- [Chapter 1. Great Performances: Our Journey Begins](#)
- [Chapter 2. Info In: How Students Learn New Content Information](#)

Slater, T. **Field-tested Learning Assessment Guide (FLAG)**. Available at

<http://www.flaguide.org/start/primerfull.php>

Mueller. **Authentic Assessment Toolbox: Examples** Available at

<http://jfmuller.faculty.noctrl.edu/toolbox/examples.htm>

In aid of reflective learning

Students almost always abhor tests and other forms of assessment. Can assessment ever be fun?

Other resources (for further reading)

Hammond & Adamson. Beyond Basic Skills: The Role of Performance Assessment...____
SCOPE. <https://scale.stanford.edu/system/files/beyond-basic-skills-role-performance-assessment-achieving-21st-century-standards-learning.pdf>

Hamayan, E.V. (1995). Approaches to Alternative Assessment. Annual Review of Applied Linguistics. 15, 212-226.
https://resources.oncourse.iu.edu/access/content/user/fpawan/L540%20%20CBI/Hamayan_95_alt-assess.pdf

Herman, Aschbacher, & Winters. (1992). A Practical Guide to Alternative Assessment, pp 1-22. VA: ASCD. <http://www.cse.ucla.edu/products/guidebooks/APractical.pdf>

Coil, C. & Merritt, D. (2001). Top Quality Alternative Assessments. In Solving the Assessment Puzzle: Piece by Piece, Pieces of Learning. Available at
<https://tpri.wikispaces.com/file/view/09-05%2606%20Top%20Quality%20Alternative%20Assessment%201-2.pdf/167574297/09-05%2606%20Top%20Quality%20Alternative%20Assessment%201-2.pdf>

Productive Assessment and Performance. Available at
<https://www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/edulibrary/public/teachlearn/student/profreadmod1.pdf>

Lesson Plans and Authentic Assessment.
http://www.ndtw.org/hotlists/hotlists_LPsites.htm#AA

Funderstanding. <http://www.funderstanding.com/educators/coaster/>

Authentic Classroom Assessment in Action: Ms. Rodriguez's Classroom.
<http://www.eduplace.com/rdg/res/litass/class.html>