

Assessment: Evaluating Student Learning and Determining Achievement

Assessment encompasses all of the activities used by the teacher to measure student learning. The two main types of assessments used by the teacher are formative and summative. Assessment AS Learning is the responsibility of the student.

Type of Assessment	Description
Assessment FOR Learning FORMATIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Occurs during the learning process. “Is gathered through investigative approaches such as observations, conversations, performance based tasks, and artifacts of student learning.” Are checkpoints for the teacher and student to assess learning at a particular point in time and are used to uncover any misconceptions.</i> • <i>The teacher gives the student feedback (written or verbal) during the learning process.</i> • <i>These assessments are “strength-based and growth-orientated.”</i> • <i>Generally a mark is not awarded. These assessments “point to the next steps for teaching and learning: content and process.”</i>
Assessment OF Learning SUMMATIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>These assessments summarize “student achievement at a certain point in time.” A mark is assigned and directly influences the final grade.</i> • <i>Students are expected to complete all of these assessments to meet course expectations.</i>
Assessment AS Learning RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occurs between formative and summative assessments. • Occurs following summative assessments. • Invites students to have ownership in their own learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Students are encouraged to be accountable for their learning by being involved in the assessment process.</i> • <i>Students will evaluate how well they know a learning outcome <u>prior</u> to an assessment. This involves the use of I Can statements and checklists.</i> • <i>Students will evaluate how well they know a learning outcome <u>following</u> an assessment. This involves the use of an evaluation checklist to identify areas of strength and weakness. The student will use the information from each evaluation to develop learning goals and indicate how these goal will be achieved.</i> • <i>Students will attend Learning Strategies and Flex Time if they are having difficulty understanding a learning outcome following a formative or summative assessment.</i>

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A great analogy to help you understand the different types of assessment is being part of a sports team. What would be the result of the game if the players were not given time to practice, develop their skills (*while the coach provides constructive feedback*) and work collaboratively? Practice will increase the players' chance for a better game. Video: [Chinese Diving Team](#)

Formative assessment is the practice:

- a score is not typically given (however records are kept regarding your skill development)
- the teacher coaches you
- you can ask questions to better develop your skills and understanding
- your classmates work with you to help further your understanding

Summative Assessment is the league game. The game you play that day is the score that goes on record.