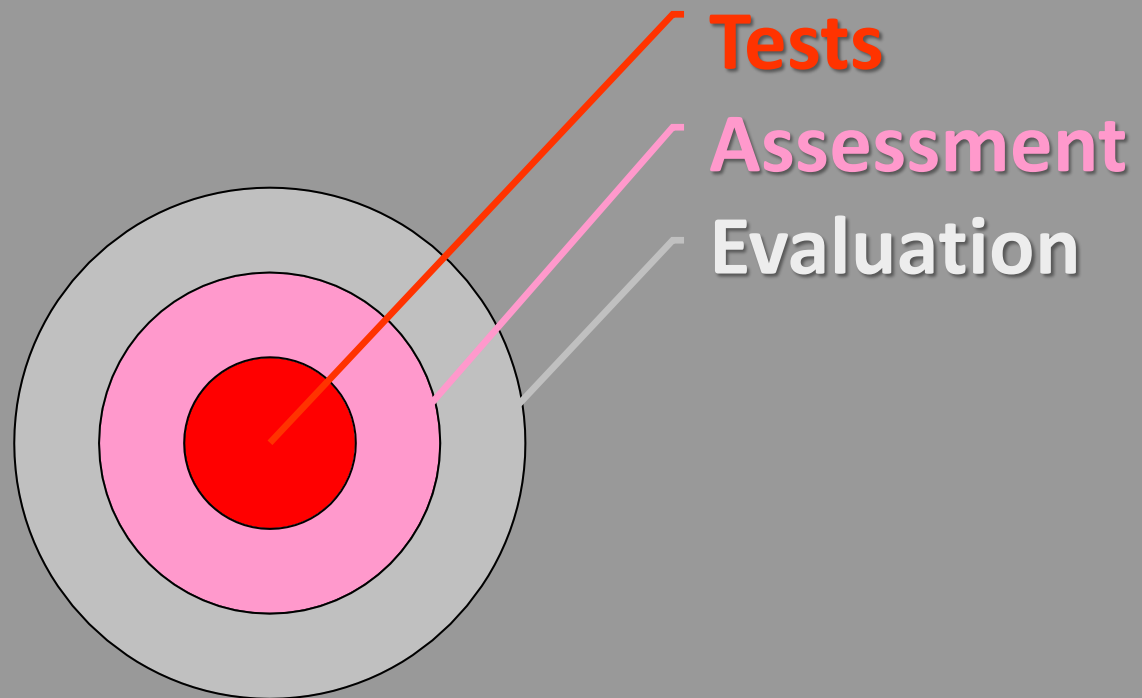# Formative Assessment in the classroom and in a Remote Teaching Environment

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What is the difference between tests, assessment and evaluation?

Tests

Assessment

Evaluation

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Three key concepts in assessment:

- **Validity**

- **Reliability**

- **Feasibility**

Types of assessment

1	Achievement assessment	Proficiency assessment
2	Norm-referencing (NR)	Criterion-referencing (CR)
3	Mastery learning CR	Continuum CR
4	Continuous assessment	Fixed assessment points
5	Formative assessment	Summative assessment
6	Direct assessment	Indirect assessment
7	Performance assessment	Knowledge assessment
8	Subjective assessment	Objective assessment
9	Checklist rating	Performance rating
10	Impression	Guided judgement
11	Holistic assessment	Analytic assessment
12	Series assessment	Category assessment
13	Assessment by others	Self-assessment

Formative assessment / Summative assessment

Formative assessment:
ongoing process of gathering information on the extent of learning, on strengths and weaknesses, feedback given to learners

Summative assessment:
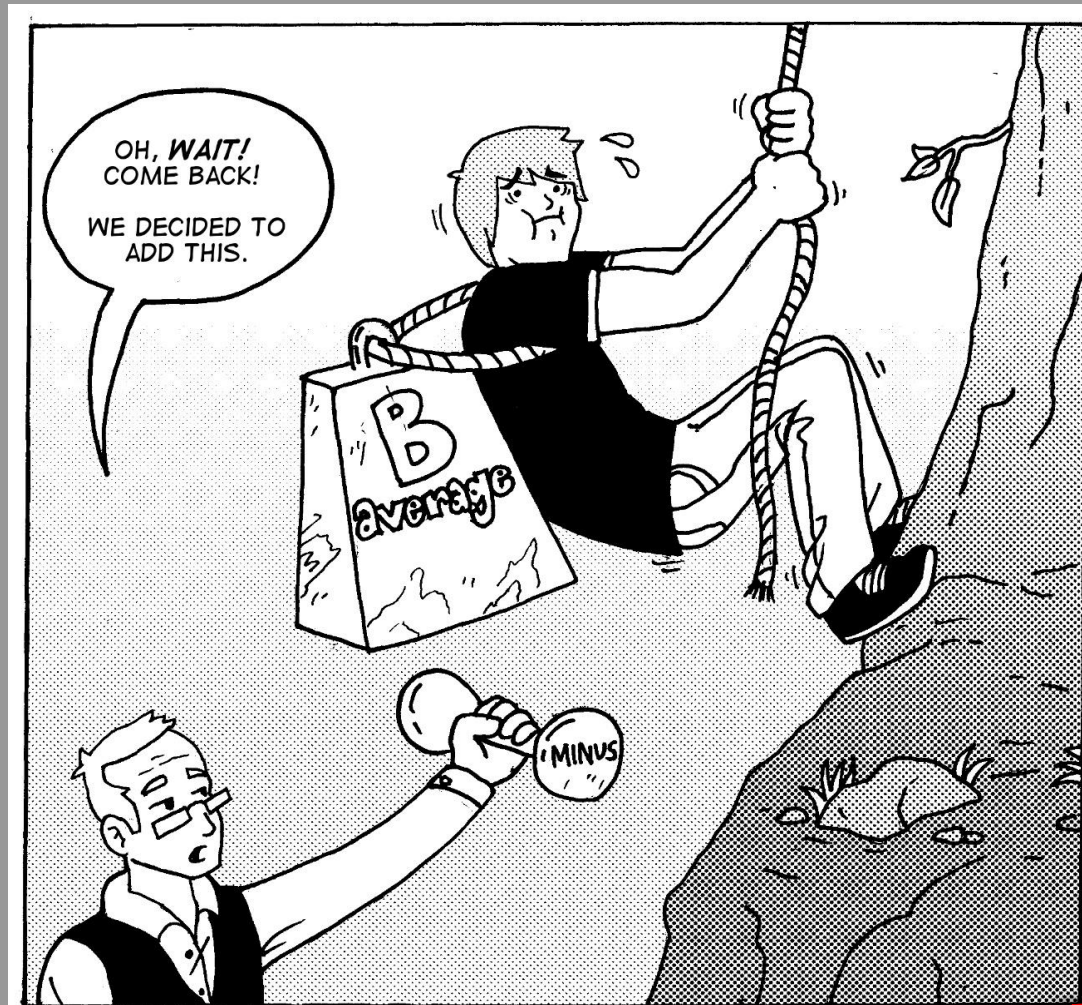**attainment at the end of the course with a grade**

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Formative vs Summative assessment

Formative assessment takes place while students are learning.

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Formative assessment must be checked, but not graded.

Formal and informal formative assessment

	Formative Assessment	Summative Assessment
Informal	Questioning Feedback Peer assessment Self-assessment	Essays in uncontrolled conditions Portfolios Coursework Teacher assessment
Formal	Further analysis or tests, exams, essays Target setting	Tests Exams Essays in controlled conditions

National Foundation for Educational Research report (NFER 2007)

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Types of formative assessment

- **Questions**

- **Feedback**

- **Peer assessment**

- **Self-assessment**

- **Further analysis of tests, exams and essay**

- **Entry and exit tickets**

- **Polls and quizzes**

- **Projects**

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Five misconceptions about formative assessment

- **Teachers will lose control of their class.**
- **Peer feedback means students chatting to each other rather than working on a task.**
- **Examinations are the only type of assessment that matter.**
- **Assessment is a one-way process: teachers give students feedback about their work.**
- **Work should always be given a grade or mark.**

Questions

Questions

- **Who should you ask questions?**

- **When should you ask questions?**

- **Why should you ask questions?**

- **What questions should you ask?**

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Think Pair Share

- **Ask students a question**

- **Have students think about answer**

- **Have students discuss their answers in pairs**

- **Move around and listen to discussions**

KWL questions

- **What do you know about…?**

- **What do you want to know about…?**

- **What have you learnt?**

Feedback: The bridge between teaching and learning

Feedback should be:

- **Specific**

- **Detailed**

- **Constructive**

- **Timely**

- **Meaningful**

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Peer assessment

Students:

- **Assess each other's work**

- **Give each other advice**

- **Take responsibility for their learning**

- **Develop social skills**

- **Think critically**

Self-assessment

'Students need to learn for themselves how they move up to the next level … they need to internalise the process. Learning cannot be done for them by the teachers.'

(Mary James, 1998)

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Further analysis of tests, exams and essays

- **Teachers gain knowledge about what students know and can do**

- **Students understand their strengths and weaknesses**

- **Teachers make adaptations to instruction**

- **Students identify areas they need to improve**

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Entry and exit slips: A focus for the learner as soon as they arrive and just before they leave the classroom

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Polls and quizzes

- show what students really know

- allow the teacher to design the questions

- can include both simple and complicated questions

- allow students to give quick and accurate answers

- are ideal for 'shy' students

- can be used in online teaching

Projects

Ideas for projects

- **Create a poster or collage about the topic**

- **Record a rehearsed podcast discussing the topic**

- **Create a narrative about the topic**

- **Design flashcards to test each other**

- **Make keynote presentations on the topic**

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Benefits of Formative Assessment

- **Improves learner outcomes**

- **Increases confidence**

- **Increases independence**

- **Changes the culture of the classroom**

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Workshop

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Part 2
(Formative Assessment in a Remote Teaching Environment)

Remote Teaching

How do we incorporate formative assessment in an online learning environment?

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Why do we need formative assessment in an online teaching environment?

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Why do we need formative assessment in an online teaching environment?

How can online tools help formative assessment?

- **They increase interaction and engagement.**
- **They help gather feedback and assess understanding.**
- **They can be fun and motivating for Ss.**
- **They are easy to use and give feedback in real time.**

Using Functions on a Video Conferencing Platform

Examples: Microsoft Teams, Zoom, Skype, etc.

Increase interaction and check in on Ss

- **Ask questions orally as you would in classroom.**
- **Use the chat function to check in on Ss individually.**
- **Use the chat function to ask Ss questions, to get Ss to brainstorm or to allow Ss to ask questions.**

Online Quizzes and Game-type Activities

Examples: Socrative, Kahoot, Quizlet, Google Classroom

Check Ss' understanding during the lesson

- Allow teachers to create simple interactive quizzes Ss can take on laptops, tablets or smartphones and receive immediate feedback.

- Multiple-choice, True/False or open-ended questions

- Individual or group games

- Some tools allow you to download reports with class progress

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Online Quizzes and Game-type Activities

Examples: Socrative, Kahoot, Quizlet, Google Classroom

How can we use them?

Ideas:

• Quiz at the beginning of the lesson to revise previous lesson

• Comprehension questions for a reading activity

• Quick quiz about new grammar structure

• Exit tickets: Ss answer one or more questions at the end of the lesson to help teachers determine how well they have understood the lesson.

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Polling Tools

Examples: **Mentimeter, Moodle**

- **Run surveys to receive feedback.**

- **Ask Ss their opinion.**

- **Evaluate understanding of homework assignments.**

- **Check Ss' understanding of material or use them as a discussion starter.**

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Other tools which can be used for formative assessment

Padlet: an online bulletin board where students and teachers can share images, links and ideas

- Get Ss to brainstorm or answer open-ended questions
- Ss can see and evaluate their peers' answers

Voki, Flipgrid, VoiceThread: online tools that Ss can use to record themselves

- Use them for speaking and pronunciation assessment

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Online teaching and formative assessment

Take it one step at a time

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...thank you!