

Formative

Formative assessments are continuous evaluations carried out throughout the learning process, offering feedback to facilitate instructional adjustments. These assessments aid educators in gauging students' comprehension of the material and pinpointing areas requiring additional focus.

It is crucial that formative assessments are in harmony with learning objectives, tailored to deliver prompt and practical feedback, benefiting both students and instructors alike.

Purpose of Formative Assessments	Examples of Formative Assessments.
Classroom Discussions & Observations Creates an engaging discussion to observe students' critical thinking and ability to use their voice to explain ideas.	An instructor asking an open-ended question and then calling on different students to answer.
Peer Teaching Students strengthen their understanding while providing other viewpoints to peers.	Students take turns presenting lesson information to their peers.
Journals & Writing Assignments Assign students to write a reflection on what they learned/understood from a lesson.	Students can use LinkedIn to share journal entries to professionals about their experience.
Problem-Solving Tasks Applies real-world problems for students to apply their knowledge and assess their ability.	Students are asked to discuss how a lesson can be used in the real-world situations for the instructor to evaluate and engage learning.
Think-Pair-Share Encourages collaboration between a student and a partner to share thoughts with the class.	Students will pair-up and explain their understanding of a lesson together.

Summative

Summative assessments are commonly given at the conclusion of a learning period to assess a student's overall grasp of the material. Differing from formative assessments that emphasize continuous feedback, summative assessments offer a holistic measure of a student's acquired knowledge.

The primary goal of summative assessments is to furnish a thorough evaluation of a student's knowledge and skills acquired throughout a defined time-frame. These assessments frequently play a pivotal role in determining final grades and assessing overall achievement in a course or program.

Purpose of Summative Assessments	Example of Summative Assessments.
Final Exam Covers the lessons taught throughout the course to demonstrate what was learned from the topics over the year.	A comprehensive exam that covers the lessons taught throughout the course.
Final Essay/Papers A written assignment that demonstrates a student's ability to research, analyze and explain information. *(Not to be confused with writing assignments.)	A term paper at the end of a semester.
Presentations Instead of a final exam, a presentation demonstrates communication ability of the topics during the year.	Students present a topic that demonstrates understanding of the subject, while also communicating to others.
Portfolio A collection of a student's work over the semester or period of their college career to showcase growth, progress, and understanding.	Students are asked to keep all assignments throughout the semester for a digital representation of what they learned in the course.
Thesis/Dissertation Defense For advanced academic levels of students to defend their research in front of a committee of instructors.	A graduate student will write a thesis paper and then defend the topic, method, and results in a setting with other instructors.