

How to Create Effective Assessments

1. http://www.indiana.edu/~icy/media/de_series/assessing_online_learning.html
Dr. Curt Bonk emphasizes the importance of assessment in an online environment in "Assessing Student Online Learning." In addition to presenting a range of assessment types in an online course, Dr. Bonk states important aspects, such as grading or matching assessments with activities, in order to successfully gauge your students' learning.
2. http://www.unl.edu/ous/faculty_resources/assessment/9Principles.pdf
9 Principles of Good Practice when Assessing Student Learning
This article offers a review of good practice assessment principles from a more global perspective to include multidimensional, multi-perspective processes.
3. <http://net.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/ELI7063.pdf>
7 Things You Should Know About Assessing Online Team-Based Learning
This article provides a scenario-based approach to this instructional technology with caveats for its use, challenges, and benefits.

Other Background Information

This site is primarily geared toward the K-12 environment, but provides useful information and examples of question types that can easily be extrapolated to the university setting.

4. <http://www.glencoe.com/sec/teachingtoday/educationupclose.phtml/40>
Writing Effective Tests: A Guide for Teachers
This site provides a simple guide for writing assessment items that task higher order thinking skills. The following table provides an example of how rewriting a question can make the difference between requiring simple recall of information or the ability to apply that knowledge in some specific way:

<p>Adjust the level of the question to the level of thinking required to answer it. For example:</p> <p><i>A simple memorization task:</i></p> <p>In what year was the Declaration of Independence signed?</p> <p>a) 1770 b) 1876 c) 1776 d) 1786</p>	<p><i>You can measure higher order thinking skills by the way you word a question.</i></p>
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A task that requires higher order thinking skills:

What later historical events best affirm the ideas set forth in the Declaration of Independence?

- a) Emancipation Declaration, 19th Amendment
- b) Eminent Domain, Manifest Destiny
- c) Civil War, World War I