

ASSESSMENTS FOR GROWTH

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CREATING VALID AND RELIABLE ASSESSMENTS FOR GROWTH

◎ Key Features:

- Similar Content
 - Facts vs. Skills
- Similar Form
 - Types of Questions
- Similar Complexity
 - Level of cognitive demand
 - Question difficulty
 - Level of reading passage
 - Difficulty of prompt

CONTENT FACTS VS. SKILLS

FACTS - know, recognize, identify...	SKILLS - applying skills or knowledge in a different setting
Define a dominant trait Define a recessive trait Define Co-Dominance	Read about a disease and determine the type of inheritance.

Could there be some content memorization that is foundational and essential? Yes, but no assessment should be 100% recall. A quality assessment will assess skills more than fact.

FORM TYPES: A COMBINATION IS BEST!

- ⦿ Selected Response: Asks students to select the correct answer from a provided set of answers. (Harder to write, easier to grade)
- ⦿ Constructed Response: Asks students to construct their own answer to a question. (Require a rubric)
- ⦿ Performance Assessments: Asks students to demonstrate understanding by performing or creating a product. (Require a rubric)

BE INTENTIONAL ABOUT QUESTION COMPLEXITY

Mirrored Questions: same range of cognitive demand

For example, in assessments pre- and post-, the number and types of questions need to be the same!

Basic: Readily Accessible	Standard: Moderately Complex	Expanded: Very Complex
2 questions	5 questions	2 questions
2 questions	4 questions	3 questions
2 questions	3 questions	1 question
6/24 questions =25% of test	12/24 questions =50% of test	6/24 questions =25% of test

EXAMPLE BLUEPRINT

Essential Skills and Knowledge	Basic Questions	Standard Questions	Expanded Questions
Reading Literature - Lessons from Fishing (Lexile 780)			
<p>CC.3.R.L.1 - Ask questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.</p>	<p>Why does Martin jump in the water?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Martin wants to touch a fish.b. Martin wants to see how fast the fish can swim?c. The fish escaped.d. Martin can't swim.	<p>What is the main theme of the story?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Learning how to fish is a good way to learn how to swim.b. Fishing makes you strong if you hold onto the pole.c. Fishing is a good family activity.d. Fishing is like life, with some days that are a success and others that are not.	<p>In the passage, the author says that Morgan “goes fishing all the time” and that “he has gotten even better than his father and grandfather.” Based on this evidence, what can be concluded about the sport of fishing?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Fishing can be learned in less than a week.b. Being good at fishing takes a lot of practice.c. Only teenagers are good at fishing.d. Fishing is best taught by family members.

MIRRORED QUESTION EXAMPLES

Example A	Example B
<p>Without changing the meaning of the quote, which words could be used to replace the underlined word?</p> <p>“Though a silent member in Congress, he was so prompt, frank, <u>explicit</u>, and decisive upon committees and in conversation, not even Samuel Adams was more so...”</p>	<p>Without changing the meaning of the quote, which words could be used to replace the underlined word?</p> <p>“Thomas Jefferson is remembered as one of the most <u>brilliant</u> men to ever inhabit the White house, whose views on individual freedom, religion, and education still influence today...”</p>
<p>If $x = 3$, what is y?</p> $Y = 5(3x - 7) + 42$	<p>If $x = 5$, what is y?</p> $Y = 3(5x - 7) + 93$

MIRRORED ASSESSMENTS ARE NOT IDENTICAL!

Mirroring refers to assessments created in parallel, but not exact copies.

And Why Not?

Testing the exact question twice is unintentionally assessing recall rather than discrete skills.