Conducting Performance Based Assessments

Assessments for Learning
- Part of a regular lesson to check for comprehension and learning
- Tasks focus on one specific learning target
- Provide feedback during the learning experience
- Learners have opportunities to act on the feedback
- Teachers use feedback to adjust learning experiences

Assessments of Learning
- Culmination of multiple lesson/learning experiences
- Tasks combine multiple learning targets
- Provide feedback after learning experiences
- Learners use feedback to identify strengths and gaps
- Teachers use feedback for benchmark comparisons

When designing performance assessments, ask yourself if the task
- is targeted to the appropriate performance range?
- matches the intended mode(s)?
- has a clear purpose and context?
- is relevant, interesting, and age-appropriate?
- has clear expectations for success?
- is written in inviting language?

Checks for Learning
- Interpersonal
  - Chat Stations
  - Give One, Get One
  - Find Someone Who
  - Information Gap
  - Find your Match
  - Numbered Heads
  - Silent Debate
- Presentational
  - Frayer Square
  - Recall Brainstorm
  - Magnetic Summary
  - Whip Around
  - Draw-write-Talk
- Interpretive
  - Picture Sequencing
  - Hold-ups
  - See-Think-Wonder
  - Three Card
  - Matching
  - Prediction Cards
  - Listen and Label

Helpful Tips
- Use check lists to monitor individual student performance.
- Keep ongoing records; don’t try to assess every student every day.
- Use a variety of checks for learning appropriate for the mode of communication.

Assessing thoughtfully means giving students sufficient time and opportunity to practice and improve through further instruction and feedback before holding them accountable for having mastered the learning target.

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Integrated Performance Assessment

The IPA Model

Learners get information from and demonstrate their understanding of an INTERPRETIVE text.

Learners take information gained and engage in an INTERPERSONAL task with a partner.

Explore the STARTALK Principles in action: startalk.umd.edu/public/principles