

## **There seems to be an increasing trend towards assessing students through exams rather than through continual assessment. What are the advantages and disadvantages of exams as a form of assessment?**

Nowadays, there is a growing preference for assessing students through a limited number of exams rather than frequent assessments. Both approaches have their advantages and disadvantages, which I will discuss below.

Exams using the traditional approach save resources for teachers and educational institutions. Teachers are less burdened with grading when assessments are limited to a few exams per semester. This approach significantly reduces the time and effort needed compared to frequent evaluations. However, regular assessments offer substantial benefits to students. By taking more frequent tests, students receive regular feedback highlighting their mistakes, allowing them to correct errors and address knowledge gaps effectively.

On the other hand, traditional exams may provide an incomplete picture of a student's abilities. Their results can be inconsistent and fail to capture a student's genuine progress. In contrast, continual assessment offers a more accurate measure of a student's learning by tracking their progress over time and identifying any sudden challenges or inconsistencies. However, this approach places a heavy workload on educators and institutions. Limited budgets and resources make it challenging to implement frequent assessments in practice.

In conclusion, while traditional exams are resource-efficient and convenient, continual assessments provide a more comprehensive evaluation of student progress. Although they demand significant resources, investing in frequent assessments is worthwhile as it ensures students receive the support they need to succeed academically in the long term.

**BMGsnare - 04/12/2024**