5 teaching techniques for using online quizzes

## 1. Use quizzes frequently as part of your teaching techniques

Weekly–or even daily–quizzing helps students put what they’ve learned into practice. This practical repetition drives home important facts so that students are prepared to take on higher-stakes exams like standardized tests and final exams. Frequent quizzing also takes the edge off these stressful evaluations.

Consider [**having your students complete online quizzes that test the students’ understanding of the subjects you’re covering in class**](https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/researchers-find-that-frequent-tests-can-boost-learning/). These quizzes, which can be as short and informal as you’d like, encourage students to pay attention in class while helping you gauge the level of learning in real time.

## 2. Encourage collaboration with fun classroom activities

When quizzes are a classroom activity–rather than, say, a way to measure or rank your students–they open up opportunities for student collaboration. In addition, using collaborative quizzes as a component of your teaching techniques encourage students to study harder so that they can help others succeed.

Of course, every collaborative quiz must balance group work with individual evaluation. To balance the 2, consider randomly selecting 2 students to [**create a “cheat sheet” on the board before each quiz**](https://www.facultyfocus.com/articles/teaching-and-learning/a-new-kind-of-space-for-quizzes/). These students must work together, without consulting their books or notes, to build a cheat sheet in 3 minutes or less. The students would then proceed to take the quiz on their own, using the cheat sheet as an aide.

## 3. Give helpful feedback on every question in the quiz

Research shows that detailed corrective feedback is a critical part of instructors’ teaching techniques as it improves information retention. Also, when a teacher provides corrective feedback right away, the student is more likely to remember that feedback later on. Luckily, online tests make it easy to give (or get) immediate feedback.

Help your students get the right answer the next time they encounter the question by [**adding custom feedback**](https://help.surveymonkey.com/articles/en_US/kb/Quizzes?bc=Understanding_Your_Results) to your online quizzes. For best results, include both the correct answer and useful context that cements that answer. You may also want to check out the quiz analytics for a holistic view of your class’s performance. Then, go over the weak spots with a review class.

## 4. Make every quiz interesting using different types of questions

If you’re quizzing your class frequently, using a variety of questions is the key to holding students’ interest over time. These questions also help students learn to apply their knowledge effectively in various situations. Keep your students engaged by using these [**different types of questions**](https://help.surveymonkey.com/articles/en_US/kb/Available-question-types-and-formatting-options) in your quizzes:

* Ask your students to recall simple solutions with **multiple choice and checkbox** questions. These types of questions are great for low-stakes quizzes, since they’re easy and don’t take long to complete.
* Test your students’ ability to order important events and other information with **ranking** questions. This type of question is great for unit overviews on subjects like the steps of the scientific method or the timetable of the American Revolution.
* Ask your students to retrieve short answers with **fill-in-the-blank** questions. These questions are great for driving home specific facts.
* Help your students give short answers quickly with **single textbox** questions. These questions are great for time-crunched quizzes, since they don’t take long to complete.
* Ask your students to explain complex concepts with **open response** questions. Although they’re more difficult to evaluate, these questions give your students the freedom to tell you exactly what they know.

Some types of questions will, inevitably, be more difficult than others. If you want your quiz results to reflect each student’s learning accurately, [**make sure that you weight each question**](https://www.surveymonkey.com/curiosity/weighting-responses-survey/) based on its difficulty. For example, complex open response questions should always be worth more than simple multiple choice questions.

*Interested in understanding how the parents are supporting their child’s learning at home? Check out our*[*‘learning support template.’*](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/?sm=XsDSoPLKu3njFAsVzIfqFxEPp_2Fc2pM9ILT5ngnHGYBg_3D)

## 5. Put a stop to cheating with online quizzes

You may be hesitant to assign online quizzes to your students because messaging apps make it easy for students to share answers with one another. However, online quizzes can actually prevent–rather than promote–cheating. Keep cheating students from gaining an unfair advantage over others by using [**A/B testing to randomize questions or, even, to build 2 separate quizzes**](https://help.surveymonkey.com/articles/en_US/kb/What-is-Random-Assignment) for your class.

The way we evaluate learning changes constantly. Prepare your students for any evaluation with online quizzes that teach students how to approach standardized tests with confidence and, also, apply their new knowledge to a wide range of questions, problems, and situations. These teaching techniques for online quizzes can help your students realize that education isn’t about showing up, it’s about finding solutions.

### **Save time with automatic scoring**

If you’ve been using paper tests or quizzes, it’s time to switch. With automatic scoring, you only need to mark each answer choice once as either right or wrong, or you can also weight multiple answer options.

* Hide or show quiz takers their score and corrected answers right after they finish
* See who has completed your quiz and their score—in real time
* Access scoring data for each quiz taker and for your quiz as a whole

See how automatic scoring works for quiz takers.

### **Access real-time stats**

With our online quiz maker, you’ll also get tracking to see who completed your survey. You can easily see rankings and segment your data too.

* See distribution, mean, median, and standard deviation for your quiz data
* Get question-level data to see which were hard and which were easy for quiz takers
* Access respondent-level data on scores, ranking, percentiles, and completion times