FRAMEWORK OF APPROACHES TO PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

Short Constructed Response and Technology Enhanced Items

Essays

Performance Tasks

Demonstrations

Projects

Portfolios

Online Games and Simulated Environments

THIS FRAMEWORK IS DESIGNED TO:

- Reduce ambiguity in the education community around what performance assessments are and how they may be used

- Share research-based descriptions that define and differentiate each of the seven approaches

- Provide resources and considerations to use when making decisions about performance assessments

- Showcase a variety of examples of each of the approaches, including those developed internationally and for purposes outside of K-12 education
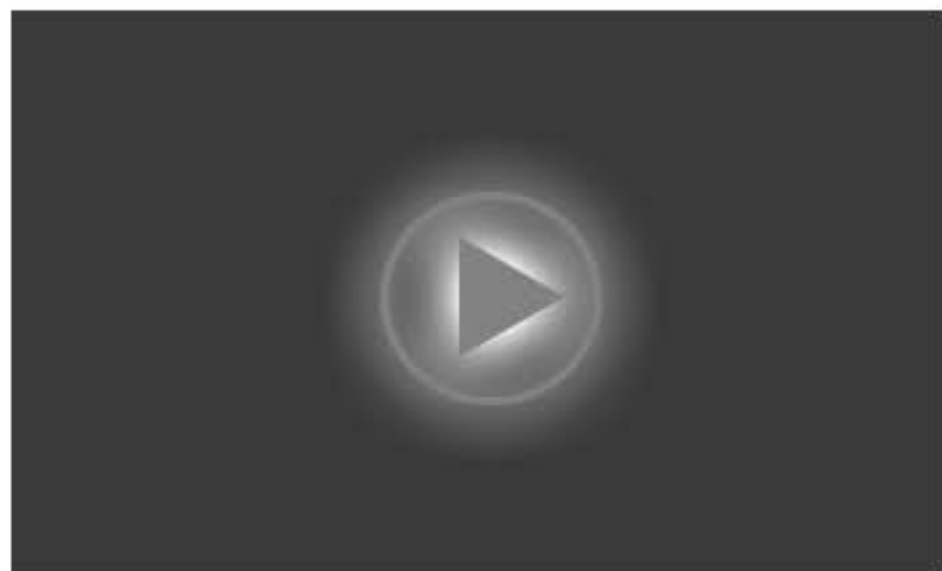
ASSESSMENTS FOR A CHANGING EDUCATION LANDSCAPE

WITH A NEW COMMON SET OF MORE RIGOROUS ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND A FOCUS ON 21ST CENTURY SKILLS, EDUCATORS AND POLICY MAKERS ARE NO LONGER JUST INTERESTED IN WHAT STUDENTS KNOW. THEY WANT TO UNDERSTAND WHAT STUDENTS CAN DO WITH WHAT THEY KNOW. TO ASSESS THIS, MANY ARE IMPLEMENTING PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS.

BUT WHAT IS "PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT" AND HOW IS IT DIFFERENT FROM OTHER TYPES OF ASSESSMENTS?

The Center for Next Generation Learning and Assessment has developed a Framework of Approaches to Performance Assessments to answer that question. This framework provides a detailed description of performance assessments and the seven approaches to performance assessment:

Our team has researched each one of the approaches and pulled exemplars from a variety of sources to create a foundational understanding among policy makers, educators, parents, and even students about these assessments.

All students should have the opportunity to engage in meaningful work, learning to transfer knowledge and apply complex skills in preparation for college, career and civic life. Performance assessment that is linked to rigorous curriculum and instruction helps drive more comprehensive learning and

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MENU

ABOUT

WHAT IS PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

WHO IS THE CENTER FOR NGLA

RESOURCES

OUR APPROACHES

SHORT CONTRUCTED RESPONSE & TEI

ESSAYS

PERFORMANCE TASKS

DEMONSTRATIONS

PROJECTS

PORTFOLIOS

ONLINE GAMES AND SIMULATED ENVIRONMENTS

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SHORT CONSTRUCTED RESPONSE & TECHNOLOGY-ENHANCED ITEMS

SHORT CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE

Short constructed-response (SCR) items, whether paper-based or online-administered, require examinees to develop a partial or full response (textual or graphical) to a stimulus or item stem as opposed to selecting from a limited set of prespecified options.

In general, these item types:

- Elicit textual or graphical responses that are discrete and brief
- Often allow multiple, appropriate answers and/or partial credit scoring
- May better support diagnosis and remediation of certain specific skill deficiencies than selected-response items
- May be machine scorable

TECHNOLOGY-ENHANCED ITEMS

Technology-enhanced items (TEIs) feature technology enhancements, such as the addition of interactive functionality, sound, graphics, animation, or video, to the stimulus materials, item stem, response options, and/or response mode, where the technology is intended to substantially improve some aspect of measurement.

In general, these item types:
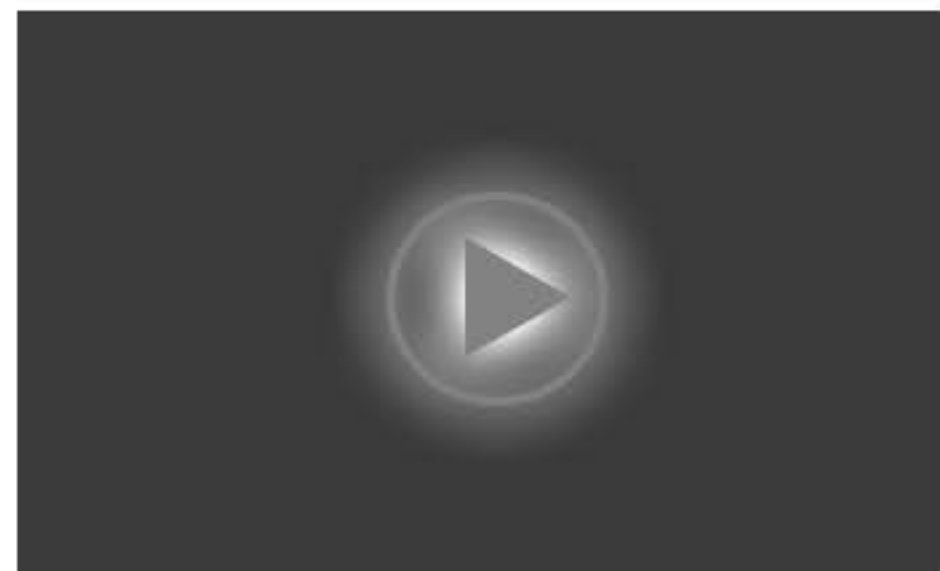
MORE INFO

EXEMPLARS

WHAT ARE SHORT CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE AND TECHNOLOGY-ENHANCED ITEMS?

DEFINTION

CHARACTERISTIC FEATURES

DESIGN VARIATIONS AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

RESPONSE DEMANDS

Short Constructed-Response Items

The response demands of SCR items can vary depending on the level of constraint of the particular SCR format used. As previously explained, SCR items require examinees to develop, produce, or create a partial or full response to an item (as opposed to selecting from among a limited set of prespecified response options). However, that response can take many forms, ranging from a few words or sentences to a graphic representation of a topic that illustrates the organization of and relationships among key concepts. Depending on the level of constraint of the item type used, SCRs may require examinees to complete or correct a set of stimulus materials (partial response) or to formulate a total idea unit (full response). Due to relaxed levels of constraint compared to traditional SR item types, SCRs are said to allow better or more direct measurement of hard-to-assess knowledge and skills, such as complex reasoning and other higher order thinking ski Bennett et al., 1991).

EXEMPLARS

Technology-Enhanced Items

EXAMPLES OF SHORT CONSTRUCTED RESPONSE AND TECHNOLOGY-ENHANCED ITEMS

BELOW IS A LIST OF INNOVATIVE EXAMPLES THAT DEMONSTRATE SOME OF THE WAYS THAT SHORT CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE AND TECHNOLOGY-ENHANCED ITEMS MAY BE USED AS PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT.

SMARTER BALANCED ASSESSMENT CONSORTIUM - SAMPLE ELA TEI ITEMS

The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium has published ELA TEI prototypes that demonstrate a variety of technical tools that can be used to measure student knowledge, skills, and abilities. Educators, parents and students can view these example items to gain some understanding of what might appear on this consortium assessment aligned to the Common Core State Standards. To view these, use the filter tool on the SBAC site to identify the items they have categorized TEIs.

SBAC. Retrieved February 27, 2013 from http://www.smarterbalanced.org/

DCD DEVELOPED TEIS AND SHORT CONSTRUCTED RESPONSE ITEMS

MORE INFO

Pearson's Digital Content Development team has developed a number of highly innovative tools and features