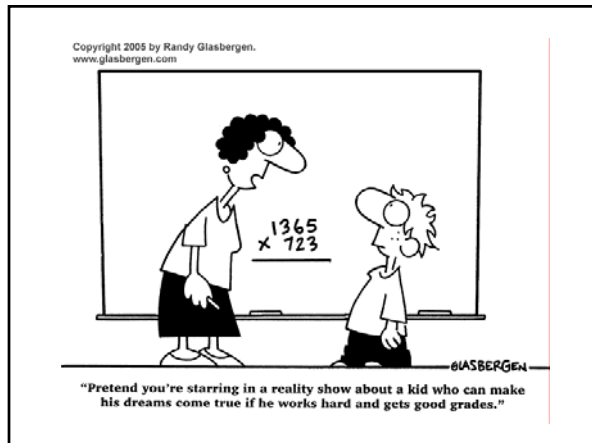


Assessment Practices to Enhance Learning

July 11, 2007

Our Reflection Options

- Meeting for 1 to 1 ½ hours to discuss
 - Use of assessments
 - Your assessment plan for a unit
 - Grading policies and implementation
- Blog questions posted from August – November : Read and respond



Authentic Assessment

What do these assessments have in common?

Authentic Assessment : A Graduation Exam

**Read each question thoroughly.
Answer all questions.
Time limit: four hours.
Begin immediately.**

Final Exam

- **HISTORY:** Describe the history of religion from its origins to the present day, concentrate specifically but not exclusively, on its social, political, economic, religious, and philosophical impact on Europe, Asia, America and Africa. Demonstrate your understanding by creating your own religion and describing its likely impact on world affairs. Be brief, concise and specific.

Final Exam

- **LITERATURE:** Compose an epic poem based on the events of your own life in which you see and footnote allusions from T.S. Eliot, Keats, Chaucer, Dante, Norse mythology and the Marx brothers. Critique your poem with a full discussion of its metrics.

Final Exam

- **MUSIC:** Write a piano concerto. Orchestrate it and perform it with flute and drum. You will find a piano under your seat.



Final Exam

- **BIOLOGY:** Create life. Estimate the differences in subsequent human culture if this form of life had developed five hundred years earlier, with special attention to the probable effects on the English Parliamentary system. Prove your thesis.

Final Exam

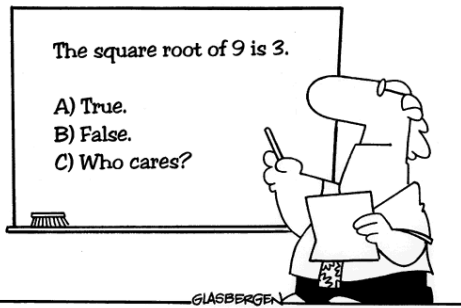
- **MATHEMATICS:** Give today's date, in metric.



Final Exam

**** EXTRA CREDIT ****

Define the Universe. Give two examples.



Many students actually look forward to Mr. Atwadder's math tests.

Setting the Stage for Grades

How do we ask the question?

1. Who was the 17th President of the United States?

- *Short answer format*
- *Fewer than 10% of students able to answer correctly*

2. Who was the 17th President of the United States?

- A. Abraham Lincoln
- B. Andrew Johnson
- C. Ulysses S. Grant
- D. Millard Fillmore

- *Approximately 30% able to answer correctly*
- *If all students were to simply chose an answer at random, multiple choice format would allow 25% to answer correctly.*

3. Who was the 17th President of the United States?

- A. George Washington
- B. Andrew Johnson
- C. Jimmy Carter
- D. Bill Clinton

- *Approximately 60% able to answer correctly*
- *Those who are still unable to answer correctly probably have a limited knowledge of US Presidents.*

4. Who was the 17th President of the United States?

- A. The War of 1812
- B. Andrew Johnson
- C. The Louisiana Purchase
- D. A Crazy Day for Sally

- *Approximately 90% able to answer correctly*
- *Those who do not are usually drawn to answer "D" because they recognize it as the one response that doesn't belong with the others.*

The Essential Question(s)

How confident are you that the grades students get in your school are:

- consistent
- accurate
- meaningful, and
- supportive of learning?

Conversational Roundtable



What are the three largest concerns you have about grading?

The Issue is Not How but Why

- Read the first four paragraphs of the article.
- Where do your questions fall?
 - Level 1: How to combine #s
 - Level 2: Beyond traditional
 - Level 3: Why grade? Why assess?

Connecting to Practice

- What issues surface about classroom grading practices?
- What issues surface about grade reporting?



So...what are the alternatives?

- Home Group: Read section from “How’s My Kid Doing?” (10 minutes)
- Discuss highlights with group and decide what should be shared with others (20 minutes)
- Create Learning Groups and share information (25 minutes)
- Return to Home Groups and Reflect (5 minutes)

How's my kid doing?

Grading Scenarios



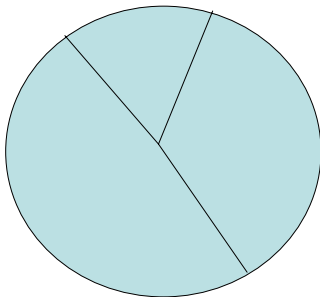
How would you help your colleagues?

I'm Wondering...

Our Reflection Options

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How would you like to assess next year?



Important Info

- Documents posted at:
teachingss.pbwiki.com
- Blog will be posted at
Grand-Rounds.blogspot.com

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