

What's the Difference? Assessment Item Formats and Distribution

Audience: Teachers (Grades 3 – 10), Principals

Time: 30 minutes

PROCEDURES

- 1) Select and copy the appropriate Ohio Practice Test(s), the Test Blueprint(s) and a publisher or teacher developed assessment(s), choosing those that best represent the make-up of participants (i.e. grade level, content areas taught, assessment utilized).
- 2) Ask participants discern the format of the questions presented on the Ohio Practice Test and a publisher, teacher developed, or electronic assessment; then record a total for each type on the *Question Comparison* chart.
- 3) Guide participants in a discussion concerning the consistency, irregularity or contradiction that may exist when looking at the frequency and type of existing questions on the assessment examples (published, teacher developed, Ohio Practice test, electronic or other).
- 4) Instruct participants to look at the Test Blueprints. Participants document the number and percent for each question type on the *Question Comparison* chart.
- 5) Guide participants to use *Think-Pair-Share* or *Think-Pair-Square*, using the guiding questions located at the bottom of the *Question Comparison* chart. These strategies are described in the *Facilitator's Guide*. As a final step, participants create one assessment goal to employ in their classroom assessment system.

Optional: Lead the whole group in completing the *Assessment Items Summary* chart. Use this information to show a complete picture for the school. A summary blueprint for Math and Reading is available from the Ohio Department of Education at the same Web site housing all test blueprints. This may be shared with participants as a way to summarize new learning.

COMMENTS TO FACILITATOR

You may choose to extend this activity by including additional assessment examples from released test materials, electronic assessments or other teacher resources.

Participants can examine the *Success Web site* to gain knowledge of available resources and tools.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

Participants will differentiate among assessment item formats (e.g. multiple choice, short answer, and extended response), and understand how these formats are distributed throughout the Ohio Achievement and Ohio Graduation Tests.

DESCRIPTION

This activity reinforces participants' knowledge about item assessment formats. Through examination of released Ohio test items, Test Blueprints and teacher assessments, participants gain a deeper understanding of the following concepts: grade level indicators are taught to achieve benchmark mastery; the Ohio Achievement Tests (OAT) and Ohio Graduation Tests (OGT) questions are based on benchmarks; assessment items are written in three formats.

MATERIALS AND RESOURCES

- *Question Comparison* chart
- *Assessment Items Summary* chart
- Printed copy of an Ohio released Practice Test (with corresponding Blueprint)
- Printed copy of the Ohio Test Blueprint (with corresponding Practice Test)
- Publisher or teacher developed assessment (utilized by participants)
- Overhead projector, screen

Ohio Department of Education Web site:

<http://www.ode.state.oh.us>

Success Web site:

<http://portal.success-ode-state-oh.us/info>

Ohio Achievement Test Blueprints:

<http://www.ode.state.oh.us/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?page=3&TopicRelationID=222&ContentID=7805&Content=39756>

Ohio Graduation Test Blueprints:

<http://www.ode.state.oh.us/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?page=3&TopicRelationID=216&ContentID=10825&Content=31276>

Released Test Materials (Scoring Guides):

<http://www.ode.state.oh.us/GD/Templates/Pages/ODE/ODEDetail.aspx?Page=3&TopicRelationID=1070&Content=39568>

VARIATIONS & EXTENSIONS

The *Question Comparison* chart can be printed as a poster to allow for large groups to gather around and discuss the information.

The *Assessment Items Summary* chart can be printed as a poster instead of using it as an overhead transparency.