

Using an Ungraded Association Quiz

An ungraded association quiz is an opportunity for you to find out what your students know about the material you are studying. You can use it at the beginning of the unit, in the middle of the unit, or even as part of the final assessment.

Using an Ungraded Association Quiz as a Preassessment

An ungraded association quiz is used as a preassessment tool by teachers as they begin a new unit or new material. Preassessment allows you to assess the understanding the students bring with them so that you may more successfully teach to their current level of knowledge, skill, and understanding.

Quizzing your students about the knowledge, skills, and understanding they bring to the beginning of the course or unit allows you to assess their background without showing judgment about whether the students are knowledgeable. The fact that students won't receive a grade lessens their anxiety and makes it more likely that they will be straightforward about their knowledge or lack thereof.

Going over the quiz in class allows all the students to learn something about the subject matter covered in the unit because they will be hearing what the correct or closer answer would be. This in itself helps some of the students with a weaker background to begin catching up with the other students.

Using an Ungraded Association as a Formative Assessment

If you have ever looked out at twenty blank faces when you refer to the topic you covered yesterday, you know that students don't always remember everything they do in class. You may want to give the students an ungraded quiz so you can figure out what they are retaining and what they are struggling with. Because the students will not be graded, they have the opportunity to share with you any difficulties they are having with the material. This new knowledge can then inform the way you continue on from that point. Perhaps they do understand what has gone on in class, so you can just continue. Perhaps all the students or just a few need some review.

