

Student Work Analysis: Sample Data Sources

There is no shortage of types of student work to analyze. This document will help clarify the advantages and disadvantages of selecting different kinds of student work. Generally, consider the following criteria when you're choosing student work to analyze:

- **Balance:** Teachers analyze a mix of qualitative and quantitative data over the course of the year.
- **Alignment:** Sources mirror Tier 1 instructional priorities.
- **Actionability:** Sources enable teachers to identify clear next steps.
- **Clarity:** Sources provide insight into student learning.
- **Manageability:** Sources can be analyzed in one collaborative planning session.
- **Validity:** There is collective buy-in that sources are fair and free of bias.

Data source	Description	Advantages	Disadvantages
Daily exit ticket (multiple choice)	Two to three multiple-choice questions that quantitatively assess if students learned that day's objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Is a quick and easy way to analyze which students learned the lesson● Provides bite-sized data to inform immediate instructional next steps● Is easier to analyze quantitative data	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Provides data only about one day's lesson● Is difficult to gain insight about student understanding or misconceptions that can inform next steps with a multiple choice format, so it will not necessarily lead to clear next steps
Daily exit ticket (open response)	Quick open-response task that qualitatively assesses if students learned that day's	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Provides a quick view into student understanding of that lesson● Enables team to discuss exemplar response and criteria for success that	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Provides data only about one day's lesson● Is more time-consuming to analyze the work

	objective	can be applied to other lessons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires consensus and clarity around identifying an exemplar response so the team has a clear model when analyzing their own work Requires tighter facilitation because qualitative data can be more subjective
Weekly quiz (multiple choice)	Multi-question assessment that quantitatively assesses if students learned several objectives during the week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides quick and clear data about multiple objectives Is easier to analyze quantitative data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is difficult to gain insight about student understanding or misconceptions that can inform next steps with a multiple choice format, so it will not necessarily lead to clear next steps
Weekly quiz (open response)	Open response assessment to qualitatively assess if students learned several objectives during the week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides insight about student understanding and misconceptions about multiple objectives Enables team to discuss exemplar responses and clear criteria for success 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is more time-consuming to analyze the work Requires tighter facilitation because qualitative data can be more subjective Requires consensus and clarity of exemplar responses so the team has a clear model when analyzing their own work
Student writing	Student essay or story	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assesses multiple skills and content knowledge for students Provides clear insight about what students know and can do Allows for rich discussion about how to develop students as writers or clarify content gaps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is time-consuming to analyze each piece of student work Requires tighter facilitation because qualitative data can be more subjective Requires a clear rubric with exemplar responses that the team understands to make it actionable
Curriculum mid-unit assessment	Mid-unit formative assessment usually providing qualitative and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides both qualitative and quantitative data so it is clear to see what students know and can do 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can be time-consuming to analyze Requires tight facilitation and clear focus areas to make it actionable because it

	quantitative data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Helps teachers decide next steps for the second half of the unit 	can feel overwhelming
Final assessment	End-of-unit final assessment embedded in the curriculum to assess student mastery on all content, knowledge, and skills taught in the unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Assesses all key skills and knowledge for the unit ● Balances qualitative and quantitative data (typically) ● Can provide insight into next steps and shifts for the upcoming units 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Is time-consuming because typically a longer assessment ● Is not immediately actionable since it falls at the end of the unit