

## DIALOGIC TEACHING AS A FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT TOOL

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**Abstract:** One of the most effective approaches to teaching currently is dialogic teaching, which also has a significant impact on formative assessment in the classroom. With its foundations in the idea of meaningful student-teacher discourse, dialogic teaching encourages critical thinking, active participation, and in-depth learning. This article proposes some specific strategies for implementing dialogic education with the potential for continuous monitoring of learners' progress.

**Keywords:** dialogic teaching, formative assessment, monitoring of progress, critical thinking, assessment principles.

Dialogic teaching can be defined as an instructional approach that places a strong emphasis on dialogue and interaction between teachers and students, as well as among students themselves. It goes beyond the conventional one-way transmission of knowledge, encouraging active engagement and collaboration. As Bakhtin noted: 'If an answer does not give rise to a new question from itself, it falls out of the dialogue' (Bakhtin 1986, 168). Through open-ended questions, probing discussions, and thoughtful debates, dialogic teaching creates a dynamic learning environment that promotes deeper understanding and critical thinking. To be more precise, classroom talks and instructions make students think, not to recite someone's thinking (Nystrand et al 1997, 72).

Formative assessment is an ongoing, interactive process that involves gathering evidence of student learning to inform instruction. Dialogic teaching aligns seamlessly with formative assessment principles, providing valuable opportunities for teachers to verify and clarify students' understanding in real time. ([Bellack et al., 1966](#), [Edwards and Westgate, 1994](#), [Jordan and Putz, 2004](#)). Here's how dialogic teaching serves as an effective formative assessment tool:

**Immediate Feedback:** Through dialogue and questioning, teachers can gauge students' understanding and provide immediate, targeted feedback. This timely feedback helps students identify their strengths and areas needing improvement, enabling them to make necessary adjustments and deepen their learning.

**Uncovering Misconceptions:** Dialogic teaching encourages students to articulate their ideas and thought processes. This allows teachers to uncover and address misconceptions, ensuring that students develop accurate understanding and correct any misunderstandings early on.

**Assessing Higher-Order Thinking:** Dialogic teaching promotes critical thinking, reasoning, and problem-solving skills. By engaging students in meaningful dialogue, teachers can assess their ability to apply knowledge, analyze information, evaluate arguments, and make connections between different concepts.

**Informing Instructional Decisions:** By continuously assessing student understanding through dialogic teaching, educators can make informed decisions about adjusting instruction, adapting teaching strategies, and providing additional support to meet individual student needs.

### **Implementing Dialogic Teaching for Formative Assessment**

To effectively implement dialogic teaching as a tool for formative assessment, educators can consider the following strategies:

**Creating a Supportive Learning Environment:** Establishing a classroom culture that values respectful, inclusive dialogue and encourages active participation. Also, it is necessary to create a safe space where students feel comfortable expressing their thoughts and ideas openly. For this reason, educator can allow learners to comment or ask a question to initiate an assessment dialogue (Chin, 2002, Chin, 2004, Chin and Osborne, 2008, Louca et al., 2008).

While assessment conversations students should have opportunity to argue, express their ideas, consider each other's points of view, encourage the use of evidence and determining whether or not their assertions are suitable. (Chin, 2006, Chin, 2007, Duschl and Gitomer, 1997, Duschl and Osborne, 2002, Hogan and Pressley, 1997, Scott et al., 2006).

**Plan Purposeful Questions:** Prepare open-ended questions that promote critical thinking, reasoning, and reflection. These questions should encourage students to explain their reasoning, provide evidence, and engage in thoughtful discussions.

**Active Listening and Probing:** Actively listen to student responses, ask clarifying questions, and probe further to elicit deeper thinking. Encourage students to justify their answers, consider alternative viewpoints, and engage in constructive dialogue with their peers.

**Provide Timely Feedback:** Offer immediate feedback that is specific, constructive, and actionable. Focus on highlighting strengths, addressing misconceptions, and providing guidance on how to improve.

Dialogic teaching serves as a powerful tool for formative assessment, enabling educators to gather real-time feedback, assess student understanding, and guide their learning effectively. By fostering meaningful dialogue, active listening, and collaborative learning, this instructional approach promotes critical thinking, deep comprehension, and the development of essential skills. When implemented thoughtfully, dialogic teaching empowers educators to tailor their instruction, address individual student needs, and create a dynamic learning environment that nurtures growth and academic success. Furthermore, numerous authors have compiled reliable data demonstrating how dialogic education helps students achieve curricular objectives like intellect and reasoning. (Resnick et al., 2015).

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