

### Assessing and Evaluating Student Behavior and Learning

Whether working individually or in cooperative groups, students' behavior and work need to be assessed and evaluated. Increasing individual student learning is one goal of cooperative learning. The teacher needs to assess whether students are learning the material, accomplishing the learning objectives, and participating well with others. Cooperative learning provides many diverse opportunities for assessment and evaluation.

Cooperative learning groups enable teachers to assess a wide variety of skills. These include critical thinking, performance of skills taught, ability to communicate knowledge, and interpersonal and small-group skills. Many of these are skills that can only be assessed during small-group work. Because groups also engage in self- and group-assessments throughout their learning, this is an additional source of information that will help the teacher more effectively evaluate what is being learned. Instruction, assessment, evaluation, and achievement continually occur during cooperative learning. Students receive constant feedback about their individual and group progress. This feedback helps students to produce higher quality work. Finally, cooperative learning enables teachers to assess individual as well as group outcomes.



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#### Question 10

What are three ways cooperative learning can enhance assessment and evaluation?

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- b. \_\_\_\_\_  
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- c. \_\_\_\_\_  
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