



Mastery Teaching Workshop with John D. Mays

Lesson 10: Assessment Practices, Pt. 2

Outline:

Assessment Practices (Setting the Bar)

- Grade credit depends heavily on tests and/or quizzes – little to no credit for homework; no credit for corrections.
- Weekly quizzes (grades 7-9)
 - Use weekly quizzes instead of chapter tests.
 - Chapter tests cause cramming for material.
 - Weekly quiz gives opportunity to assess more frequently.
 - The more frequently students are assessed, the more the content is placed in the long term memory.
 - In grade 10, it is appropriate to switch to chapter tests.
 - After the first couple quizzes students learn how to pace themselves.
 - Sometimes give an extra five minutes on the quiz.
 - Any content that has been completed by Friday is fair game for quizzes in the following weeks.
- Cumulative assessments
 - This is the heart and soul the whole mastery paradigm.
 - If students are on the hook for studying old material, then they will remember it.
 - The old material on the assessment can range between 25% - 50%. This includes questions on computations and written responses.
- Structure assessments to fit the developmental level of students.
 - 7th-9th Weekly Cumulative Quiz
 - 10th – 12th Chapter Exams, Interim Quizzes, Standard Problems List
 - Students need to learn to sit for chapter exams, longer exams.
 - Do six chapter exams per semester.
 - Chapter exams are cumulative in nature.
 - In between chapter exams give 1-2 interim quizzes (5-7 minutes long). These quizzes are just on what has been done in the past 3-4 days.
 - Students are held accountable for keeping up in the class.
 - Interim quizzes give a student a snapshot of their preparation for the test.
 - Take all the interim quizzes and average them together or a grade equivalent to a chapter test.