Doubling the Speed of Learning: Activating the Keys of Formative Assessment to Create a Culture of Learning

Tim Brown
Doubling the Speed of Learning: Activating the Keys of Formative Assessment to Create a Culture of Learning

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Desired Outcomes

- Explore the relationship between formative assessment and student achievement.
- Examine ways in which teams align their assessment practices to increase student achievement.
- Evaluate important considerations in the assessment process.

The Half-Life of Facts: Why Everything We Know Has An Expiration Date

“Knowledge in most fields evolves systematically and predictably, and this evolution unfolds in a fascinating way that can have a powerful impact on our lives.”

—Arbesman, The Half-Life of Facts: Why Everything We Know Has an Expiration Date, 2012

“Black and William (1998b) argue that formative assessment, properly employed in the classroom, will help students learn what is being taught to a substantially better degree. They support this argument with evidence from their research review (1998a), a meta-analysis in which they conclude that student gains in learning triggered by formative assessment are ‘amongst the largest ever reported for educational interventions.’”

—Popham, Transformative Assessment (2008), p. 61

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Changes in How We Think About Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I used to think ...</th>
<th>But now I think ...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• it came at the end of the unit</td>
<td>• it happens throughout the unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• for teacher information</td>
<td>• for student information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• give us a score</td>
<td>• use to guide teaching the next day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• at the end and move on</td>
<td>• inform instruction and when to move forward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• compare students to each other</td>
<td>• compare to the mastery of the standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• all grades had to have value in the grade book</td>
<td>• some assessments are to take the pulse of where they are</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• teacher tracks data</td>
<td>• both teacher and student should track the data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• to memorize information</td>
<td>• application of learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• reflection of how hard the student worked</td>
<td>• reflection of the student and the teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• tests used to be selected response</td>
<td>• to show more complex understandings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• data was shared for self</td>
<td>• data shared with team to enhance our skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• created by the published material</td>
<td>• created by teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• given on Friday mornings</td>
<td>• anytime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• used to think it was a noun</td>
<td>• it’s a verb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• had to assess everything</td>
<td>• more targeted, brief, and frequent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• score individually</td>
<td>• calibrated with colleagues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• it was a score</td>
<td>• it’s about feedback</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• labeling students</td>
<td>• it’s about differentiating</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Power of Assessment

“You can enhance or destroy a student’s desire to succeed in school more quickly and permanently through your use of assessment than with any other tools you have at your disposal.”

—Richard J. Stiggins
Assessment Training Institute

Learning Questions of Teams

1. What do we want our students to learn? (essential, guaranteed, and viable curriculum)
2. How will we know they are learning? (frequent, team-developed, common formative assessments)
3. How will we respond when they don’t learn? (timely, directive, systematic intervention)
4. How will we respond when they do learn? (timely enrichment and extension)
Assessment in a Collaborative Team

Write Common Assessments
Analyze Data
Develop Plan of Action
Assure Common Response

Common Assessments - How?

• Agreement on essential skills
• Agreement on dates
• Agreement on the method of assessing those skills (selected response, constructed response, performance, performance task)
• Agreement on how to score and report scores (raw score, percentage, rubric, scaled score, checklist)
• Agreement on proficiency or cut score
• Agreement on protocol for administering the assessment

“The education profession will not mature as a profession until professional dialogue focuses on evidence of student learning rather than opinions.”

—Hattie (2009), pp. 252, 259
Charting Our Results—How Did We Do?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teachers</th>
<th>Assessment Results: A Question of Numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Number of Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Petty</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Garcia</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Swift</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Flexible Grouping Plan (3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Students who need more time</th>
<th>Students who will benefit from remediation</th>
<th>Students who will benefit from enrichment or extension</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Protocol

1. What Does the Data Tell Us?
   - What are possible causes for these data and results?
     - Student? (knowledge, skills, and dispositions)
     - Infrastructure? (schedules, programming, and resources)
     - Curriculum? (design and implementation)
     - Instruction? (methods, materials, and resources)
     - Teachers? (knowledge, skill, and dispositions)

Data Protocol

- Was there a consistent pattern in the mistakes?
- Which instructional practices proved to be most effective?
  - Time?
  - Resource?
  - Strategy?
  - Product?
  - Motivation?
Data Protocol

2. What are we going to do about it?
   ▪ What will be our intervention plan?
   ▪ What classroom checks will we use and when?

How It Could Work

Beginning of Unit

(Cassandra Erkens
Assessment Institute, Atlanta 2012)

End of Unit Assessment

Intervention
Catch-Up Day
W.O.W. Day
P.O.A.

Common Formative Assessment
Common Formative Assessment
Common Formative Assessment
Common Formative Assessment

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Principles of Assessment for Learning

I understand and can articulate in advance of teaching the achievement targets students are to hit.

Low 1______ 2______ 3______ 4______ 5______ High

My students are informed regularly about those targets in terms they can understand, in part through the study of the criteria by which their work will be evaluated and samples of high-quality work.

Low 1______ 2______ 3______ 4______ 5______ High

My students can describe what targets they are to hit and what comes next in their learning.

Low 1______ 2______ 3______ 4______ 5______ High

I can transform those targets into dependable assessments that yield accurate information.

Low 1______ 2______ 3______ 4______ 5______ High

I use classroom assessment information to revise and guide teaching and student learning and share this information with students.

Low 1______ 2______ 3______ 4______ 5______ High

The feedback I give to students is descriptive, constructive, frequent, and immediate, helping students know how to plan and improve.

Low 1______ 2______ 3______ 4______ 5______ High

My students are actively, consistently, and effectively involved in assessment, including learning to manage their own learning through the skills of self-assessment.

Low 1______ 2______ 3______ 4______ 5______ High

My students actively, consistently, and effectively communicate with others about their achievement status and improvement.

Low 1______ 2______ 3______ 4______ 5______ High

I understand the relationship between assessment and student motivation and use assessment to build student success and confidence rather than failure and defeat.

Low 1______ 2______ 3______ 4______ 5______ High
Scenario
What Happens When a Student Fails a Test

This is a teacher’s response to a parent who requested a conference with the math teacher when he found out that their child had failed a recent test. The teacher opted to write a response to explain his teaching and grading practices. Read the scenario and process the questions at the end.

“I try to teach my math class much as a coach would teach fundamentals in a sport. I teach; we practice; I drill; I re-teach; I ask if students have questions; we have a final rehearsal the day before the quiz/test; and then I assess. On the assessment, the student must show they understand the concept being tested in order to receive partial credit. In the instance with Kendall the concept was adding and subtracting decimals. The key rule is you must line up the decimals and place the decimal point in the correct place in the sum. He did not do this, instead, he confused the rule with one for multiplying decimals. His incorrect answer was 0.23488; the correct answer was 23.488. It might seem like a small error, but the process was completely incorrect, and the answer was off by a factor of 100 times. That’s the type of error that results in catastrophic results in the real world. On the other hand, had Kendall simply made an error in addition, but had placed the decimal in the correct place, I would have given partial credit. I hope this explanation helps.

I do not feel a conference is necessary at this point. Kendall is doing fine; he just needs to be more disciplined and careful in his math.”

**Reaction Statement**
Parents should know what happens for their child if they do poorly on an assessment.

**Reflection Questions**
What are some solid assessment/instructional practices you noticed in the response?
What are some “red flags” you noticed in his response?
How would teachers at your school respond?
How Can We Create a Result Orientation and Foster Continuous Improvement?

In schools that double student performance, teachers use results from common unit and interim assessments to help members of collaborative teams compare strategies and adopt those that are most effective. Instructional practice is out in the open, the subject of public and professional conversation, and the source of ongoing, job-embedded professional development (Odden & Archibald, 2009).

PLCs “require that [team] members reflect openly and honestly together about their own practice, intentionally seeking ways to do their work better and continually building their capacity to do so.” Failure to collect, present, and analyze evidence of student learning and the reluctance to make work public are major barriers to effective professional learning communities (Annenberg Institute for School Reform, 2005).

“One mark of schools that make headway on the achievement gap appears to be their propensity to promote and organize conversations based in evidence of student progress.” (Little, 2006, p. 10)

“In our work, we help practitioners frame the next level of work by examining what they are currently doing, looking at evidence of student learning for clues about what is strongest in their practice and where they might see opportunities for improvement, [and] strengthening the capacity of colleagues to work collectively on instructional issues.” (Elmore & City, 2007, p. 26)

Excellence in education requires that teachers work in collaborative teams to clarify the learning intentions and success criteria of their lessons, gather evidence of student learning, and discuss the effectiveness of their teaching based on that evidence. “Teachers [need] to share evidence about their teaching with their colleagues”; in fact, “the key question is whether teaching can shift from an immature to mature profession, from opinions to evidence.” The education profession will not mature as a profession until professional dialogue focuses on evidence of student learning rather than opinions (Hattie, 2009, pp. 252, 259).

For the first two years, none of the schools in the study experienced gains in student achievement. The dramatic gains only occurred when collaborative teams focused the collaborative inquiry on “jointly and recursively identifying appropriate and worthwhile goals for student learning; finding or developing appropriate means to assess student progress toward those goals; bringing to the table the expertise of colleagues and others who can assist in accomplishing these goals; planning, preparing, and delivering lessons; using evidence from the classroom to evaluate instruction; and, finally, reflecting on the process to determine next steps” (Gallimore et al., 2009, p. 549).

“In high-poverty schools that are helping students learn at high levels, teachers look at student achievement data” to identify which students need additional support and which need greater challenges. But this evidence of student learning is also being used to inform teacher practice. Teachers discuss why one member of the team is having success teaching a particular concept and another is not, and “what the more successful teacher can teach the less successful teacher” (Chenoweth, 2009, p. 41).
How Would Your Team Align and Connect the Dots

- Clear Targets for Students
- Construct Unit Assessments
- Develop Appropriate Resources
- Determine Essential Learnings
- Administer Common Formative Assessment
- Growth Mindset
- Provide Effective Feedback
- Provide Engaging Instruction
**Scenario**

**Reassessment: How will we respond when students don’t learn?**

Ms. Mini Chance is a new member of a dynamic biology team at Still Waters High School. Her team developed common assessments for every unit of instruction. They agreed to stay evenly paced, give the test on the same date, and meet collaboratively to look at results.

As the team reviewed the latest results, discussions quickly circled around to how the team would approach this unit next year in order to get better results. They discussed which materials and strategies seemed to work best and noted them in their team notebook. Mr. E. Nuff reminded everyone that teachers needed to keep these ideas in mind for planning purposes.

Ms. Chance decided to share a practice she currently used with her students when they didn’t perform well on a test. She required any student who scored below 80% to re-engage in the missed items by studying more. When they demonstrated they had put in more time and effort on learning the missed concepts, she allowed them to retake that part of the test. Ms. Chance then changed the score from the first test in her grade book. The other team members listened politely and then resumed their discussions about next year.

After the meeting, Mr. Nuff shared with the team his concerns about Ms. Chance’s practice. “Isn’t this practice one that inflates student grades and potentially skews the grade distributions in the department? Does it prepare students for the real world by giving them a second chance? Isn’t it counter to what students experience in college? I’m concerned that students will stop studying for the first test. They’ll just wait to see what’s going to be on it and then study. That’s not fair to our students who do study and do well the first time.

As the veteran team member, he decided to approach Ms. Chance and strongly recommend that she bring her grading practices in line with those of the team. He argued that her practice not only rocked the boat at Still Waters High School, but also lowered team standards and expectations.

**Reaction Statement**

Schools should have grading guidelines that go beyond designated point values attached to letter grades.

**Reflection Questions**

Would Mr. E. Nuff fit in at your school?
Would Ms. Chance fit in at your school?
Is it okay for these practices to coexist in a school?
What are some of the essential elements of reassessment?
## Essential Standards Unit Plan

**What are some assessment practices that address Mr. Nuff’s concerns?**

| Essential standard | ☐ Knowledge  
|☐ Reasoning  
|☐ Performance  
|☐ Product |

| End-of-unit assessment | When taught  
|Instructional days needed |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge targets</th>
<th>Reasoning targets</th>
<th>Performance skills targets</th>
<th>Product targets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student-friendly learning targets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment (Which target or targets are being assessed? How will the assessment be used? Is it a common or individual assessment?)</th>
<th>Connection to standard (How will this assessment set up students for successful mastery of the standard?)</th>
<th>Student involvement (How will students engage in the assessment process?)</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 2                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                |                                                                                |         |

| 3                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                |                                                                                |         |

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### Essential Standards Unit Plan

**Essential standard:** Student will represent multiplication of two-digit by three-digit numbers and describe how that representation connects to the related number sentence.

- Knowledge
- ✔ Reasoning
- Performance
- Product

**End-of-unit assessment:** Twenty-five-item test with five items: one digit X two to three digits, five items with two digits X two digits, five items with two digits X three digits, and ten points for problem solution with description.

- **When taught:** March
- **Instructional days needed:** 16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowledge targets</th>
<th>Reasoning targets</th>
<th>Performance skills targets</th>
<th>Product targets</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Know basic facts 0–10  
• Know and use several models to represent number sentences | • Explain how the representation matches the number sentence.  
• Identify and explain strategies used to solve problems.  
• Compute multiple-digit problems accurately. | | |

**Student-friendly learning targets**

- I can recall basic facts, 0–10, quickly and accurately.
- I can set up multiplication problems.
- I can use two ways to solve multiplication problems.
- I can use effective strategies to solve problems and find a workable solution.
- I can explain my thinking and strategies.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Connection to Standard</th>
<th>Student Involvement</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Ongoing daily quizzes of basic multiplication facts 0–10; one formative quiz—that the student chooses—per week (individual)</strong></td>
<td>Students develop accurate and fluent recall of multiplication facts to successfully compute multiple-digit problems.</td>
<td>Students track daily progress and determine when they are ready for a formative quiz each week.</td>
<td>Ongoing, daily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2. Single-digit X two to three digits using two different models and with explanation of models (formative and summative, common formative)</strong></td>
<td>Students develop fluency with multiple algorithms and mathematical language to explain their thinking.</td>
<td>Students self-assess and peer-assess the pretest and make corrections.</td>
<td>Day three: Pretest (formative)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3. Two digits X two digits using different models and with explanation of models (formative and individual)</strong></td>
<td>Students develop fluency with multiple algorithms and mathematical language to explain their thinking with problems that have two-digit multipliers.</td>
<td>Student self-assess the pretest, make corrections, and set goals for the end of unit test.</td>
<td>Day nine: Formative Day twelve: Formative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4. Two-digit X three-digit numbers (mysterious multiplication) (formative, common)</strong></td>
<td>Students use multiplication understanding to solve problems and identify workable solutions.</td>
<td>Students self-assess, select appropriate practice activities, and set goals for end of unit assessment.</td>
<td>Day fourteen: Formative Day sixteen: End of unit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Sample ELA Essential Standards Unit Plan

This is a sample essential standards unit plan for grade 9 English language arts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essential Standard: WS.9-10.1</th>
<th>Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Knowledge Targets</strong></td>
<td>• Analyze essay and paragraph. • Demonstrate basic writing mechanics. • Organize essay and paragraph.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Performance Targets</strong></td>
<td>• Analyze text for key ideas. • Explain reasoning for stance taken. • Identify and include relevant and sufficient evidence. • Select and use persuasive language. • Sequence written text in a cohesive and organized manner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reasoning Targets</strong></td>
<td>• Demonstrate word processing skills. • Demonstrate understanding and use of all steps in the writing process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Product Targets</strong></td>
<td>• Write an effective introductory sentence. • Craft a cohesive, well-organized, and mechanically correct paragraph, text analysis, and support of a claim. • Draft multiple-paragraph essay.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**End-of-unit assessment:** Read an article on a contentious topic and write a persuasive essay that includes an analysis of the topic. Then, take a stand and defend it with relevant and sufficient evidence. A choice of several articles will be provided.

When taught: November
Instructional days needed: Nineteen

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Connection to Standard</th>
<th>Student Involvement</th>
<th>Time Line</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Which target or targets are being assessed? How will the assessment be used? Is it a common or individual assessment?)</td>
<td>(How will this assessment set up students for successful mastery of the standard?)</td>
<td>(How will students engage in the assessment process?)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Mascot persuasive paragraph (common formative, individual)</td>
<td>Students demonstrate baseline persuasive writing skills.</td>
<td>Students self-assess and set goals for improving persuasive writing skills.</td>
<td>Day three</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 2. Text analysis paragraph (formative and summative, individual) | Students practice comprehension and analysis of text, as well as paragraph organization. | Students self-assess and peer-assess the pretest and revise. | Day six: Rough draft  
Day eight: Final draft |
| 3. Mechanics quiz and paragraph editing (summative, individual) | Students develop accurate use of mechanics and ability to self-edit. | Students analyze quiz results to identify growth targets. | Day ten |
| 4. Practice essay (formative, individual and partner classes) | Students combine all skills in a finished product. | Students peer-assess and collaboratively score sample papers. | Days eleven through fifteen |

What does the data tell us?

What are possible causes for these data and results?

- Student? (knowledge, skills, and dispositions)
- Infrastructure? (schedules, programming, and resources)
- Curriculum? (design and implementation)
- Instruction? (methods, materials, and resources)
- Teachers? (knowledge, skill, and dispositions)

Was there a consistent pattern in the mistakes?

Which instructional practices proved to be most effective?

- Time?
- Resource?
- Strategy?
- Product?
- Motivation?

What are we going to do about it?

What will be our intervention plan?

What classroom checks will we use and when?

### Flexible Grouping Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Students who need more time</th>
<th>Students who will benefit from more practice</th>
<th>Students who will benefit from enrichment or extension</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target 3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Twenty Strategies for Growing Dendrites
Dr. Marcia Tate

Writing
Story telling
Use of mnemonic devices
Visuals
Movement
Role play
Visualization
Metaphor, analogy, simile
Reciprocal teaching and cooperative learning
Music
Use of graphic organizers
Drawing
Humor
Discussion
Games
Project-based instruction
Field trips
Work-study
Technology
Manipulative
EXIT TICKET
March 14 – 20, 2014

WEEKLY EXIT TICKETS

FRIDAY
CCSS.6.G.1
How many figures can be formed from a Parallelogram?
Show how this can be done. Name the figures.

MONDAY
CCSS.6.G.1
Draw a rectangle and a triangle. Use 6 ft. for the base,
and 8 ft. for the height of both figures. Write the formula
for each figure, and solve for each figure’s area.

TUESDAY
CCSS.6.G.1
Mrs. Jones has a garden in the shape of a trapezoid. Find the
area of her garden.

WEDNESDAY
CCSS.6.G.1
Norman is a sunflower farmer. His farm is in the
shape of a parallelogram with a height of 3 km and a
base of 4 km. What is the area of the farm?

THURSDAY
CCSS.6.G.3
Three corners of an athletic court have the
coordinates (–4, 2), (–4, –3), and (8, 2). Find the
coordinates of the fourth corner.
### Weekly Exit Tickets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>GLE/CCSS Covered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>GLE/CCSS covered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>GLE/CCSS covered</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>GLE/CCSS covered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>GLE/CCSS covered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>GLE/CCSS covered</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Time to show what you know ...**
# 1st-Hour Formative Assessment Results

**March 28–April 3, 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PS.32</td>
<td>PS 32</td>
<td>PS 26</td>
<td>PS 30</td>
<td>Review Day</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1 2 3</td>
<td>1 2 3</td>
<td>1 2</td>
<td>1 2</td>
<td>Review Day</td>
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Monday: Glossary of Words Review—it’s/its and to/two/too
Directions: Review the info, then choose the best word for each sentence.

1. (It’s/Its) a wonderful day today.
2. I always wondered if (it’s/its) pronounced toe-mato or ta-mato.
3. The umbrella has been unstable and finally (it’s/its) pole bent in the wind.
4. The car is busted; (it’s/its) air intake doesn’t work anymore.
5. She walked (to/two/too) the store alone yesterday.
6. He was going (to/two/too) attend the party with his (to/two/too) kids, but it was cancelled because of the rain.
7. I can’t imagine (to/two/too) many people would be interested in a sewing class.
8. He had (to/two/too) dogs, but one of them was (to/two/too) wild and bit him.

Tuesday: In-Text Citation
Directions: Look at the in-text citation information below; correct any mistakes to make these items correct and in MLA format, then write down the mistakes on the lines provided. Example: Samuels said, “wake up” (page 3). Mistakes:
1) Capitalize “W” 2) erase “page”

1. According to Jane Collins, “Education is of the utmost importance for the development of adolescent brains” (Collins, page 4)
Mistakes: 1)___________________ 2)___________________ 3)___________________

2. Volleyball is the best sport. Samuel Jenkins states, volleyball is helpful for exercise, coordination, and it’s fun!
Mistakes: 1)___________________ 2)___________________ 3)___________________

Steiner claims that dogs are the smartest domestic animals (Steiner 9, para. 5, line 2).
Mistakes: 1)___________________ 2)___________________ 3)___________________

Wednesday: Inference and Character Motivation
Directions: Define inference. Then read the passages below and answer the questions that follow each. Be sure to go back and circle clues in the text on number 2.

1. What is the definition of inference? ____________________________________________
Read the following passage and then answer the question:
The young girl is standing on the corner. She is wearing a bright red jacket, bright red snow pants, and she has a scarf tied around her face and is wearing striped mittens. She looks to the left down the street. She stamps her feet then puts her backpack on the ground and looks to the left down the street again.

2. What inferences(s) can you make from the passage above? Circle the clues that helped you arrive at your inferences(s).

Read the passages and answer the question:
Aaron and his friend Parker play together every day after school. One day Parker showed up with a bell on his bicycle. Aaron knows that his parents believe in earning what you have; Aaron began doing extra chores on his own. He was kind to his sister, helped with dinner, and offered to take the trash out.

3. What is Aaron’s motivation for doing chores and being kind?
   a. He knows it’s the right thing to do.
   b. He is hoping his parents will notice and reward him.
   c. He wants a new bicycle.

It is an election year for local government officials. Previously two of them did not have the support of many government employees in the water treatment facility, but recently the two officials vowed to raise employees' benefits and vote “yes” to give them a raise.

4. What is the reason the two government officials are being so supportive?
   a. It is an election year and they want as many votes as possible.
   b. They know that giving the employees a raise is the kind thing to do.
   c. There is no reason; it is a coincidence.

Thursday: Paraphrase

Directions: Read the info and infographic below. Then read the original text below. Highlight or circle the words that you think are specialized words or words that should not be changed when paraphrasing. Underline the words that should be changed.

Reminders:
Paraphrasing should closely follow the sentence structure of the original text. When using someone else’s ideas or opinions, restate them in your own words. Keep in mind that you still need to cite the source. Paraphrased material is usually shorter than the original passage, taking a somewhat broader segment of the source and condensing it slightly.

The United States, Germany, Japan, and other industrial powers are being transformed from industrial economies to knowledge- and information-based service economies, while manufacturing has been moving
to low-wage countries. In a knowledge- and information-based economy, knowledge and information are the key ingredients in creating wealth.


Your Paraphrase

Friday: Work Cited
Directions: Look at the works cited page information below; list any mistakes to make these items correct and MLA format.

Johnson, page 7 of 7

Works Cited
Hannes, Evan. “Coming to Terms with Your Grades.” Young Adolescent Education Psychology Review, 8.2.

List the mistakes, then correct them.

1.

2.

3.

4.