

Assignment #8

FIELD ASSIGNMENT ANSWERS WHICH COULD/SHOULD/DID SURFACE

1. Does the state require any testing of some or all of the students in this class? If so, list and describe? The state requires that all students take the Ohio Graduation Test by 10th grade. The students must pass all 5 parts of the test before they graduate. The five parts include reading, writing, mathematics, science and social studies. Students with IEPs or 504 requirements must take the test but have special allowances to aid them in taking the test (these are spelled out on the IEPs or 504 plans). c) FOR THOSE IN MIDDLE SCHOOLS: The Ohio Achievement Assessments (OAA) is given at the end of each grade 3 – 8. These tests assess what students should know and be able to do at the end of each grade level in the areas of reading (all grades), mathematics (all grades), science (5 & 8), social studies (5 & 8) and writing (4 & 7).
2. Does your teacher receive the results of this testing? If so, how does he/she the use of results for individual students and for the class as a whole? Yes, the teacher does receive the results of the OGT. At the end of the school year that the test is taken, the teacher receives the results in overall percentages. He receives a breakdown of the scores for each student at the beginning of the following school year. The teacher uses the results as a baseline for his class's lessons and objectives. The results allow the teacher to see how well the students in his class scored on the reading and writing portion, which determines the level of difficulty he sets for his class.
3. Does the district require any additional testing of some or all of the students in this class? If so, list and describe? a) While it is the state that requires that the students take the OGT, the school requires the students to do a practice OGT test to ensure that student's become familiar with content and format. b) The district requires that all students taking an AP course to take the standardized AP test for that class. The test is designed to be a cumulative assessment of the college-level work that they have done all year. The test is composed of multiple choice and essay questions and is administered by the College Board.
4. Does your teacher receive the results of this testing? If so, how does he/she use these results for individual students and for the class as a whole? a) Yes, the teachers receive the results of the practice OGT. Any students who have low scores on this test are "shadowed" by teachers in the areas in which they are struggling and placed in an intervention program to aid them before they take the OGT. b) If a student does not pass the OGT the first time (in 10th grade) then they receive a free computer program designed to help them pass the portion of the OGTs they failed. The district also offers a two week course in the beginning of summer specifically designed to help students pass any area of the OGTs. c) Yes, the teacher does receive the results of his students AP test. At the beginning of the following school year a breakdown of the students' scores are given to the teacher. In July after the test the results are available online for the teacher to view. The teacher uses the results to see what changes he will need to make in next year's curriculum in order to help the students succeed in their class and on their test. If several students are weak in certain areas of the test, then he will try to make adjustments to his lessons the following year in order to help those students learn the material.

5. Is your teacher aware of any changes to state and/or district testing that are coming in the near future? If so, what are they? Does your teacher believe the changes will affect his/her instruction and/or classroom assessment? a) Yes, the teacher is aware of changes being made to state and district testing. The state/district will be changing its curriculum to follow the Common Core Standards. Yes, the teacher does believe that the change will affect his instruction and assessment. He will have new guidelines, standards and objectives to follow in his classroom. b) Ohio is working with 23 other states to develop the tests students will take under the Common Core. The states are doing that through a group called PARCC, which stands for Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers. c) In the next 2 years, the State of Ohio will be releasing "End of Course Exams" in many areas heretofore not tested. Even though the State of Ohio does not use the End of Course Exams, the District is starting the practice by asking departments to create their own exams. At this moment, they are using the end of course exams with pre assessments to measure the amount growth the students have achieved while in the class. d) State/District testing of students' growth in learning (i.e. valued-added assessment) will be tied to evaluation of teachers in the future. e) It is believed that the new testing will be done on computers. The resource teacher says she will look at the new standards and base instruction on their goals. All staff at the school will have multiple in-service days devoted to the new testing procedures and effective strategies to pass them.

6. Does your teacher use any externally designed testing, including computer based and textbook publisher provided testing, to help him/her assess the performance of students in the content covered in the class you selected? If so, list and describe. a) The teacher does not use the textbook provided tests as he mistrusts textbook information in general. He does his own research and gives students the opportunity use current sources and information. He makes sure that he follows his content standards closely, and encourages me to do the same thing. b) Every quarter the teacher is required to give a department test to her classes to ensure the content desired by the department as a whole is covered. c) The school/district has a program for computer based testing that is titled "Exam View." This program allows the teacher to create questions and assessments that align with specific standards. d) The teacher uses some of the tests provided by Prentice Hall. He modifies the test by adding additional questions or removing questions.

7. Finally, list and briefly describe other state and district mandated testing required of students in your school, but in which students in the class you chose do not participate. a) Students who are interested in entering the armed forces are required by the state to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery. The ASVAB is administered by the military. b) The students who are interested in going to college are required by the state and district to take the PSAT, which is a precursor to the SAT. The test is administered by the College Board and helps to determine scholarship eligibility. c) The Diocese requires all seniors to take the Assessment of Catechesis/Religious Education or (ACRE) test. The questions are mostly opinion wherein students answer questions about their religious beliefs, their faith, their attitudes towards religion and some questions about their views of their school.