EdAdvance
Educate • Collaborate • Innovate

Rethinking Assessment in the Era of AI

Waterford | 3.6.25

Introduction

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Agenda

- Introduction
- State of AI
- Durable/Vulnerable
- Reimaging Assessments

An Essential AI Question

What does it mean to be

educated

in an era of AI?

Top Four Most Important Areas...

Before AI....

1. Literacy & Communication
2. Mathematics & Problem-Solving
3. Critical Thinking & Decision-Making
4. Collaboration & Social Skills

Thanks ChatGPT!!!!

Post AI....

1. AI Literacy & Human-AI Collaboration
2. Critical Thinking & Ethical AI Use
3. Data Literacy & Problem-Solving
4. Adaptability & Continuous Learning

Public Educators to Consider...

1. Personalized, Purpose-Driven Learning

- **Why?** Students disengage when they don't see relevance in their learning. AI tools can help tailor education to individual student interests, strengths, and career aspirations.
- **How?** Implement student-driven projects, flexible learning pathways, and mentorship programs that connect students with real-world applications of their studies.

2. Experiential & Hands-On Learning

- **Why?** Traditional lecture-based education fails to capture the attention of modern learners. Active, project-based learning improves engagement and retention.
- **How?** Incorporate maker spaces, internships, apprenticeships, and service learning that allow students to apply skills in authentic contexts, particularly in STEM, the arts, and technical fields.

Public Educators to Consider...

3. AI & Tech-Enhanced Engagement Strategies

- **Why?** Today's students are digital natives, yet many schools don't leverage AI and interactive technologies to meet them where they are.
- **How?** Use gamified learning, AI-powered tutoring, and immersive VR/AR experiences to make learning engaging and dynamic. Schools should also integrate AI literacy early, helping students see AI as a tool rather than a threat.

4. Reimagining Assessment & Success Metrics

- **Why?** Standardized testing often alienates students rather than motivating them. It doesn't measure critical post-AI skills like adaptability, collaboration, and ethical decision-making.
- **How?** Shift toward portfolio-based assessments, competency-based learning, and AI-enhanced formative assessments that offer real-time feedback rather than high-stakes testing.

Thanks Again ChatGPT!!!!

From ChatGPT for Us to Consider...

By prioritizing **relevance, engagement,** and **modern assessment**, public education may want to consider shifting from a **compliance-based model** to one that **inspires** and **equips students** for a **rapidly evolving future**.

Session #1 Refresher
Back in August 2024

Session #1 Refresher
Vulnerable vs Durable

Vulnerable

AI can complete the activity with little to no agency from the student.

Durable

AI cannot complete the activity for the student. The student must be fully engaged with the learning task.

Session #1 Refresher
Keys to Prompting

- **Key Prompting Techniques**
  - Use **clear, detailed instructions** (e.g., “Summarize this 500-word article about climate change solutions” vs. “Can you summarize this?”).
  - Provide **background or context** to guide the AI for more accurate outputs.
  - **Revise prompts to improve results**, experimenting with wording or constraints.
  - Treat **interactions as a conversation**; refine prompts based on AI’s responses to achieve desired results.
  - Specify **parameters like tone, format, or length** (e.g., “Write a 3-line poem in a cheerful tone”).
  - Assign the AI **a persona to tailor responses** (e.g., “Act as a marketing expert writing an ad”).

Session #1 Refresher
Assess Assignment for Durability

- Durability Audit
- Durability Enhancements
- Adjustments + Audit (Again)
- Differentiation

Goal: Leave with at least a segment or portion of an activity that is now durable

Did anyone **continue to use** **or** **explore AI platforms**?

Did anyone **implement a durable assignment** **or** **try to make other assignments durable**?

Used AI to Enhance the Durability of Assignments

Now…How Can We Use AI to Enhance the Durability and Authenticity of Assessments to create a Culminating Academic Experience

Durable/Authentic Assessments

Inquiry-Based Research & Synthesis (History, Science, English, Social Sciences)

- Students investigate a problem, analyze multiple sources, and develop an argument or solution.

Real-World Simulations & Role-Playing (Social Studies, Business, Science, English, Math)

- Students take on roles in a mock United Nations, courtroom, business pitch, or crisis response team, applying knowledge to make authentic decisions in real-time

Creative & Interdisciplinary Application (English, Arts, STEM, Humanities, Business)

- Students produce a podcast, museum exhibit, TED Talk, or digital storytelling piece that conveys their learning to a real audience.

Data-Driven Decision Making (Math, Science, Economics, History, Business)

- Students analyze real or simulated data, draw conclusions, and recommend action.

Portfolio-Based Mastery Assessment (All Subjects, Especially English, Arts, STEM, CTE)

- Students compile a series of artifacts that demonstrate mastery, growth, and application of learning.

Assessment Examples

Designing a Skate Park with Optimal Jumps

(Real-World Simulations & Role-Playing)

Scenario:
You are an engineer tasked with designing a new skate park that includes a set of ramps and jumps. To ensure maximum airtime and safe landings, you must apply the quadratic formula to calculate the trajectory of a skater's jump, ensuring the design is both thrilling and functional.

Student Task:

- Design a model ramp and jump path that follows a quadratic function representing a skateboarder's motion.
- Write the quadratic equation for the skater's path based on realistic jump conditions (e.g., initial velocity, launch angle).

Use the quadratic formula to find key points:

- Maximum height (vertex).
- Landing point (x-intercept).
- Graph the function and label all key features.
- Justify design choices with calculations & real-world considerations (e.g., safety, physics of motion).

Assessment Examples

Reimagining The Great Gatsby

(Creative & Interdisciplinary Application)

Scenario:
F. Scott Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby is one of the most well-known critics of the American Dream, wealth, and social class. However, the novel is told from Nick Carraway's biased perspective—which means some voices and viewpoints are left out or distorted.

Your job is to retell part of the story, explore an untold perspective, or connect Gatsby's themes to today's world in a multimedia format that engages a real audience.

Student Task:
Choose one of the following creative formats:

- Podcast Episode – Create a fictional interview with a minor character or debate Gatsby's themes with a co-host.
- TED Talk Presentation – Analyze a theme from the novel and connect it to today's society.
- Museum Exhibit (Digital or Physical) – Curate objects, photos, or artifacts that represent Gatsby's world and explain their significance.
- Digital Storytelling (Animated or Narrative Film) – Reimagine a key scene or character arc in a modern setting.

Part 3
Reimagining Assessments

Your Turn!

www.skills21.org/waterfordspring2025

A.I.M. Process

A.I.M. – Authentic, Impactful, Meaningful Assessments

- **Assess & Analyze**
  - Reflect on current assessment practices and their effectiveness.
- **Innovate & Design**
  - Create authentic, durable, AI-resistant, real-world assessments.
- **Measure & Refine**
  - Implement, gather feedback, and adjust for long-term success.

Step 1: Assess & Analyze

Guiding Questions:

1. What do my **current assessments prioritize**—recall, understanding, application, or creation?
2. Are students demonstrating **deep thinking**, or simply repeating information?
3. In what ways does my assessment challenge students to **think critically or solve problems**?
4. How does my assessment **reflect the skills students need** in life beyond my class?
5. **If AI can easily complete this assessment**, what does that reveal about its depth?

Step 1: Assess & Analyze (Action)

Copy & Paste Prompt and attach assessment:

I am reviewing an assessment to determine its level of cognitive demand and its connection to real-world, authentic problem-solving. Please complete the following assessment exactly as a student would.

After generating a response, help me analyze:

- What level of thinking does this assessment require? (Recall, comprehension, application, analysis, or creation?)
- Does the response demonstrate deep understanding, or does it rely on surface-level recall?
- How well does the assessment connect to real-world, authentic problems? Does it require students to think critically and apply knowledge in meaningful contexts?

Please end with strengths, areas of growth and an overall analysis of the assessment.

Assess + Share With Your Group

Step 2: Innovate & Design
(Reflection)

Guiding Questions:

1. What **real-world problems, scenarios, or challenges** relate to the concepts I'm teaching?
2. How can I design an assessment that allows students to **apply their learning in a meaningful way**?
3. What multiple ways (projects, presentations, debates, simulations) can **students demonstrate mastery**?
4. How can I design an assessment where **AI assists learning** rather than replaces thinking?
5. What barriers (time, format, grading) exist in **shifting to more authentic assessments**, and how can I address them?

Step 2: Innovate & Design
(Action)

Copy & Paste Prompt and insert appropriate information:

You are an education expert specializing in developing creative, authentic assessments that engage students in meaningful learning. Generate two alternative assessments that measure **[insert skills/concepts]** in a real-world context, ensuring they lead to a culminating experience that demonstrates deep understanding and application.

Assess + Share With Your Group

Step 3: Measure & Refine (Action)

Copy & Paste Prompt and insert appropriate information:

As an education expert specializing in designing creative and authentic assessments, your goal is to develop a culminating experience that fosters deep understanding and real-world application. Using the three provided assessments **[Insert or attach your original assessment + two AI-created assessments or portions of each]**, synthesize them into one comprehensive assessment that engages students in meaningful learning while emphasizing critical thinking and applied knowledge.

Assess + Share With Your Group

AIM & Differentiation

Copy & Paste Prompt and insert appropriate information:

As an education expert specializing in designing creative and authentic assessments, your goal is to develop a culminating experience that fosters deep understanding and real-world application. Using the provided assessment **[Insert original or AI-created assessment]**, create three differentiated versions: one below grade level, one at grade level, and one above grade level. Each version should maintain the core learning objectives while adjusting complexity, scaffolding, and expectations to ensure accessibility and challenge for all students. Your final assessments should emphasize meaningful learning, critical thinking, and applied knowledge at each level.