

Eight Tips for Using Adaptive Quizzing to Promote Active Learning



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Megan Ubben, MSN, RN, CPN, has compiled her top tips for using adaptive quizzing based on her experience helping educators promote active learning through digital products in the classroom.

Research supports the flipped classroom model as a best practice in nursing education¹; using digital products is supported in the flipped classroom model, however, a key point is that technology alone does not drive better outcomes².

For example, Elsevier Adaptive Quizzing personalizes content to each student's competence, allowing them to progress at their own pace through high-quality questions. Essentially, it helps you the instructor to gauge the pulse of the class or individual students to make meaningful interventions.

- 1 Emphasize the Benefits of Adaptive Quizzing:** Teach students how adaptive quizzing works and clearly outline the expected student learning outcomes. Student buy-in is key!
- 2 Make Adaptive Quizzing Part of the Weekly Routine:** Frequent use of adaptive quizzing is key to enhancing student learning and optimizes success. This quizzing can be student and instructor driven, and our expert educators recommend that students spend two and a half to three hours per week using adaptive quizzing (including student- and instructor-made quizzes).
- 3 Reflection and Learning Through Rationales:** Students report that a key benefit to adaptive quizzing is the immediate feedback they receive including rationales for correct and incorrect answers. Have students keep an adaptive quizzing journal and write down what they learned from the rationales in their own words.
- 4 Remediation with Adaptive Quizzing:** Have students create quizzes in content areas they struggle with. Content areas can be self-identified by the student or more formally identified through course exams and standardized testing.
- 5 Prioritize Mastery Quizzing:** Be mindful that students can take hundreds of questions, depending on the topic, to achieve a desired level of mastery. Therefore, you may want to prioritize five key course topics which reflect your course objectives. As a best practice, select one topic per assignment to ensure students have the most direct path to achieving mastery.
- 6 Weekly Custom Quizzing:** Custom quizzing allows you to choose a finite number of questions for a quiz. Assign one custom quiz every week to help your students prepare for class.
- 7 In-class Quizzing:** Create an in-class quiz and have students get in groups of two to take the quiz together. This will allow them to learn from each other by discussing answer choices and rationales.
- 8 Hold Students Accountable:** Assign points or a grade percentage for adaptive quizzing assignments.

Learn more strategies, tips, and best practices from Megan by visiting myevolve.us/Megan

References:

¹ Breda, K., & Towle, A. (2014). *Teaching the Millennial Nursing Student: Using a "Flipping the Classroom" Model*. *Nursing and Health* 2(6): 107-114. doi: 10.13189/nh.2014.020601
² Kolb, L. (May 12, 2017). *Students' Best Tech Resource: The Teacher*. Edutopia. Retrieved from <https://www.edutopia.org/blog/students-best-tech-resource-teacher-liz-kolb>