

Student-Generated Final Exam Questions

Description:

Allow students to write test questions consistent with final exam format, i.e. essay, multiple choice, etc. Students should submit a required number of questions to the instructor approximately one week before the final exam.

What to do with the student submissions:

The instructor then compiles a list of all of the questions. (Note: instructor may need to do some revision of questions, such as clarify language and/or combine some ideas.) The instructor distributes the compiled list to the students and tells them that many of the questions will be used on the final exam. Students can then work individually or together to answer questions in preparation for their final exam. (Based on Angelo and Cross CATs)

Sample Student-Generated Test Questions: American Literature to Civil War Final Exam

Description

The instructor explains that the final exam will consist of answering three essay questions: two will cover material from the mid-term exam to the end of the course and one will be a comprehensive essay. Students are asked to **email** the instructor a list of three questions: one comprehensive and two covering material after midterm.

What to do with the student questions

The instructor tweaks questions (having them in typed format on email makes it easy to cut and paste) and copies acceptable questions onto one sheet of paper divided into two sections: one for the comprehensive question and another for the question after midterm. Each section includes 5-7 possible questions. Students then have a study guide or “test blueprint” to use in preparation for the exam. They will not know exactly what questions will be on the test, but they know that at least 3 of the 10-14 questions will appear on the final exam. Students who prepare answers to all or most of the questions have a meaningful learning experience. Those who choose to prepare only 3 or 4 answers, choose to play Russian roulette. (Math teachers may add probability analysis here if they so desire☺.)