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What is Dynamic Assessment?

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Speaker Disclosure

- Financial:
 - Professor and Associate Dean of Faculty Development & Diversity, University of California, Irvine
 - Received financial compensation from ASHA
- Nonfinancial:
 - None

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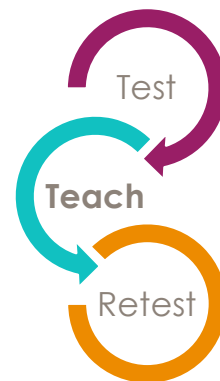
Objective

- To compare dynamic assessment (DA) with other assessment approaches
 - What makes DA DYNAMIC?
 - What should I use as a DA pretest and posttest?
 - How does DA differ from other kinds of assessments including:
 - Standardized (static) assessment
 - Observations
 - Response to intervention

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What makes DA dynamic?

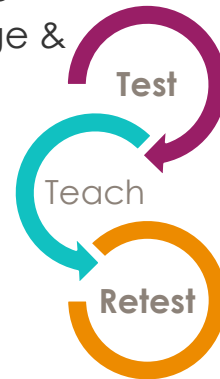
- Emphasis on the learning process
- Amount and nature of examiner investment
- Highly interactive
- Process oriented



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What test should I use?

- Select a probe or measure that
 - Samples the language skill(s) of interest
 - Is sensitive to short term changes
 - Captures emerging knowledge & performance



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How does DA differ from other approaches?

Standardized (Static)	Dynamic
Passive participants	Active participants
Examiner observes	Examiner participates & intervenes
Describe needs, areas of difficulty	Describe modifiability
Standardized protocol	Flexible, adaptive protocol

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How is DA different from Observation?

- Observation is an important aspect of assessment– examiner more neutral
 - Allows development of hypotheses
 - Compare performance across contexts



- DA– examiner more active
 - Intervene to test hypotheses

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How is DA different from Response to Intervention?

	DA	RTI
Child responsiveness	Y	Y
Child learning	Y	Y
Document intervention that leads to change	Y	Y
Outcomes	Y	Y
Approach	Test-teach-retest	Teach-test-reteach
Sessions	Relatively few (1-3)	Relatively more (over a semester)
Implementation	Special education	Regular education
Focus	What works and why?	What tier works?

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Next 5 minutes

We've explored the concept. In the *next activity*, we'll review some **examples**



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What is Dynamic Assessment? Reviewing Examples

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Identify assessment approaches

- Vicky is 6 years old and is in 1st grade. Her teacher referred her to the SLP because she is concerned about her language and literacy skills.
- The SLP gives her the Test of Narrative Language-2. Scores indicate difficulty with narrative comprehension and narrative production.

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Identify assessment approaches

- The SLP gives her the Test of Narrative Language-2. Scores indicate difficulty with narrative comprehension and narrative production.
 - This is an example of a static test. The examiner administers the test according to the manual. She scores the stories and comprehension questions to obtain a standard score.

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Identify assessment approaches

- The SLP observes Vicky during reading instruction. She notices that Vicky has difficulty decoding words.

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Identify assessment approaches

- The SLP observes Vicky during reading instruction. She notices that Vicky has difficulty decoding words.
 - This is an example of an observation. The SLP is able to make hypotheses about Vicky's instructional needs based on these observations.

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Identify assessment approaches

- Vicky tests in the lowest quartile on a reading test. The school recommends Vicky for the "Early Interventions in Reading" program focused on letter-sound knowledge, reading fluency, and curricular vocabulary. After 16 weeks, Vicky will be retested to see if she is on-target for reading.

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Identify assessment approaches

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 - This is an example of RTI. The 16 week program is a tier-2 intervention focused on getting Vicky's skills up to speed.

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Identify assessment approaches

- Vicky's TNL-stories are not well-organized. The SLP works on stories that include elements including problem, attempt, and resolution. She observes and reports on Vicky's strategies during teaching and the kinds of supports she needs to improve her stories.

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Identify assessment approaches

- Vicky's TNL-stories are not well-organized. The SLP works on stories that include elements including problem, attempt, and resolution. She observes and reports on Vicky's strategies during teaching and the kinds of supports she needs to improve her stories.
 - This is an example of DA. The focus is on process, needed support and child changes.

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Next 5 minutes

We've explored the concept and reviewed some examples. The *next activities* are **your** turn to **practice**.

