

# AUTHENTIC ASSESSMENTS

## INTRODUCTION

Authentic assessments measure students' application of knowledge and skills based on learning tasks that mirror real-world situations.

## A CLOSER LOOK

### Authentic assessments are:

- Measures of mastery in a given domain.
- Tools that help learners identify what they have and have not mastered.

### Authentic assessments are not:

- Measures of proficiency for a given class.
- Dependent on one set of materials (except for some professional certifications).

### Examples

- In a journalism course, an authentic assessment might ask students to create a news broadcast. Students' knowledge of and skills in news reporting will be evaluated based on their performance.
- In a nutrition course, an authentic assessment might ask students to analyze patients' meal plans and provide dietary guidelines.

## Five Levels of Authentic Assessments

In the "Assessments Model" table presented below, authentic assessments are categorized into five levels, with authenticity increasing from Level 1 to Level 5.

*Assessments Model*

Level	Evaluator	Format
1: Case-based objective	Auto-graded	Multiple choice, true/false, matching, sorting, etc.
2: Case-based short answer	Auto-graded	Fill in the blank, problem sets, document tagging, etc.
3: Case-based long answer	Assessors with rubrics	Short essay, short video presentation, etc.
4: Creation or performance	Assessors with rubrics	Long essay, long video presentation, product/solution pitch, report, model development, portfolio, etc.
5: Creation or performance in a specific workplace	Assessors with rubrics	Long video presentation, model development, project report, oral examination, job performance, etc.

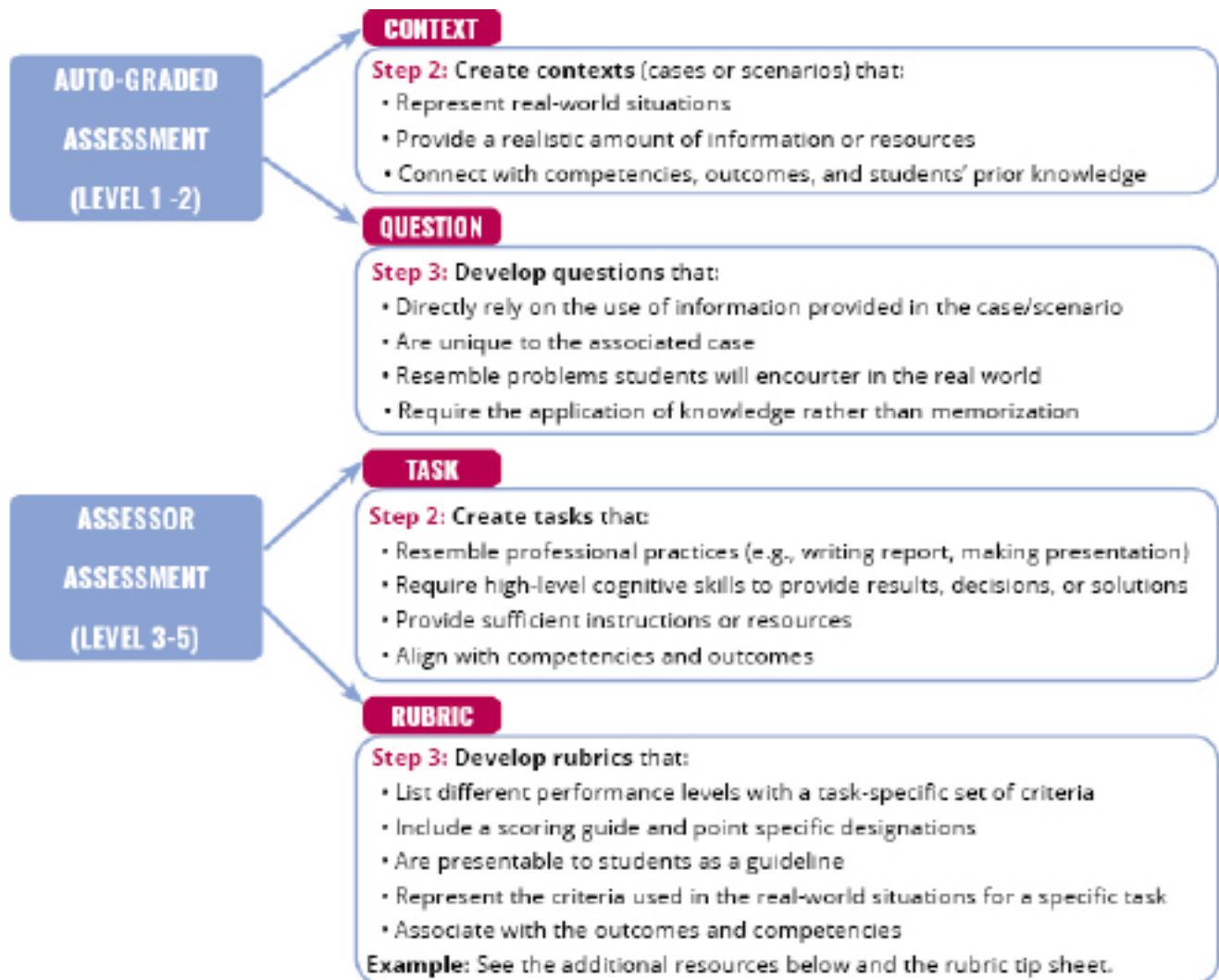
## Three Steps to Developing Authentic Assessments

ASSESSMENT  
FORMAT

### FORMAT

**Step 1: Choose appropriate formats** for your assessment from the University Learning Store Assessment Model.

- Review the competencies and outcomes you have written
- Consider the potential audience
- Choose appropriate formats
- Follow the two steps below to create an auto-graded assessment or an assessor assessment



## CHECKLIST

Review your assessment to see if it meets these requirements:

- Auto-graded assessment:
  - Each assessment contains an authentic case or scenario.
  - Each question directly relies on the information provided in the case.
  - The answers are unique to the associated questions.
- Assessor assessment:
  - Each task resembles practices or problems that students will face in their professional fields.
  - The criteria in the rubric truly measure the associated competencies and outcomes.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [How to Create Authentic Assessments](#) by Jon Mueller
- [Creating Authentic Assessments by Canvas](#)
- [Rubrics Tip Sheet](#)