Assessment for learning in the classroom: A typology of possibilities

	In-class contingent formative assessment- while-teaching	More planned integrated formative assessment	More formal mock or trial assessments modeled on summative assessments but used for formative purposes	Prescribed summative assessments, but results also used formatively to guide future teaching /learning
Definition	An integral but very informal part of every teacher's daily practice	An integral part of the learning and teaching cycle, i.e. part of effective teaching and planning for the future	A time for taking stock, assessing how individuals are performing compared with whole group.	A distinctive stage at the end of a unit of learning and teaching.
Degree of pre- planning		An informal planned process during the course of the year tailored to the needs of the individual students and class	Usually pre-designed, sensitive to needs of students but also to the demands of external requirements	Pre-determined, relatively formal and set at beginning of unit of learning and teaching
Focus	Learner- referenced; focus on the learning process	in relation to learner's starting point; focus on	Criterion-referenced, but in relation to system-level norms; focus on student progress and gap between what should be and is.	but in relation to system-level norms;
Typical kinds of feedback	constructed by	Direct qualitative feedback, may involve multiple and varied sources eg. self, peers, teacher etc.	Direct qualitative feedback, may indicate profiles or grades, but still extensive student involvement	Report in profiles, levels, and marks by teacher, but preceded and/or followed by formative self and peer evaluation and extensive teacher feedback

Types of assessments: Observe	Informal observation of learner behaviour/ language use			
Inquiry		Structured peer conferencing		
Analysis				Portfolio assessment
Test			Dynamic computer-based assessments adjusted to student level	