

Classroom Assessment Techniques- CATs¹

Technique	Teaching Goals	Preparation Effort	Student Effort	Analysis Effort	Purpose
Misconception/ Preconception Check	Learn concepts/theories for a given subject Learn terms and facts for a given subject Distinguish between fact and opinion	Medium	Low	Medium	Uncover barriers to learning, specifically instances of incorrect or incomplete knowledge or attitudes/values-
Categorizing Grid	Develop analytic skills Reinforce concepts/facts Develop ability to draw inferences	Low	Low	Low	Make explicit the implicit rules students use to organize information in their memories. Provides a chance to revise inappropriate categories
Minute Paper	Develop ability to synthesize and integrate information Reinforce concepts/facts	Low	Low	Low	Quick check of what students are learning. Allows you to address students' questions, perhaps make mid-course corrections if necessary. Allows students to self-assess what they've learned.

¹ **Source:** Cross, K.P, and Angelo, T.A. Classroom Assessment Techniques: A Handbook for College Teachers (2nd ed). San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 1993.