Classroom Assessment Technique (CAT) Activities

Tips for PreTest/ PostTest Assessment

- 1. Determine what main concepts students should learn from the course or unit and design the test to focus on those concepts.
- 2. Keep the exam short enough to be completed easily in a 50-minute period.
- 3. Use a student identification system that will allow you to discard the test results of students who, for whatever reason, took only one test.
- 4. Use a test item analysis to assess the degree of mastery for each concept as well as overall mastery of the course.
- 5. When deciding the best time to give the posttest, consider the other demands on students at the end of the semester. Perhaps it would be better to give the test before finals week.

Summarized from Classroom Assessment Techniques: A Handbook for College Teachers, Angelo and Cross, 2nd edition, Jossey-Bass, 1993.