

Exit Ticket is a form of checking for understanding* that gathers a written response from every student but makes use of random sampling. The teacher uses the responses to judge what students have learned and still need to learn. It is a type of individual checking for understanding. It is not graded.**

What it looks like

1. Teacher gives the class a question or two based on the day's lesson.
2. Students write an answer to the problem/question(s).
3. Teacher collects all student responses.
4. Teacher judges understanding with a quick review of a sample of the student responses (for example, 5 from each class)
 - a. Teacher can sort the samples into: fully understood - needs clarification - needs re-teaching, then look for common needs in each stack.
 - b. Teacher can sort the samples into: correct - incorrect, then look for common mistakes in the incorrect stack

Essential elements:

- ☺ Individual response (not whole class or group) to a key concept from the day
- ☺ Questions are chosen to be quickly assessable
- ☺ Teacher uses responses to inform future instruction
- ☺ No more than 2 questions
- ☺

Possible variations within this strategy:

- ? Question can be posted at the beginning of the class period
- ? Question can be a problem (e.g., balance the chemical equation, solve this equation)
- ? Question can ask for production of something (e.g., a simile, a labeled ordered pair)
- ? Question can ask for synthesis (e.g. write a one sentence summary of . . ., one thing I learned and one question I have from today's lesson)
- ? Teacher can present a sentence frame to support English learners

Possible times/ways to use it:

- ✓ To assess what students learned that day
- ✓ To determine where, if anywhere, students are having difficulty
- ✓ When you want multiple responses without students hearing each other
- ✓

Possible times/ways not to use it:

- ✗ When formative assessment is needed in the middle of the period
- ✗

*checking for understanding should be considered a formative assessment. It is a way for the teacher to determine what clarifications or re-teaching are necessary.

**Exit tickets do not need to be graded or handed back. Teachers may want to assign credit for them, but this is beyond what an exit ticket is. If you are grading your exit tickets, please make it clear to students that this is different for your classroom.