

Completing Task 1 for Sophomore Lit Assessment: Embedded Exam Questions

This document contains:

- **The description of TASK 1**
- **Tips for coming up with your five questions**
- **Tips for documenting your results by hand or by using the Testing Center**
- **Instructions for how to read your results (if using the Testing Center)**

Task 1: Embedded exam questions

Identify 5 multiple-choice questions, distributed in any way across course exams except the final, that measure students' understanding of "how literature reflects the human condition across cultures."

▪ **Documentation of Task 1:**

- Provide Chad a copy of the 5 selected embedded questions. Document the number of students who answer at least 3 of the 5 questions correctly.

Tips for Completing Task 1

- **Coming up with your five questions**
 - Here are examples of a few of the questions I used for my Brit Lit 2320 course. I mainly used questions that I already planned to use (each of which asks about culture over time, class/gender/race issues and inequity over time, or literature's influence):
 - 1) Which of the following is NOT a result of the Romantic Movement?
 - a) The modern environmental movement
 - b) Our culture's belief that young people should "find themselves"
 - c) Scientific observation using the scientific method
 - 3) Byron's poem *Don Juan* and Austen's *Northanger Abbey* were controversial in part because they
 - a) questioned the societal rules about the arranging of marriages
 - b) contained graphic scenes intended only to titillate readers
 - c) advocated for the importance of kings in a world touched by revolution
 - 4) Shakespeare was embraced by the Romantic Movement because
 - a) he was from a royal background
 - b) he was from common origins
 - c) his autobiography started the Enlightenment
 - As you see, the questions don't specifically ask about "the human condition across cultures" but each indirectly deals with the subject. These questions were deemed sufficient when our first assessment report was reviewed over the summer. My guess would be that you could use five questions you'd normally ask on a test as long as you can argue that the question represents "the human condition across cultures"

- **Documenting the Students who answer at least 3 of the 5 questions correctly**
 - Keep in mind that your task is to determine how many students took the exam, how many scored at least 3 out of 5 correct answers (got 3, 4, or 5 correct), and how many failed to score 3 out of 5 correct answers (got 1, 2, or 0 correct).
 - Counting by hand
 - If you wish, you (or your IA) can count your results by hand. This is what I had my IAa do. I gave my IAs the key for the five questions (the five questions were scattered throughout the test) and asked that they grade just those five questions. I didn't require that the IA write anything down; I only asked that she "grade" each answer sheet until the student reached three correct answers. As soon as she determined that the student had gotten at least three correct, then she put the answer sheet in the "Yes-this-student-answered-at-least-3-of-the-5-questions-correctly" pile. If a student failed to get at least 3 of the 5 correct, then she put the answer sheet in the "No" pile. At the end, she simply had to count the number of exams in each pile. Note: We had multiple versions of the exam so she first had to sort the answer sheets so that she was using the correct key for each version of the exam.
 - Using the testing center
 - One Exam
 - If you have one version of your exam, here's how you have the Testing Center score these five questions for you. Submit your scantron answer key the same as you normally would along with a second key in which you only fill in answers for the five embedded questions. The rest of the answers are left blank. In this case, you can have your five questions appear anywhere on the exam. On the Faculty Exam Request Form, write "For 5 item key, score as 5 points, output only." That will tell the testing center to grade the scantrons twice, once to determine your students' scores for the exam and once to assess their scores on the five embedded questions. Check the info at the bottom of this document to see how to read and report your output results.
 - Two versions of Exam (A & B)
 - If you have two versions of your exams (Tests A & B, for example), then you complete the same process detailed above for Tests given in one version, though this time, you will have two whole-test answer sheets and two embedded question answer sheets scored out of five. Again, make sure you write "For 5 item key, score as 5 points, output only" on your Faculty Exam Request Form. Check the info at the bottom of this document to see how to read and report your output results.
 - More than Two versions of Exam (A & B & C...)
 - If you intend to have three or more version of an exam, then your embedded questions must be the first five questions in the same order for all versions of the exam. You'll submit your regular keys for the multiple versions of the exam and an extra key with the correct answers to the first five questions – the rest of the answer key is left blank. In addition, you will write "For 5 item key, score as 5 points, output only" on the Faculty Exam Request Form. Using the Item mapping feature allows you to move the other questions (after 1-5) around to create multiple versions of the exam while keeping the first five questions the same. So, questions 1-5 on Form 1 would be mapped to match with questions 1-5 on Form 2, 3, 4, etc. Jon Marc Smith has used this method and has offered to help anyone who has questions. Check the info at the end of this document to see how to read and report your output results.

NOTE: If you use the Testing Center's services, then you'll receive an Exam Outcome Report. On it, you'll find a "Frequency Distribution of Scores by Section" for your five question key (example below). The highlighted numbers below indicate the number of students who got three, four, or five questions correct. Add these three results to get the number (frequency) of students who got at least three of the five embedded questions correct. (In this sample, the class size is 10 students and 7 students – 3 + 2 + 3 – answered at least 3 of the 5 questions correctly.)

FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION OF SCORES BY SECTION

Processed on: 10-14 at 08:59:04 File Name: C:\TREC\DATA\TESTDATA.SDF
 Class: 2320 Section: 001 Students: 10

Raw	Score (%)	Frequency	Cumulative Frequency	Cumulative Percent	Cumulative Percent	Score
0	(0.0)	0	0	0.0	0.0	0_
1	(10.0)	1	1	10.0	10.0	1_
2	(20.0)	2	3	20.0	30.0	2_
3	(30.0)	3	6	30.0	60.0	3
4	(20.0)	2	8	20.0	80.0	4_
5	(20.0)	2	10	20.0	100.0	5_