

D2L

Using Authentic Assessment
to Demonstrate Real-world
Learning

Meet Your D2L Team



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Agenda

1

Why does this matter, and why do we assess?

2

Types of Assessments and where they are valuable

3

Authentic Assessment definition, advantages, challenges

4

Strategies for building Authentic Assessments in your courses

Why Does This Matter?



74%

College level online students are taking classes or programs for their careers*

44%

of the skills employees have today will need to change by 2025 – World Economic Forum**

68%

Of students surveyed admitted cheating on written assignments or tests in their lives.***

*Magda, A. J., & Aslanian, C. B. (2018). *Online college students 2018: Comprehensive data on demands and preferences*. Louisville, KY: The Learning House, Inc.

** [Future of Jobs Report 2020](#)

*** By Judith Giering, Michael Palmer, (2021). *From Cheating to Authentic Learning*. <https://cte.virginia.edu/blog/2021/02/23/cheating-authentic-learning>

Why Do We Assess?

Assessment is more than grading a student

It is:

- to measure and shape a student's learning progress
- for students to see their progression and gaps
- used as an engagement tool
- for employer's and other institutions to validate competency



A Tale of Two Assessments

Traditional Assessment (test)

- Selection of responses through **auto-graded question types** (MC/TF, Sorting)
- Measures student's **knowledge** of the content
- Often given at the **end of a module/course** to determine whether learners are successful in acquiring knowledge

Authentic Assessment

- Learners **demonstrate proficiency** through **application** of key materials
- Measures learners' **ability to apply** knowledge in 'real world' situations.
- Given in **smaller segments** throughout the year, often culminating in keystone project
- Used in both formative and summative

Types of Assessment

Formative Assessment:

- Low, or no-stakes evaluation, usually throughout the content
 - Identify the safety risks in this picture, discuss the following scenario
- Allows scaffolding of smaller tasks/skills that lead to larger assessment of overall performance
- Auto-graded testing can be helpful to get a snapshot of learner progress

Summative Assessment:

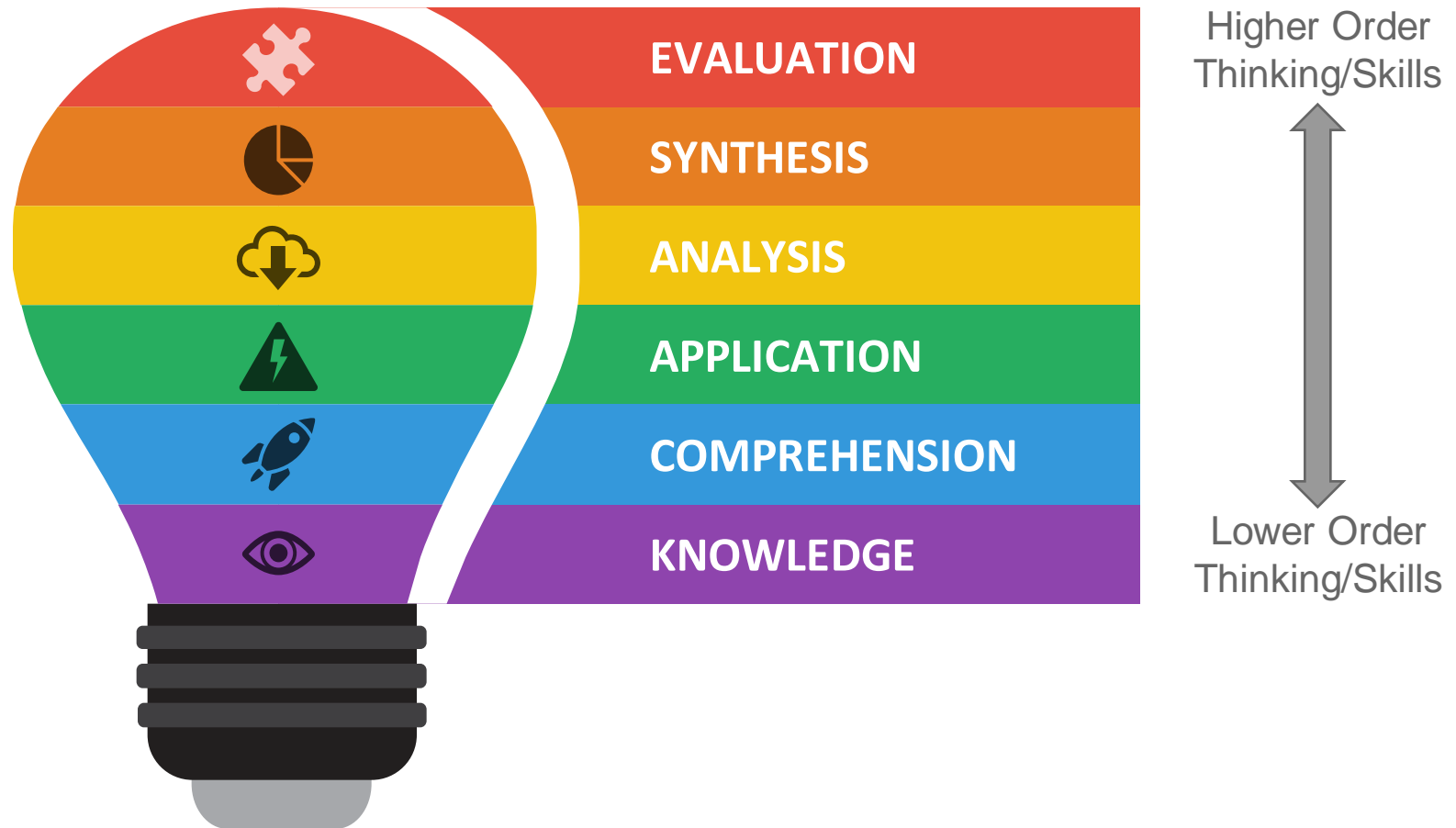
- Evaluate students against a standard or criteria
 - For example: Formal exam, quiz, portfolio submission or presentation
- Could be an accumulation of smaller projects often culminating in keystone project

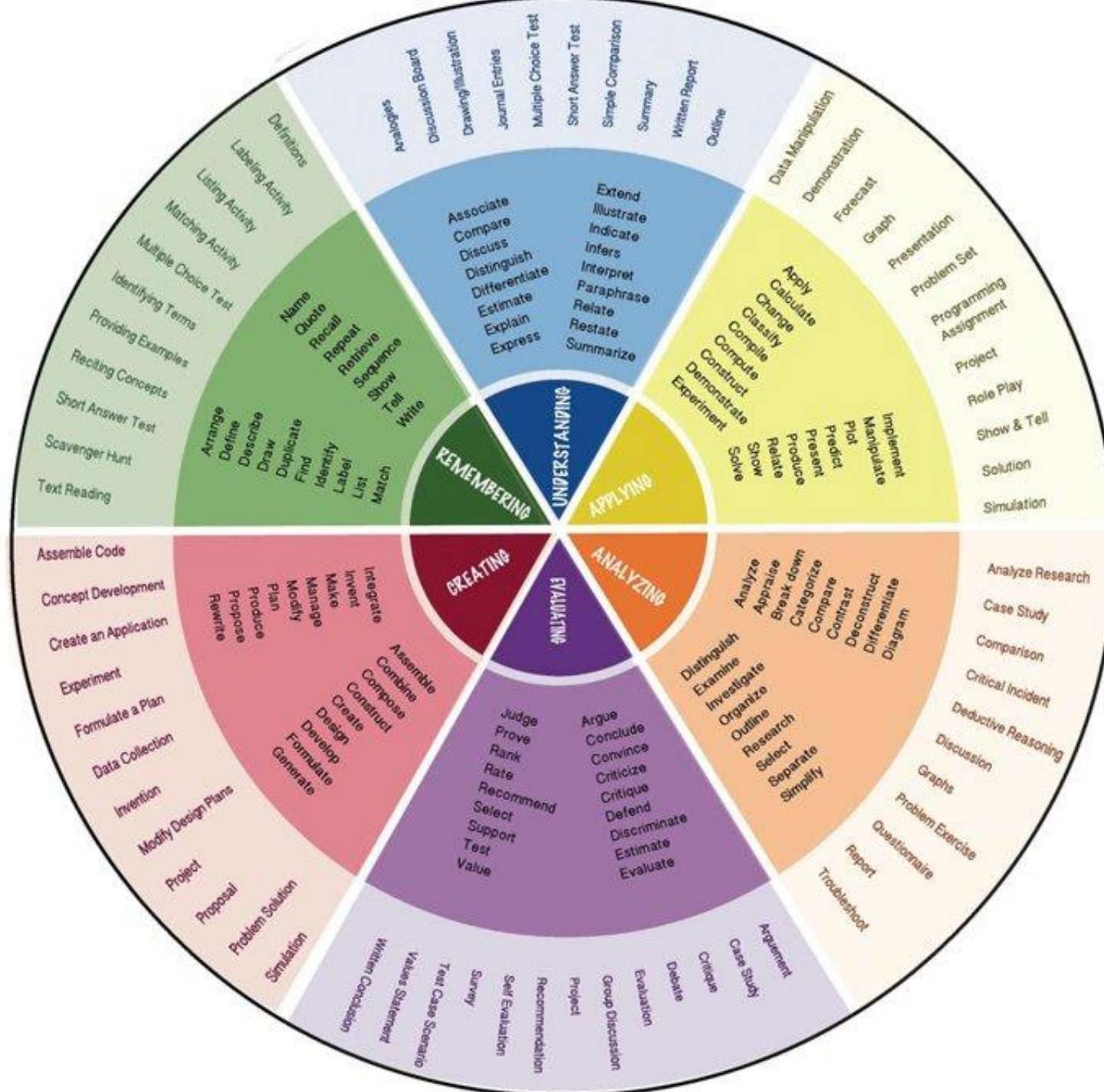
An Assessment is Authentic if it:

- Is realistic
- Requires judgement and innovation
- Asks the student to 'do' the subject
- Simulates the real-world contexts in which we are 'tested'
- Assesses the student's ability to use a suite of knowledge and skills to negotiate a complex task
- Allows opportunities to rehearse, practice, consult resources, and receive feedback

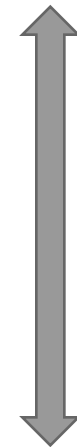
Wiggins, G. (1998). *Education assessment: Designing assessments to inform and improve student performance*. San Francisco: Joey-Bass Publishers.com

Bloom's Taxonomy





Higher Order Thinking/Skills



Lower Order Thinking/Skills

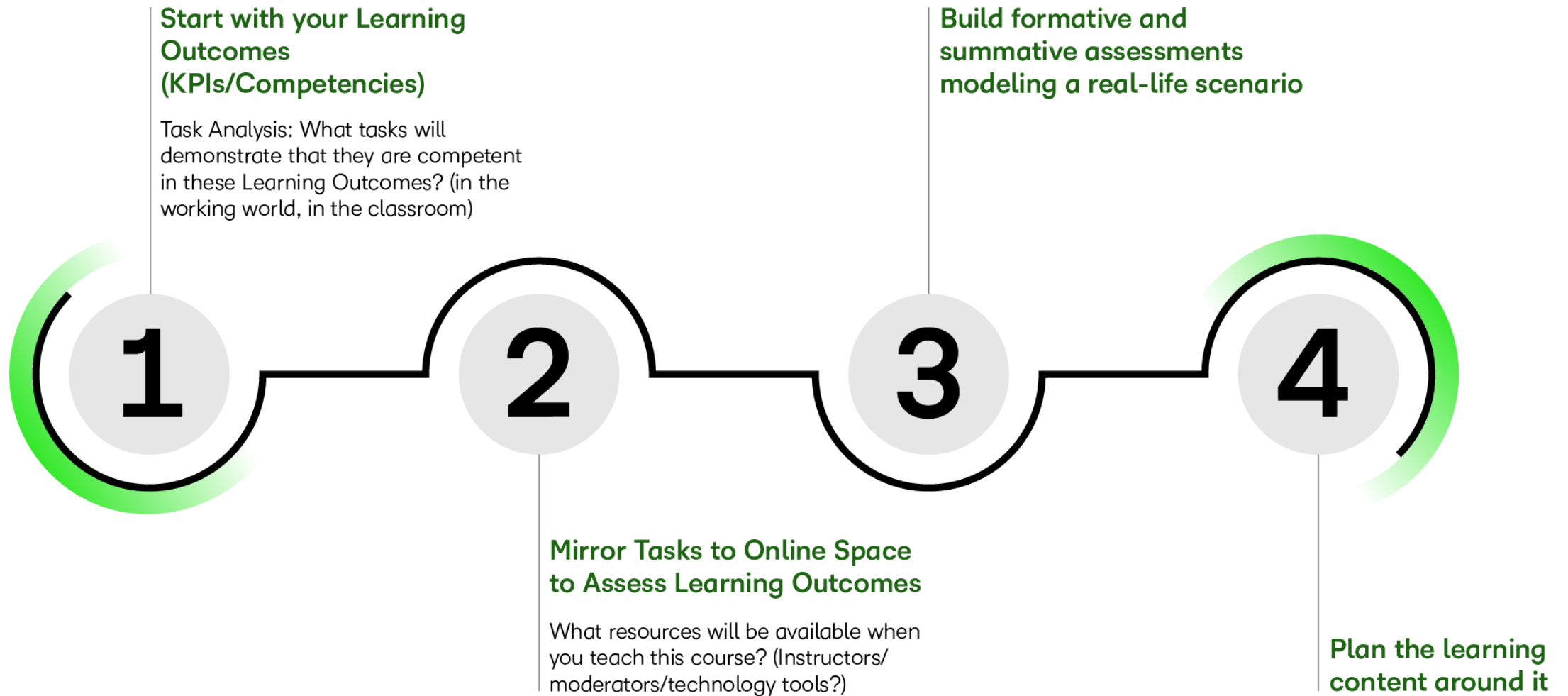
5 Potential Benefits for Authentic Assessments

1. Encourages students to actively participate in the evaluation process.
2. Prepares students to take on real-life challenges.
3. Integrates assessment and instruction to create a detailed evaluation process.
4. Builds the student's problem-solving skills and enhance one's ability to apply knowledge to real-life contexts.
5. Enhances collaboration and creates positive teaching and learning relationships

4 Potential Challenges for Authentic Assessments

1. Takes more time for students than a traditional performance MC/TF exam
2. Takes more time for instructors to evaluate and provide ongoing feedback
 - Creating standardized rubric to avoid bias
 - Requires a lot of personalized, specific feedback to each learner
3. Grading can be subjective based on the higher levels of learning required, often not a right or wrong answer
4. Real world situations are often not tidy to fit into a simple scenario.

Building an Authentic Assessment



Now, let's see this
in practice



Brightspace Tools Available



Discussions

Written or video note submissions

Role-play scenarios, case studies, 1:1 Journal



Assignment Submission

Written or video note submissions

Draft proposals, submit policy, argue a thesis



Quiz Tool

Designing questions with case studies
and use of application type questions



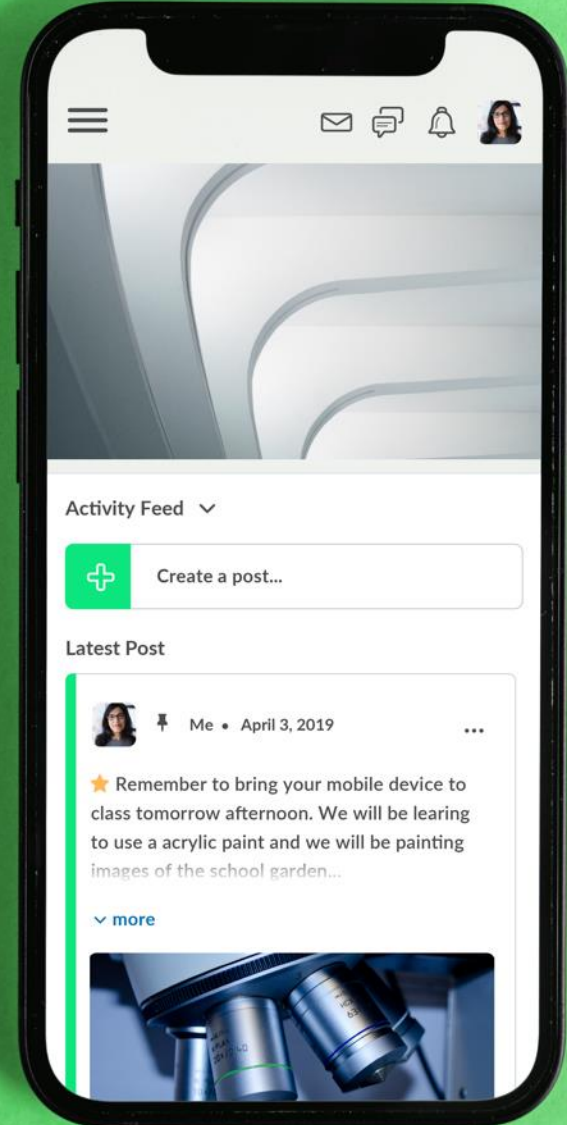
Video Assignment Submission

Demonstration, Case studies, Q&A
Assignment, Group submissions

[Let's see some examples of these!](#)

Questions?

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Authentic Assessment Examples

Computer Science	Troubleshoot a problematic piece of code; Develop a website/app to solve a particular problem and/or meet a set of criteria
Sales Associates	Video assignments, discussions to practice responding to client questions or sales objections
Social Workers	Building a Trauma Informed Plan of Practice to implement in your organization
Franchise Owners/ Business Owners	Develop a business and marketing plan for your business
Human Resources/ Leadership	Case scenarios working through various aspects in the workplace <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accessibility - Workplace harassment - Phishing schemes - Providing constructive feedback as a manager
Excel Course	- Create a simulation to walk learners through the steps and settings for different tasks in Excel as well as explaining different components of a formula. The formative assessments were created using SVG tabs where students could click on an image and it would reveal hidden content below. (Similar to hotspots but faster to develop)
Financial Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create a new fictional company every week and the course content would focus on this company (including all examples and practice exercises). This helped learners to really get to know the ins and outs of each company financially. For formative exercises, we provided students with financial statements from the company and the exercises would require students to use the financial statements to answer questions and complete calculations related to the formulas they learned for that particular week. - Study a financial statement and identify the red flags or incorrect entries – Discuss the story the numbers tell learners in a written discussion