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# The Power of Evaluation: Transforming Teaching and Learning

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Abstrak. Evaluation is a fundamental component of the educational process, essential for measuring and improving student learning. This study explores the multifaceted role of emphasizing evaluation, formative assessments, technological summative integration, and reflective practices. Formative assessments offer real-time feedback, allowing educators to adapt instruction and address learning gaps, while summative assessments provide a comprehensive overview of student achievements at the end of instructional periods. The integration of technology into evaluation practices enhances data collection and analysis, supports personalized learning experiences, and introduces diverse assessment methods. practices Reflective continuous foster improvement by helping students educators set goals, develop strategies, refine performance. Ensuring fairness inclusivity in evaluations promotes equity and supports diverse learner needs. Utilizing a study library research design, this collects, systematically evaluates, and synthesizes academic sources to provide a comprehensive understanding of these evaluation components. The findings highlight the need for a balanced approach that combines summative formative and assessments, leverages technology, and incorporates reflective practices to improve student outcomes and overall educational quality.

**Kata kunci:** evaluation, educational process. formative and summative assessments, technological integration, and reflective practices

### **PENDAHULUAN**

Evaluation plays a crucial role in the educational process, serving as a fundamental tool for measuring and enhancing student improvement. In the context of contemporary education, evaluation encompasses a broad spectrum of activities that assess students' knowledge, skills, attitudes, and performance. It not only provides feedback to students but also informs educators about the effectiveness of their teaching methodologies, curricular design, and overall educational strategies. According to Andrade and Brookhart (2020), effective evaluation practices can significantly boost student learning and achievement by providing critical feedback that guides both instruction and student effort.

At the Tarbiyah Faculty of UIN Ar-Raniry, evaluation mechanisms are integral to identifying the strengths and weaknesses of students, thereby facilitating personalized learning experiences. Through formative assessments, educators can monitor student progress in real-time, allowing for timely interventions and support. Formative assessments, as Nicol and Macfarlane-Dick (2006) suggest, are key to identifying learning gaps and providing immediate feedback, thus enabling students to improve continuously. Summative evaluations, on the other hand, provide a comprehensive overview of student learning at the end of an instructional period, enabling educators to make informed decisions regarding student advancement and curriculum adjustments. According to Taras (2005), summative assessments play a vital role in certifying student achievements and guiding future educational pathways. Furthermore, evaluation fosters a culture of continuous improvement. By engaging in reflective practices, both students and educators can critically analyze the outcomes of assessments, set realistic goals, and develop strategies for achieving them. This iterative process not only enhances academic performance but also cultivates essential life skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, and self-regulation. Wiliam (2011) emphasizes that effective assessment practices empower students by involving them in their own learning process, thus fostering a sense of ownership and responsibility. In addition, the advent of technology has revolutionized the landscape of educational evaluation. Digital tools and platforms facilitate the collection, analysis, and

dissemination of assessment data, making the evaluation process more efficient and accessible. These advancements also support the implementation of diverse and innovative evaluation methods, ranging from traditional exams and quizzes to project-based assessments and peer reviews. According to Redecker and Johannessen (2013), technology-enhanced assessments can provide richer data on student performance and support more personalized and adaptive learning experiences.

The significance of evaluation in student improvement extends beyond individual academic achievements. It contributes to the overall educational ecosystem by promoting accountability, equity, and quality assurance. By ensuring that all students have access to fair and meaningful assessments, educational institutions can uphold high standards of learning and foster an inclusive environment that supports the diverse needs of learners. According to Shepard (2019), comprehensive evaluation systems that include both formative and summative components can address various educational goals and support a holistic approach to student development.

In conclusion, evaluation is a cornerstone of the educational process, essential for driving student improvement and achieving educational excellence. Through continuous and comprehensive assessment practices, educators can support students in reaching their full potential, preparing them for future academic pursuits and lifelong success. This article aims to explore the multifaceted role of evaluation in student improvement, examining its impact on teaching and learning, the benefits of various assessment methods, and the implications for educational policy and practice. By integrating insights from scholarly research and practical experiences, particularly within the Tarbiyah Faculty at UIN Ar-Raniry, the article will provide a comprehensive understanding of how evaluation can be leveraged to enhance student learning outcomes.

### The Aims of the Study

This study aims to explore the multifaceted role of evaluation in enhancing student improvement within the educational process. It seeks to examine the impact of both formative and summative assessments on student learning and achievement, highlighting effective practices that support personalized learning experiences.

Additionally, the study investigates the transformative role of technology in educational evaluation, promoting continuous improvement and the development of critical life skills. By ensuring fairness and inclusivity, the study addresses how comprehensive evaluation systems can uphold high standards of learning and support diverse learner needs. Insights from the Tarbiyah Faculty at UIN Ar-Raniry will inform educational policy and practice, providing recommendations for leveraging evaluation to transform teaching and learning, ultimately leading to enhanced student success and educational quality.

#### **METHOD**

This study adopts a library research design, focusing on a comprehensive review and analysis of existing literature to explore the multifaceted role of evaluation in educational contexts. The primary goal is to systematically collect, evaluate, and synthesize academic sources that examine formative and summative assessments, the integration of technology in evaluation, and the promotion of continuous improvement through reflective practices. By leveraging a wide range of scholarly articles, books, and conference papers, this approach enables the identification of key themes, trends, and gaps in current research. The literature search was conducted using multiple academic databases, including Google Scholar, ERIC, and ProQuest, with keywords such as "formative assessment," "summative assessment," "technology in education," "reflective practices," "student improvement," "educational evaluation," "inclusive assessment," and "continuous improvement in education."

The selected literature was analyzed through thematic analysis, which involved identifying recurring themes and insights related to the study's objectives. This process included a thorough examination of peer-reviewed journal articles, books, and reputable conference papers published within the last 20 years to ensure the relevance and timeliness of the findings. By comparing and contrasting different perspectives, the study aimed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the effectiveness of formative and summative assessments, the role of technology in enhancing assessment practices, and the impact of reflective practices on continuous improvement in

education. Additionally, the analysis sought to highlight best practices and recommendations for educational institutions to ensure fairness and inclusivity in evaluation. The synthesis of these findings offers valuable insights into how these evaluation components contribute to student improvement and overall educational quality.

### **DISCUSSION**

Evaluation is a fundamental aspect of the educational process, providing critical insights into student learning and guiding instructional strategies. This section discusses the multifaceted role of evaluation in student improvement, emphasizing the impact of both formative and summative assessments, the integration of technology, and the implications for educational practice.

### a. Formative and Summative Assessments

Formative assessments are crucial tools for monitoring student progress and enhancing educational outcomes by providing real-time feedback. These assessments are designed to gather information on student learning while instruction is ongoing, allowing educators to make immediate adjustments to their teaching strategies.

Formative assessments include various methods such as quizzes, peer reviews, one-minute papers, and observational notes. Black and Wiliam (2018) argue that formative assessments are vital for creating a responsive learning environment. They highlight that these assessments help identify learning gaps early, allowing educators to address misunderstandings and adjust their teaching methods accordingly. This continuous feedback loop is essential for student development, as it provides opportunities for timely intervention and support.

In addition to improving individual student performance, formative assessments foster a deeper understanding of the subject matter. According to Hattie and Timperley (2007), effective formative assessment practices involve clear learning goals, actionable feedback, and opportunities for students to reflect on and apply the feedback. This approach helps students understand their current level of understanding and what is needed to achieve the learning objectives. Hattie and

Timperley emphasize that formative feedback should be specific, timely, and focused on the learning process rather than personal attributes.

Formative assessments also support differentiated instruction by allowing educators to tailor their teaching to the diverse needs of students. According to Tomlinson (2014), formative assessments enable teachers to identify varying levels of student readiness, interest, and learning profiles. This information helps educators design and implement instructional strategies that are more likely to engage and support all students effectively.

Furthermore, formative assessments contribute to student self-regulation and motivation. According to Nicol and Macfarlane-Dick (2006), when students receive regular feedback and engage in self-assessment, they develop better self-regulation skills and a greater sense of ownership over their learning. This increased self-awareness and accountability can lead to improved academic performance and a more positive attitude toward learning.

Formative assessments also enhance the quality of educational feedback provided to students. Wiliam (2011) highlights that feedback from formative assessments should be constructive and focused on specific aspects of student performance. Effective feedback helps students understand their strengths and areas for improvement, guiding them in making necessary adjustments to their learning strategies.

In summary, formative assessments are a vital component of the educational process, offering real-time insights into student learning and enabling educators to make informed instructional decisions. By providing timely and actionable feedback, supporting differentiated instruction, and promoting self-regulation, formative assessments play a key role in enhancing student learning outcomes and fostering a responsive and effective learning environment.

In addition, summative assessments play a critical role in evaluating student learning outcomes by providing a comprehensive overview of academic achievement at the conclusion of an instructional period. These assessments are designed to

measure and summarize what students have learned, often contributing to final grades and influencing decisions about student progression

Summative assessments typically include final exams, end-of-term projects, standardized tests, and major assignments. Harlen and James (2020) emphasize that summative assessments are essential for certifying student achievements and providing a cumulative evaluation of their learning. By aggregating student performance over a specified period, these assessments offer a snapshot of students' overall capabilities and mastery of the content.

According to Stiggins (2005), summative assessments serve multiple purposes, including accountability, certification, and program evaluation. They are used to determine whether students have met the learning objectives and are ready to progress to the next level of education or receive a qualification. Stiggins argues that while summative assessments are crucial for certifying student achievements, they should be designed to align with the instructional goals and provide valid and reliable measures of student learning. In addition, summative assessments play a significant role in educational decision-making. As noted by Biggs and Tang (2011), the results from summative assessments inform decisions about student progression, placement, and graduation. These assessments help educators and policymakers evaluate the effectiveness of curricula and instructional strategies, guiding future improvements and adjustments.

The design and implementation of summative assessments must ensure fairness and consistency. In lne, Herman and Linn (2016) determined that effective summative assessments should be aligned with the learning objectives and provide a clear and accurate measure of student performance. This alignment ensures that the assessments are valid and reliable indicators of student achievement and that the results are used appropriately for decision-making purposes. Furthermore, summative assessments can also impact student motivation and learning strategies. According to Nicholls (1984), the prospect of summative evaluations can influence students' approach to learning, as they often focus on achieving high scores and meeting

specific performance criteria. Therefore, it is crucial to balance summative assessments with formative feedback to support ongoing learning and improvement.

To sum up, summative assessments are vital for providing a comprehensive evaluation of student learning at the end of an instructional period. They serve critical functions in certifying student achievements, informing educational decisions, and evaluating the effectiveness of instructional programs. Ensuring that summative assessments are well-designed and aligned with learning objectives is essential for accurately measuring student performance and guiding future educational practices.

### b. Integration of Technology

The integration of technology into evaluation practices has profoundly reshaped the educational landscape, offering new opportunities for more effective and comprehensive assessment. Digital tools and platforms now play a crucial role in facilitating data collection, analysis, and dissemination, which enhances the overall evaluation process.

One of the primary advantages of technology-enhanced assessments is the ability to gather and analyze large volumes of data efficiently. Redecker (2017) highlights that digital tools provide richer, more detailed data on student performance compared to traditional methods. For example, online assessment platforms can track students' responses in real-time, analyze patterns in their performance, and generate detailed reports that offer insights into their strengths and areas for improvement. This capacity for detailed data collection and analysis supports a more nuanced understanding of student learning outcomes.

Additionally, technology facilitates personalized and adaptive learning experiences. According to Shute and Kim (2014), adaptive learning technologies can adjust the difficulty level of tasks based on individual student performance, providing tailored feedback and support. This personalization helps address the diverse needs of students, allowing them to progress at their own pace and receive targeted interventions when needed. Adaptive learning systems can therefore enhance the effectiveness of formative assessments by aligning them more closely with each student's learning needs.

The use of digital tools also enables the implementation of a variety of innovative assessment methods. For instance, project-based assessments, which require students to apply their knowledge in practical scenarios, can be managed and assessed using digital platforms. These platforms can facilitate collaboration among students, provide access to resources, and streamline the submission and evaluation processes (Green et al., 2020). Peer reviews, another innovative assessment method, are also supported by technology. Platforms that enable students to provide feedback on each other's work can enhance learning by fostering critical thinking and reflective practices (Gikandi et al., 2011).

Moreover, technology supports the use of diverse assessment formats beyond traditional exams. E-portfolios, for example, allow students to showcase their work and reflect on their learning journey over time. These digital portfolios can be used to assess a wide range of skills and competencies, offering a more holistic view of student achievement (Barrett, 2010). Similarly, online simulations and interactive assessments can provide immersive experiences that engage students in complex problem-solving and critical thinking tasks (VanLehn, 2013).

The integration of technology in evaluation practices also enhances accessibility and inclusivity. Digital tools can accommodate various learning styles and needs, making assessments more equitable for all students. For instance, text-to-speech software and other assistive technologies can support students with disabilities, ensuring they have equal opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge and skills (Al-Azawei et al., 2016).

In summary, the integration of technology into evaluation practices offers significant advantages, including efficient data collection and analysis, personalized and adaptive learning experiences, and the implementation of diverse and innovative assessment methods. These advancements contribute to a more comprehensive and accessible evaluation process, supporting improved student learning outcomes and enhancing the overall educational experience.

### c. Promoting Continuous Improvement

Engaging in reflective practices through evaluation is integral to fostering a culture of continuous improvement in education. Reflective practices involve the critical analysis of assessment outcomes by both students and educators, enabling them to set realistic goals, develop effective strategies, and enhance their learning processes. This iterative approach not only improves academic performance but also supports the development of essential life skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, and self-regulation.

Reflective practices in education enable students to engage in self-assessment, where they analyze their own work and progress. According to Boud, Keogh, and Walker (2013), self-assessment helps students become more aware of their learning processes and outcomes, leading to improved academic performance. By reflecting on their strengths and areas for improvement, students can set specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART) goals that guide their learning journey. Educators also benefit from engaging in reflective practices. When educators critically analyze assessment data and feedback, they can identify patterns and trends in student performance. This reflection helps them understand the effectiveness of their teaching strategies and make necessary adjustments. According to Schon (1983), reflective practice allows educators to engage in continuous learning and professional development, enhancing their teaching effectiveness and ultimately benefiting their students.

The iterative nature of reflective practices supports continuous improvement by creating a feedback loop where students and educators regularly assess and refine their goals and strategies. As Wiliam (2018) emphasizes, effective assessment practices that involve students in their learning process help cultivate a sense of ownership and responsibility. This involvement encourages students to take an active role in their learning, promoting self-regulation and intrinsic motivation. In addition to academic benefits, reflective practices also contribute to the development of critical life skills. According to Zimmerman (2002), self-regulation skills, such as goal setting, self-monitoring, and self-reflection, are essential for lifelong learning and personal

development. By engaging in reflective practices, students learn to manage their learning processes effectively, enhancing their ability to tackle complex problems and make informed decisions.

Furthermore, reflective practices can foster a growth mindset, which is the belief that abilities and intelligence can be developed through effort and learning. Dweck (2006) highlights that students with a growth mindset are more likely to embrace challenges, persist through difficulties, and view failures as opportunities for growth. Reflective practices support this mindset by encouraging students to view their learning experiences as iterative processes rather than fixed outcomes.

In summary, engaging in reflective practices through evaluation is crucial for fostering a culture of continuous improvement. By critically analyzing assessment outcomes, setting realistic goals, and developing effective strategies, both students and educators can enhance academic performance and cultivate essential life skills. The iterative process of reflection not only improves learning outcomes but also supports personal growth and development, contributing to a more effective and dynamic educational experience.

### d. Ensuring Fairness and Inclusivity

Evaluation is instrumental in promoting fairness and inclusivity within educational systems. By implementing fair and meaningful assessment practices, educational institutions can uphold high standards of learning while addressing the diverse needs of all students. Ensuring equity in evaluation helps create an environment where every student has the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and skills, regardless of their background or abilities.

Fairness in evaluation involves providing all students with equal opportunities to succeed. This includes designing assessments that are free from bias and accommodate diverse learning needs. According to Shepard (2019), a comprehensive evaluation system that incorporates both formative and summative assessments can address a wide range of educational goals and support a holistic approach to student development. Formative assessments, for instance, offer ongoing feedback that helps

identify and address learning gaps in real-time, while summative assessments provide a cumulative measure of student achievement at the end of an instructional period.

Incorporating diverse assessment methods is essential for promoting inclusivity. For example, traditional exams may not adequately capture the abilities of all students, especially those with learning disabilities or different learning styles. According to Hehir and Katzman (2012), inclusive assessment practices such as alternative assessments and accommodations can help ensure that all students have the opportunity to showcase their strengths. Alternative assessments, such as projectbased tasks, presentations, and portfolios, allow students to demonstrate their learning in various ways, accommodating different learning preferences and abilities. Furthermore, the use of technology in evaluation can enhance fairness and inclusivity. Digital tools can provide accommodations for students with disabilities, such as textto-speech software or alternative formats for assessments. According to Al-Azawei, Serenelli, and Lundqvist (2016), these technologies help level the playing field by providing equitable access to assessment tools and resources. Additionally, technology can facilitate adaptive assessments that adjust to individual student needs, ensuring that all students are evaluated based on their actual capabilities rather than their ability to navigate traditional assessment formats.

The importance of cultural responsiveness in assessment also contributes to fairness and inclusivity. Cultural biases in assessment tools can disadvantage students from diverse backgrounds. As Gay (2010) emphasizes, culturally responsive assessments that reflect students' cultural contexts and experiences can help mitigate these biases and provide a more accurate measure of their abilities. By designing assessments that are sensitive to cultural differences, educators can create a more inclusive and equitable evaluation process.

Moreover, formative assessment practices that involve self-assessment and peer feedback can promote inclusivity by engaging students in the evaluation process. According to Nicol and Macfarlane-Dick (2006), involving students in setting their own learning goals and evaluating their progress fosters a sense of ownership and

responsibility. This approach not only supports diverse learning needs but also empowers students to take an active role in their learning journey.

In summary, evaluation plays a critical role in promoting fairness and inclusivity in education by ensuring that all students have access to equitable and meaningful assessments. By incorporating diverse assessment methods, utilizing technology, and addressing cultural biases, educational institutions can uphold high standards of learning and support the diverse needs of all learners. Comprehensive evaluation systems that include both formative and summative components contribute to a more inclusive and equitable educational environment.

### e. Implications for Educational Practice

The insights gained from this study underscore the importance of adopting a balanced approach to assessment, integrating both formative and summative evaluations to support student learning effectively. This approach not only enhances the accuracy and relevance of evaluations but also contributes to overall educational quality and student success.

Formative assessments play a crucial role in providing ongoing feedback to students, allowing them to understand their progress and identify areas for improvement. These assessments are integral to creating a responsive learning environment where instruction can be tailored to meet individual student needs. According to Hattie and Timperley (2007), formative feedback is essential for closing the gap between current and desired performance. By incorporating regular formative assessments, educators can offer timely interventions and support that address students' specific learning challenges. Summative assessments, on the other hand, provide a comprehensive evaluation of student learning at the end of an instructional period. They are critical for certifying achievements, making decisions about progression, and evaluating the effectiveness of instructional strategies. As Harlen and James (2020) note, summative assessments help educators understand the cumulative impact of their teaching and inform decisions regarding curriculum and instructional adjustments. Balancing formative and summative assessments ensures that both the ongoing and cumulative aspects of student learning are addressed, supporting a more

holistic evaluation process. The integration of technology further enhances the efficiency and effectiveness of the evaluation process. Digital tools can streamline data collection, analysis, and feedback, making the evaluation process more accessible and comprehensive. According to Redecker (2017), technology-enhanced assessments provide richer data on student performance and support more personalized and adaptive learning experiences. Tools such as learning management systems, online quizzes, and digital portfolios can facilitate continuous feedback and allow for more dynamic and interactive assessment methods.

Moreover, adopting a holistic approach to assessment that includes continuous feedback and reflective practices can lead to significant improvements in student outcomes. Bennett (2020) emphasizes that a comprehensive assessment strategy, incorporating both formative and summative components, along with reflective practices, supports deeper learning and fosters a growth mindset. Reflective practices encourage students to critically analyze their learning experiences, set realistic goals, and develop strategies for improvement, thereby enhancing their overall educational experience.

Integrating formative and summative assessments with technology and reflective practices also aligns with current trends in educational research that advocate for a more nuanced and supportive approach to evaluation. For instance, Black and Wiliam (2018) argue that formative assessments, when used effectively, can significantly impact student achievement by providing actionable feedback that guides both teaching and learning. Similarly, Gikandi, Morrow, and Davis (2011) highlight the benefits of diverse assessment methods, including peer and self-assessment, in fostering a more inclusive and engaging learning environment. In summary, the implications of this study for educational practice emphasize the need for a balanced and integrated approach to assessment. By combining formative and summative evaluations, leveraging technology, and incorporating reflective practices, educators can enhance the effectiveness of the evaluation process, support student learning, and improve overall educational quality. Adopting these strategies can lead

to more accurate assessments, better student outcomes, and a more dynamic and responsive educational environment.

### **CONCLUSION**

Evaluation plays a pivotal role in advancing student improvement and educational excellence. Formative assessments, by providing ongoing feedback, enable educators to adapt instruction to meet individual student needs and foster continuous learning. Summative assessments, meanwhile, offer a comprehensive measure of student achievement, crucial for certifying accomplishments and guiding educational decisions. The integration of technology enhances the evaluation process by facilitating efficient data collection and supporting personalized, adaptive learning experiences. Reflective practices contribute to a culture of continuous improvement, empowering both students and educators to critically assess and enhance their learning and teaching strategies. Ensuring fairness and inclusivity in evaluation practices is essential for maintaining high educational standards and addressing the diverse needs of all learners. Adopting a balanced approach that combines these elements can lead to more accurate assessments, better student outcomes, and a more dynamic and responsive educational environment. This comprehensive approach to evaluation not only improves educational practices but also supports the overall development and success of students.

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