

## The Role of Formative Feedback in Curriculum Materials: Improving Learning Outcomes Through Continuous Assessment

Vrisantya Ika Putri<sup>1</sup>, Yesi Cahya Palupi<sup>2</sup>, Yuli Alfi Laili<sup>3</sup>, Dian Arief Pradana<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1,2,3,4</sup> Fakultas Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris, Universitas 17 Agustus 1945  
Banyuwangi

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### Abstract

In education, formative feedback is essential for developing an effective curriculum. This formative feedback can help teachers evaluate progress in understanding the material that has been given and can adjust learning methods to suit students' needs. This way students can see what they are doing well and know what needs to be improved, thus increasing their confidence and motivating them to learn. This research uses qualitative methods to understand how formative feedback is applied in the learning process. The results show that it can improve academic achievement and help students develop critical thinking skills. In addition, formative feedback, which serves as an assessment tool, also serves to create a collaborative and responsive learning atmosphere. Thus, formative feedback in the curriculum is essential to achieve learning outcomes and create better learning experiences for all students.

### Keywords

*Formative Feedback; Continuous Assessment; Learning Outcomes; Curriculum; Teaching effectiveness*

### (\*)Corresponding Author

Vrisantya Ika Putri

Fakultas Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris, Universitas 17 Agustus 1945  
Banyuwangi; [vrisantyaputri@gmail.com](mailto:vrisantyaputri@gmail.com)

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Formative feedback is essential for education, especially for producing effective curriculum materials. It helps evaluate and improve learning on an ongoing basis. Formative feedback in a dynamic education system allows teachers to find out more about what students understand and are able to do. As such, formative feedback allows teachers to change their teaching methods and materials to better suit students' needs.

In addition, formative feedback helps students understand their strengths and weaknesses in learning. Constructive feedback helps students find areas that need improvement and plan concrete actions to improve their learning outcomes. This



process increases students' desire to learn and boosts their self-confidence. In addition, incorporating formative feedback into the curriculum can lead to a more collaborative learning environment. Students are encouraged to give each other feedback and share their thoughts and experiences. This results in a mutually supportive learning culture where everyone feels responsible for the learning process of their peers. Therefore, formative feedback is essential for creating a positive and productive educational environment beyond just being an assessment tool.

Formative feedback, in contrast to summative feedback, which focuses more on the end result of learning, assists students' learning process and assesses their progress. Formative feedback becomes an important tool that keeps students informed about their progress. In addition, formative feedback serves as a link between instruction and learning. When students receive constructive feedback, they are more likely to be actively involved in the learning process. This creates a positive learning culture and encourages students to try harder to achieve their goals. There are many ways to implement formative feedback into the curriculum. One way is to provide easy-to-understand assessment rubrics that help students understand the success criteria. Student assessments and group discussions can also be a great way to get constructive feedback. In addition, educators can use technology to provide faster and more efficient feedback.

According to many studies, effective formative feedback can improve student learning outcomes. For example, in a study conducted by Hattie and Timperley (2007), it was found that appropriate and specific feedback can significantly improve students' academic achievement. Good feedback helps students recognize their mistakes and understand what they should do to correct them. Formative feedback also helps students become better at their metacognitive skills as it helps them reflect on their learning process, find useful learning strategies, and adjust their methods. Not only do students gain better learning outcomes, but this process also prepares them to become independent learners in the future.

In an increasingly competitive era of education, it is important for educators to use formative feedback as a tool to improve student learning outcomes. It allows students to feel more engaged and motivated in their learning process through continuous assessment and constructive criticism. Therefore, formative feedback is not just an assessment tool, but also an important part of creating an effective and student-responsive curriculum.

## **2. METHODS**

This research uses qualitative research methods. Qualitative research is a research method used to understand social phenomena or human behavior by exploring the meaning, perceptions, and views of in-depth subjects. This method has the main characteristics of research such as, descriptive and exploratory approaches, unstructured data, thematic and narrative analysis data, researchers must also play an

active role in data collection and interact with subjects to understand the context better and clearly.

### 3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This assessment is used to measure students' understanding of the learning material provided. This goal makes it easier for educators to evaluate, to what extent students can understand the concepts given by educators, whether students can apply it appropriately or not. Through this, educators can also assess the ability of each learner, thus educators can find out the weaknesses and strengths of each learner, so that educators can easily develop which strategies will be effective in their application.

Educators can know and measure students' ability to calculate, solve problems, or communicate. This assessment provides an opportunity for learners to evaluate themselves, reflect on their learning progress and find out how far they have come. By receiving feedback and assessment from educators, learners can monitor their own progress, evaluate themselves and then benchmark themselves to do better in the future. Types of assessment commonly used in learning include formative assessment and summative assessment. Here is a further description of the two types of assessment:

#### a. Formative Assessment

Formative assessment is an assessment conducted to determine student understanding and progress during the learning process as continuous feedback to students. This assessment is conducted during the learning process to identify their strengths and weaknesses, as well as to provide educators with the right direction to improve learning and provide data for teachers to adjust teaching system methods and learning strategies. Here are some examples of formative assessment methods, including:

##### 1) Formative test

This test is conducted to measure how much students understand the material that has been learned. Formative tests are usually in the form of multiple choice questions, short form questions, or questions that provide opportunities for students to implement concepts that have been learned.

##### 2) Observation

Observations can be made during the learning process to observe and record student behavior, activeness and understanding. The observation can be done by direct observation, interview or peer assessment.

##### 3) Group Discussion

Assessment by group discussion can provide opportunities for students to share thoughts or ideas and as feedback to each other.

#### b. Summative Assessment

Summative assessment is an evaluation carried out to assess the final results of the learning process to determine how much students understand about the material taught. This assessment provides an overview of the extent to

which students achieve the learning objectives have been designed. The main purpose of summative assessment is to provide a final assessment to reflect on students' understanding and skills. Here are some examples of summative assessment methods, including:

1) Final Exam

A final exam that includes several questions covering all the material that has been learned. This exam can be done with a written test, oral test, or a combination of the two, as convenient between the educator and the student.

2) Final Project

The final project can be done by involving students in activities that apply the knowledge or skills they have learned. The project may involve a presentation, research, or creative work that demonstrates an in-depth application of the learning material.

3) Portfolio

Portfolios can be defined as a collection of student work tasks that are documented regularly. The content of this portfolio assessment will be the teacher's main focus in the learning process a feedback assessment for students.

Both assessments go hand in hand and have an important role in the learning process. Where formative assessment is able to provide continuous feedback to students by improving their understanding and skills during the learning process. Meanwhile, summative assessment is able to provide an overview or evaluation of students' overall achievement during learning. With both assessments done in balance, teachers or students can both optimize the learning process. The final results can be used effectively to increase students' interest in learning. Although carried out at different times, formative and summative assessment is a model of assessment that is easy to implement, especially in the knowledge aspect because the knowledge model involves all aspects depending on the tool or model implemented.

The concept of feedback provides achievement to students in the form of test results that they have done during learning activities. This feedback will not occur if there is no learning process regarding the results of student work in correcting weaknesses in understanding the information that has been obtained from the explanation (Malino, 2019). As information provided to students regarding performance, formative feedback aims to improve the learning process and facilitators of improvement.

While formative feedback focuses on the learning process and improvement, summative feedback assesses the end result of learning after it has been completed. feedback improves the learning process, provides information that can be used for immediate improvement and encourages reflection on skill development. Formative assessment encourages students to think critically about their learning. Reflecting on their understanding as well as suitable learning strategies to improve themselves.

Teachers as facilitators integrate the previous curriculum by adapting the curriculum but the application of formative assessment in this curriculum is done continuously, not just at the end of a lesson. This assessment involves active between students and teachers. Such communication is important to ensure that students understand the feedback given. It helps students understand how understanding is being achieved.

The formative and summative assessment process not only measures students' academic achievement, but also their character development. Continuous assessment helps students to improve themselves and develop reflective and responsible attitudes. Implementation of the curriculum by integrating character values into every aspect of learning and teaching modules in accordance with the needs and characteristics of the school and as positive feedback to students.

#### 4. CONCLUSIONS

Feedback is very important in education because it can help improve student learning outcomes, among other things, it can increase understanding for teachers to find out how well students understand the material being studied. This allows teachers to adjust teaching methods and materials according to students' needs. In addition, formative feedback makes students aware of their shortcomings and. Students are asked to give each other feedback and share their thoughts and, creating a learning culture that supports each other, making the learning environment more collaborative. And there are many ways to implement formative feedback into the curriculum, such as group discussions, conducting student assessments and using easy-to-understand assessment rubrics. As well as being able to utilize technology to provide faster and more efficient feedback. Thus, in today's era evolving education, it is important for teachers to use formative feedback as a tool improve student learning outcomes through continuous assessment and constructive criticism. Therefore, formative feedback is not just an assessment tool but also an important part of creating an effective and student-responsive curriculum.

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