English 162 Student Learning Outcome Assessment

SLO(s) to Assess

The student will:

1. Identify stated and implied main ideas and supporting details in various readings, such as essays, newspaper and magazine articles, textbooks, short novels or nonfiction works.
2. Identify the differences between fact and opinion, make appropriate inferences and draw reasonable conclusions.
3. Identify the thesis and understand the organizational pattern in longer works.
4. Use context clues, word analysis, and the dictionary to increase reading vocabulary.
5. Use the appropriate study skills for college course work, including summarizing, outlining, and taking notes from texts.

Assessment Method
A common final exam will be given to at least 4 sections of English 162. The items on the final exam will correlate with the skill items mentioned in the course learning outcome. After the exam, data will be gathered to find out the percentage of students meeting the skills by answering those specific question items on the exam. Based on the results, emphasis will be given to the skills that students had most difficulty with in the exam.

SLO #5 will not be assessed at this time; however, as part of the ongoing assessment, it will be assessed later.

Assessment Results

Selection #1

![Percent of Skills Incorrect (Selection #1) (n=84)](image)

Selection #2
Analysis:
The four classes were given two different selections with both selections assessing the same skills. Eighty-four students participated in the common final.

Based on the two charts above, we can see that students have not mastered the skill of inference at the end of the semester. All other skills vary only slightly from one selection to the other except for purpose and tone skills where the results vary greatly from the first to the second selection. This could be due to the difficulty-level of the selections.

We can conclude that the skill of inference has to be emphasized more for mastery to occur. What we plan to do is emphasize teaching inferencing skill with different techniques and do a similar test again to see if it helped students master this skill.

We also plan to assess the skill of implied main ideas and summary writing at our next assessment tool as that is part of the course SLOs.

**Improvement Plan**
The goal is to continue to assess the inferencing skill after teaching it with more emphasis and different techniques. Additionally, Implied Main Idea and Summary writing will also be assessed as these two skills were not included in this common final.