

## **Quick Tips for Teachers: Five Ways to Prepare Students for the QAT**

Below are just a few quick suggestions for how to prepare your students for the QAT. While none are compulsory, teachers are encouraged to try different methods and to choose what works in your classroom.

1. **Conduct multiple practice exams prior to the actual exam.** You can give one practice exam in the first month of the school year to familiarize students with the test format of the QAT. You can also conduct a practice exam in the six weeks prior to the actual QAT to see which SLOs they are weak in, and give them some extra support in those topics before the actual QAT.
2. **Incorporate past QAT exam questions into homework assignments.** QAT questions can be easily incorporated into the homework you assign. To do this, go through the previous QATs and identify which questions are related to which SLOs. As you go through the curriculum, when you teach a certain SLO, include the past QAT exam questions related to that SLO as part of homework. This can be done at least twice a week.
3. **Incorporate past QAT exam questions into class tests.** Similarly to the previous suggestion, when you teach a SLO, you can use past QAT exam questions on that SLO in your classroom tests. This can be done at least once a month.
4. **Give students a “QAT Question of the Day” as a warm-up exercise to the class.** Choose a question from a previous QAT exam that tests an SLO *that you have already taught*. Write it on the blackboard. If you do not have a blackboard, you can read it out loud to the class. In the first five to ten minutes of class, have students work on this question as a warm-up exercise and go through the answer explanation. This can be done at least once a week.
5. **Give a practice QAT exam as an assignment (“take-home test”).** If you don’t have time to give the practice test in the classroom, another way that you can make your students familiar with the QAT is by giving the exam as a “take-home test”, where students have a few weeks to complete the test at home. They would treat it as if it were a longer homework assignment, and you can even allow them to use their notes and textbook to complete the test. You can give it as “extra” or “bonus credit”, meaning that for completion, the student will receive some bonus points on a homework or test grade. This can be done at least once before the actual QAT.