The Importance of Technology-Enhanced Items

Tech-enhanced items, or TEIs, are assessment questions that utilize interactive elements. The diverse and engaging ways in which a student can interact with these questions allows for a more thorough and deep assessment of a given standard. Like traditional constructed response items, TEIs force students to produce their own content rather than selecting the correct answer or guessing from a given list. However, unlike a traditional constructed response, the experience can become autoscored and formative. TEIs allow content creation to go beyond written responses, prompting students to draw pictures, place items into different categories, and move objects around the screen.

TEIs range in complexity from simple multi-select items to fully-interactive graphing items, multimedia analysis, and drag and drop. Even simple content selection is improved by allowing text highlighting functionality. Tech-savvy students will be familiar with many of the different elements like drop-down menus and dragging and dropping items on a screen, which make these assessments engaging for the 21st century learner.

For a sample of various TEI interactivity visit our Technology Enhanced Assessment Bank demo page.