What are Cooperative Quizzes?

- Cooperative/Collaborative/Group quizzes are assessment tools that are commonly used as part of a larger assessment, rather than the only component. Many instructors use cooperative quizzes as the last part of the assessment, which typically starts with an individual multiple-choice quiz.

- One way that cooperative quizzes are used is to review material. After the individual quiz, students are assigned to small groups, to re-take either the whole quiz or just the most challenging sections. Each group is must complete a single answer sheet and every member of the group will get the same score.

- The student's final quiz grade is a combination of their individual score and the group score. The weight of each section will be determined by the instructor, and his/her emphasis on individual and on group knowledge. A common breakdown is to assign 50-75% of the grade to the individual score, while the group score might make up the remaining 50-25%.

What are some possibilities for group arrangements?

- **Self-selection**: *Pros*: easy, fast. *Cons*: students tend to prefer homogeneous groups, which may lead to fewer positive outcomes for students (Cohen, 1994).

- **Size**: It has been argued that the best cooperative learning groups are small enough to allow for face-to-face interaction, and, crucially, to allow for each student to have an opportunity to participate in the process. The ‘ideal’ numbers are usually argued to be 2-4 students (Millis and Cottell, 1998, cited in Slusser & Erickson).

- **Group structure**: As a general rule, groups that are heterogeneous by race, sex, and ability tend to have more positive outcomes (Cohen, 1994).

- **Permanence**: Some scholars argue that an important element for successful group interaction is group processing: the opportunity for students to evaluate their performance over time. If groups always change, it is harder to evaluate progress. If cooperative quizzes are given weekly, a possibility is to let students remain in groups for 4-5 weeks, and then change.

**Sources:**
