

This video focuses on the two parallel concepts of equality and equity in terms of assessment. These are similar terms, but have subtly different meanings. We will highlight some of the benefits, but also some of the challenges associated with each concept.

Firstly Equality in Assessment:

One of the key issues is that of offering Equal Treatment to all students: Equality in assessment refers to treating all students in the same way, providing them with the same resources, opportunities, and conditions for assessment.

Next is the adopting of a Uniform Approach: In an equal assessment system, every student, regardless of their individual needs, backgrounds, or circumstances, is subjected to the same assessment methods, conditions, and requirements.

However, a Potential Pitfall is that while equality promotes fairness on the surface, it doesn't consider that students have different starting points and may require different levels of support to succeed. It can inadvertently lead to unfair outcomes for some students, particularly those who face disadvantages.

Instead it is potentially better to consider Equity in Assessment:

The main benefit is Fairness and Inclusivity: Equity in assessment focuses on ensuring that all students have an equal opportunity to succeed by addressing individual differences and providing necessary support for the, to achieve that.

Next is the consideration of Tailored Support: Equity in assessment acknowledges that students may have varying needs, backgrounds, and abilities and aims to level the playing field by offering tailored support and accommodations.

Equity in assessment Promotes Fair Outcomes: By providing equitable assessment practices, the goal is to achieve fair outcomes for all students, regardless of their starting points or circumstances.

Importantly, there is an Emphasis on Access: Equity in assessment prioritises access to opportunities and success, recognizing that not all students start from the same place and may require different pathways to reach their educational goals.