#### Nine Formative Evaluation Techniques to Build Effective Learning Solutions



### **Rationale for workshop**

#### **Formative evaluation**

- Additional structure for your formative evaluations
- Confidence to ensure deliverables
- Improve the impact of your learning solutions



### Takeaways

- Concept map
- Techniques job aid
- Three design templates
- Small group feedback
- Pilot feedback
- Implementation communication plan
- Generative AI prompts to learn more about formative evaluation



All about improving your learning solutions

- 1. Define
- 2. When to use
- 3. Who evaluates
- 4. Formative evaluation techniques
- 5. Wrap-up



All about improving your learning solutions

#### 1. Define



#### **Evaluation vs. assessment**

# Solutions are evaluated (value is judged)

People are assessed to discover their characteristics and competencies.



### **Formative evaluation**

A process used to improve the

- Feasibility
- Effectiveness
- Clarity
- Impact
- of learning solutions

before implementation

|--|

### **Summative evaluation**

A process used to validate

- Effectiveness
- Impact

of learning solutions after implementation

Should we continue the learning solution(s)?



#### Why Connect with Others?



# "When the **cook** tastes the soup, that's formative."

"When the **guests** taste the soup, that's summative."

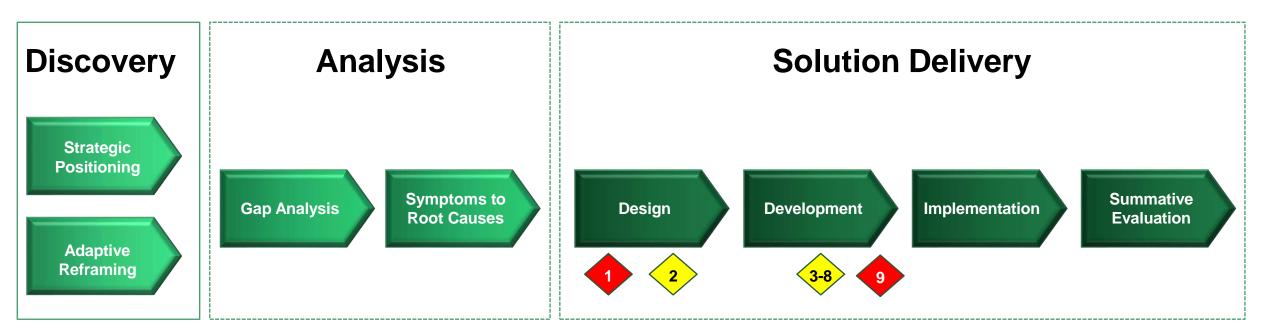
#### — Bob Stake

All about improving your learning solutions

- 1. Define
- 2. When to use



# **Performance Solution Process**



#### **Formative Evaluation Techniques**

#### Design

1

High-level Design Approval

Detail Design Review

#### **Development**

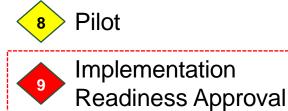
Subject-Matter Expert Walkthrough

Learner Walkthrough

Usability Testing

Technical Editing

Small-Group Session



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All about improving your learning solutions

- 1. Define
- 2. When to use
- 3. Who evaluates



### Who evaluates?

Subject-matter experts Design experts Technical editors Sponsors Experienced performers New performers



### Who evaluates?

Often mastered by trial-and-error

Practice skills often

Have trouble explaining how they learned

May have trouble explaining what they do (especially if it is a mental process)

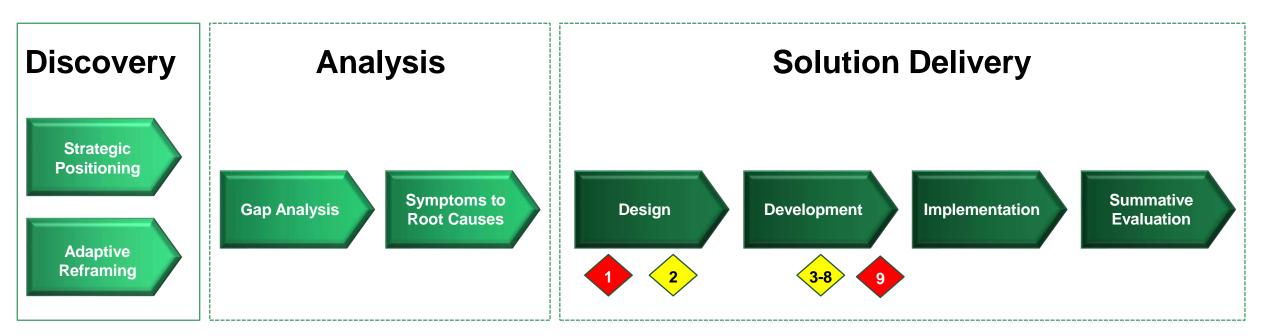


All about improving your learning solutions

- 1. Define
- 2. When to use
- 3. Who evaluates
- 4. Formative evaluation techniques



# **Performance Solution Process**



#### **Formative Evaluation Techniques**

#### Design



High-level Design Approval

Detail Design Review

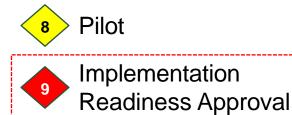
#### **Development**



Learner Walkthrough

- Usability Testing
- Technical Editing

Small-Group Session

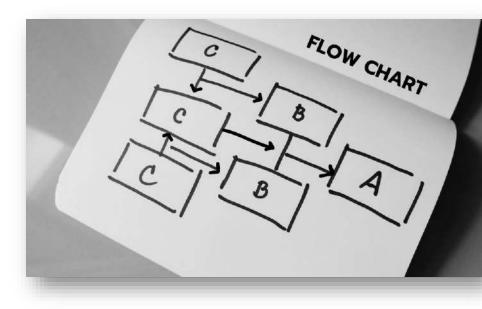


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# Technique 1: High-level design approval

- 1. Learners
  - Environment
  - Tasks
- 2. Learning goals
- 3. Modules
  - Purpose
  - Delivery
  - Duration
- 4. Sequence

- 5. Assessment plans
- 6. Evaluation plans
  - Formative
  - Summative
- 7. Other deliverables
- 8. Maintenance



#### Template

#### High-level design template Informal version

# Technique 2: Detailed design approval

- 1. Learning objectives
- 2. Module topics
  - Topics alignment with objectives
  - Content in topics
  - Instructor / Learner directives
  - Content development
    resources
  - Topic duration
- 3. Final deliverables
- 4. Assessment



#### Template

#### Detailed design template

### Technique 3: SME walkthrough

- 1. Content
  - Is it right?
  - Is it complete?
  - Is it relevant for the audience?
- 2. Module and topic sequence
- 3. Exercises
- 4. Assessment



## **Technique 4: Learner walkthrough**

- 1. Overall experience
  - Usability
  - Clarity
  - Engagement
  - Effectiveness
  - Sequence
  - Timing
- 2. Exercises
- 3. Assessments



## **Technique 5: Usability testing**

- 1. Navigation
- 2. Interactivity
- 3. Timing
- 4. UI visual appeal
- 5. Error messages
- 6. Consistency
- 7. Accessibility
- 8. Performance (page/feature load)
- 9. User satisfaction



# **Technique 6: Technical editing**

- 1. Spelling, grammar, and syntax
- 2. Clarity and conciseness
- 3. Consistency
- 4. Formatting and layout
- 5. Logical flow
- Technical quality (accuracy, completeness, and current)
- 7. Clarity of instructions

- 8. Audience appropriateness
- 9. Visual elements(labels and alt text)
- 10. Citations and references
- 11. Accessibility of content
- 12. Cross-references
- 13. Alignment with the design

## **Technique 7: Small-group session**

- 1. Content delivery
- 2. Delivery timing
- 3. Technical editing
- 4. Exercises
- 5. Assessments (pre- and posttesting for comprehension and learning)



#### Template

#### Small group feedback template

### **Technique 8: Pilot**

- 1. Content delivery
- 2. Delivery timing
- 3. Technical editing
- 4. Exercises
- 5. Assessments (pre- and posttesting for comprehension and learning)



#### Template

#### Pilot feedback template

### **Technique 9: Implementation readiness approval**

- 1. Deliverable approval
- 2. Communication plan approval
- 3. Schedule
- 4. Monitoring plan
- 5. Summative evaluation plan



#### Template

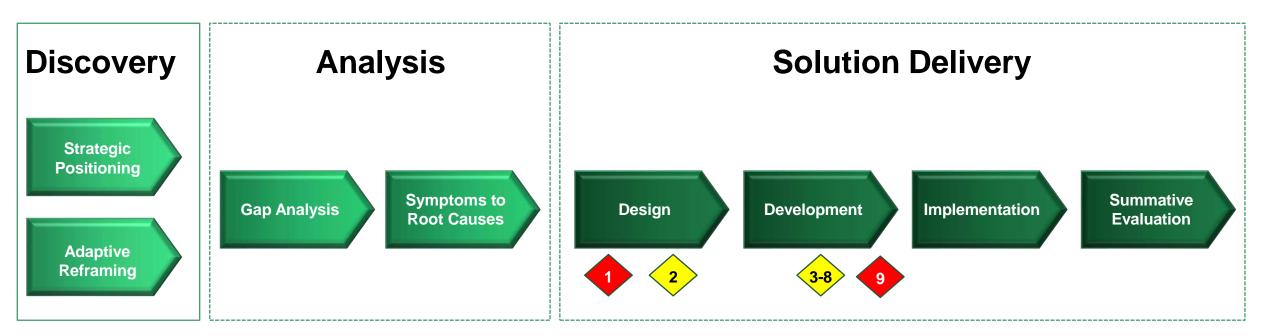
#### Communication plan template

All about improving your learning solutions

- 1. Define
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# **Performance Solution Process**



#### **Formative Evaluation Techniques**

#### Design



High-level Design Approval

Detail Design Review

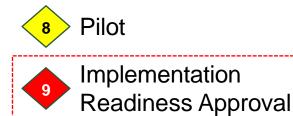
#### **Development**



Learner Walkthrough

- Usability Testing
- Technical Editing

Small-Group Session



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