Transcription: What is Assessment for Learning?

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Assessment for learning, is assessment that takes place while the learner is still engaged in the learning process. It's what we also call formative assessment, which operates in opposition to summative assessment, which as the terms implies, is assessment which sums up what the learner has just achieved. Which is very important, of course, and most of us when we think about summative assessment will think about qualifications, exams and so on.

So, a really important element to assessment for learning, I would say, is that it enables the learner to get feedback while they're still engaged in the learning process. Any errors or misconceptions which then become apparent can be addressed by the learner before they're summatively assessed, which gives them a better chance of attainment. It gives them the opportunity to improve their potential.