Top tips for authentic assessment design. Focus on processes and integrity.

The authentic assessment guided design template (downloadable here), includes a set of questions that can help with the design of AI resistant tasks. From that same link, you can find authentic assessment annotated template examples. Below you can find a summary of the key ideas underpinning the template:

1. Consider the process of assessing not as a stand-alone activity at the end of a teaching period, but as embedded in the teaching. Create opportunities for students to engage in class activities that are built around the assessment type (e.g. provide practice time, Q&A slots, time to present/discuss drafts).

2. Include opportunities for formative feedback and iterative work on an assignment. By doing so students will need to document the process as well as produce an outcome. For example, you can scaffold practice by setting shorter term goals and asking students to post elements of their draft weekly in a log (available on Moodle for example).

3. Articulate your assignment so that it includes a component where students need to 'defend' and/or discuss their work via a group Q&A or short presentation (live or recorded). Examples can be found in the annotated template here.

4. Make sure that in the brief you specify that students need to use examples from class resources and discussions in order to articulate their reasoning. Alternatively, ask them to make links to specific contexts and to produce work addressing different audiences and communicative styles.

5. Ask students to include a commentary/reflection about how they arrived at their final outcome/submission. This will be ideally linked back to the weekly class discussions and/or logs.

Rather than trying to detect plagiarism or unacceptable use of AI, let's shift the focus to the process of engaging with a task through a continuous input/revision cycle, a practice-based element and an idea of iterative learning that mirrors real-life practices.

You can find a comprehensive bank of authentic assessments exemplars from the University of Greenwich here.