Advice on Short Writing Assignments

1. Importance of assigning short assignments
2. Types of short assignments:
   - Summaries
   - Concept or principle explanations
   - Response papers
   - Limited sources-research papers
3. Key instructional design principles
   - Being explicit about type of paper and corresponding form/structure expected (If you have an ideal structure in mind, share it with them...If I were to do this paper, I would...).
   - Keeping some feedback consistent—thesis statement, introduction, conclusions, essay structure, vocabulary/sentence-level clarity, use of evidence, grammar (Consider using a feedback form that stays consistent with a lickert scale and a place for comments).

Assignment sheet: What to include...
   - Purpose
   - Basic requirements
   - Name the form: Analytic essay, argument, explication, response paper, explanation, summary, research paper, lab report.
   - Structure requirements (the ideal paper you have in your head...reminders about basics of good writing in your discipline)
   - Particular grammar or style issues you want them to focus on (e.g. passive or active voice, present or past tense, quotation or paraphrase, concision)
   - Process hints: How to begin, warnings about possible pitfalls, etc.