Assessment Approaches

Start with a standard—describe what your student should know and be able to do.

Choose a way for the student to demonstrate that competence. Here is a list of different ways to assess. It is best to use more than one kind of assessment so that students have a fair chance to demonstrate competence and also so that teachers can figure out what students’ strengths and needs are.

a) ___ Students solve problems applying skills and concepts
b) ___ Students write explanation of steps to solve problems
c) ___ Students write questions (and answers)
d) ___ Students read text independently, write summary
e) ___ Students write explanation of why they choose an answer (multiple choice)
f) ___ Students write independently
g) ___ Students edit written material, correcting errors
h) ___ Students list and define important vocabulary, use in sentences
i) ___ Students write explanation of the topic
j) ___ Students write letter to person in a history/story
k) ___ Students write translation—restate in own words
l) ___ Students write how to _____________________
m) ______________________________________________________
n) ______________________________________________________
o) ______________________________________________________
p) ______________________________________________________

You can use a rubric with some of these, and you also can use a very simple system:

* Meets: it’s clear, accurate, complete
  * Fix: make it clearer; correct error; add missing part

More Resources: http://teacher.depaul.edu Polk Bros. Foundation Teacher Leadership Network DePaul Center for Urban Education and Assessment ©2003