

Dissecting Descriptions

Rationale: Using information about the assessment center prompts provided by the National Board will help candidates prepare and feel more resourceful. This activity provides a scaffold for candidates to use in transcribing NB language into action plans for study and preparation.



Management

Time: 30 minutes

Materials: 3 copies of handout WS3.A2.H1 for each participant; each candidate will need exercise descriptions for his/her certificate area (available online from <http://boardcertifiedteachers.org/first-time-candidates>); highlighters.

Equipment: None required. LCD & computer optional if using WS3 PowerPoint.

Grouping: Group by certificate areas, if possible

Outcomes:

- Participants will have a list of resources to consult to prepare for the assessment center.
- Participants will have a better understanding of what they know and need to learn about topics covered at the assessment center.

Instructions to NB Candidate Support Provider:

1. Review the description for the first assessment center exercise. Highlight key terms. (3 minutes)
2. With a partner, or in cohort groups, have each candidate rephrase what they will need to know and write about for this exercise. (3-10 minutes)
3. Have candidates fill in a worksheet (WS3.A2.H1) for the first exercise description. (3 minutes)
4. With a partner, or in cohort groups, talk about plans and resources. Encourage brainstorming among participants to add to action plans and/or resources. (5-15 minutes)
5. Repeat, as time permits, for each of the 6 exercise descriptions.

Processing:

- What resources might prove most valuable in preparing for the assessment center.

Follow-up:

Read: NB "Component 1 Content Knowledge Assessment Center Policy and Guidelines."

Read: NB "Component 1 At-A-Glance" document.

Read: NB Certificate Specific Component 1 Instructions.