

Response to Observation and Practice(RtOP)

To help you synthesize your observations during the semester you will be required to submit “Response to Observation/Practice” (RtOP) reflections.

There are 4 necessary components for each of your RtOP reflections.

1. First, **OBSERVE**

There are a series of observation tools that you will be provided that assist you in looking at classroom practice in a purposeful way. When you observe, you will collect data by using each tool to help you make sense of what you are seeing, what it means and questions that may emerge for you. Additionally, this process will help you with the CONNECT to Standard, Text and Self portion of the RtOP written below. You will attach this completed form with each RtOP and submit it within the required timeline in order to receive credit.

2. Second, **CONNECT to Standard** -

In a written response, you will synthesize 5 of your observations by connecting the experience to one of the *TExES Secondary and All Levels Professional Development Standards*:

- Standard I: The teacher designs instruction appropriate for all students that reflects an understanding of relevant content and is based on continuous and appropriate assessment.
- Standard II: The teacher creates a classroom environment of respect and rapport that foster a positive climate for learning, equity and excellence.
- Standard III: The teacher promotes student learning by providing responsive instruction that makes use of effective communication techniques, instructional strategies that actively engage students in the learning process, and timely, high-quality feedback.
- Standard IV: The teacher fulfills professional roles and responsibilities and adheres to legal and ethical requirements of the profession.

For your RtOP, create the heading: “Connect to Standard,” and in this section you will need to examine the standards and select one to discuss in light of your observation/practice. How does the standard speak to what you observed, saw or did? Be specific and give a detailed discussion that thoroughly demonstrates your understanding of the standard you selected. Keep in mind, that you are expected to use all 4 standards at least once over the course of the semester; however, there is not a particular order you must go in—just make sure you address each of them thoroughly.

3. Third, **CONNECT to Text**

Under the heading: “Connect to Text” and in this section you will connect your experience to one or more of the course readings. How do the readings speak to what you are observing or doing? What are the contradictions and/or challenges? How do the readings help you understand what you are observing, doing and/or thinking about? Make sure you properly cite your response in APA or MLA style. No excuses about APA or MLA formatting.

See <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/> for an excellent resource.

4. Fourth, **CONNECT to Self**

Finally, for each RtOP, under the heading: “Connect to Self,” you are expected to connect what you have observed yourself. What are you learning about yourself? What are you learning about teaching elementary, middle, and/or high school? How does this awareness inform your notion of teaching and learning—that is, what it appears to be and what it can be? So, to recap, each RtOP should have the following components with appropriate section headings:

- **Connection to Standard**
- **Connection to Text**
- **Connection to Self**
- **Attached Observation Tool**