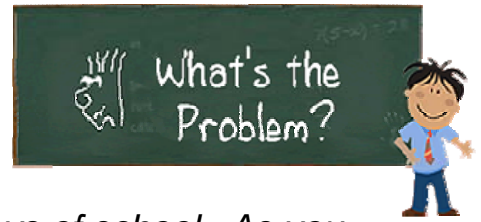


# Teacher Instructions:



**Problem Scenario:** “Testing Time”

**The Main Problem:** *You are the teacher on the first days of school. As you review what the class will be learning throughout the year, you must decide what kind of “assessment” (i.e. testing) to give your students. What is the purpose of giving tests, and which kinds are the best?*

Your students will be viewing this problem from an **integrated** perspective.



## **How should your students be tested?**

*Students will review how standards are used to measure student progress, as well as different testing options, and then decide on the most effective assessment plans.*

## **Step 1**

**Review  
Stimulus  
Items**

**Stimulus Item #1 — “How Standards Measure Progress” (video)**  
**Stimulus Item #2— “A Guide to Assessment” (Article A)**  
**Stimulus Item #3— “Pros/Cons of Standardized Tests” (Article B)**  
*A low-readability option has been provided so students in lower grades can participate in this problem scenario*  
**ALTERNATE Stimulus and Activity for Lower Grades —  
“Toy Testing” (videos and activity)**

*\*\*Students should take notes as they review the Stimulus Items*

## **Step 2**

**Classroom  
Discussion**

Lead a **class discussion** about issues related to the topic.  
You are being provided a sheet to help you guide the classroom discussion.

**Extended Responses:** Have students answer the following questions. Remind students to use information from the Stimulus Items to support their response.

## **Step 3**

**Student  
Response**

- 1. What is the purpose for testing (or “assessing”) students in school? What are the ultimate goals?**
- 2. What types of assessments and tests work best for students, and why?**

*\*\*\*students should have access to their notes as they enter their answers*

*\*\*\*students may also have access to the Stimulus Items as they enter their answers*

**EXTENDED PRODUCT (Optional):** On the first days of the school year, a teacher usually shares his or her plan for assessing students throughout the year. Have your students “step into the shoes” of the teacher. They must **outline the testing plan** that they will share with the students. This should include a broad overview of the types of tests that will be used, as well as the overall purpose that the testing will serve. Another option is for the “student teachers” to **write a letter home to parents** that introduces the testing policy.

## **Step 4**

**Analysis**

Rubrics to grade student entries have been provided, and all questions have been mapped to the content standards.