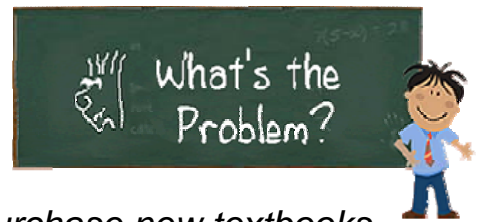# Teacher Instructions:

Problem Scenario: *"Digital or Print"*

The Main Problem: *Every few years, school districts purchase new textbooks. In recent years, some textbook companies have been offering their textbooks completely online rather than the traditional print version. You are on the "textbook committee" for your school district. You must consider the issues involved with online textbooks. Are they a better option for the district?*

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

Online Textbooks - Yea or Nay?

Students will review the pros and cons of online textbooks, and then decide whether they would better serve students

---

Step ① Review Stimulus Items

Stimulus Item #1 — "School District Goes Online" (video)

Stimulus Item #2— "Digital vs. Print" (online discussion forum)

Stimulus Item #3— "E-Books Come Up Short" (article)

**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.

1. **What are the positive and negative outcomes of using online textbooks rather than printed versions?**

2. **After measuring the pros and cons, should your school district switch to online textbooks? What are the deciding factors?**

Step ③ Student Response

***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): Divide your students into groups. Each group is a **"textbook committee"** that is going to be purchasing textbooks for the district. The first decision they must make is whether they are going to buy online textbooks or traditional printed books. After weighing the options (many pros and cons have been provided within the stimulus items), the committees must write a 1-page **letter to parents** to announce their decision, and also explain why it is in the best interest of the students.

Step ④ Analysis

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