



Teachscape
focus

Observation Training and Assessment System





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Establish Proficiency and Maintain Skills



Teachscape *Focus* is based on Charlotte Danielson's Framework for Teaching Evaluation Instrument, 2013 Edition (also applies to the 2011 Edition), a vital element of any fair and equitable approach to teacher observation and evaluation.

Successful teacher evaluation systems start with well-trained observers who can demonstrate proficiency in conducting observations and check their scoring accuracy regularly.

Teachscape *Focus* is a complete online system that establishes proficiency in observers who use Charlotte Danielson's Framework for Teaching for evaluation of teaching, and helps observers maintain their skills over time.

- Observer training
- Scoring practice
- Initial proficiency assessment
- Calibration
- Recertification (see "*Teachscape Focus Recertification*" insert)

Observer Training: Develop Observer Expertise

- More than 20 hours of training and over 100 master-scored videos
- Videos show teaching in grades K–12 and multiple subject areas (English language arts, math, science, and social studies)
- Videos include scoring rationale, benchmark videos, and rangefinder videos
- Includes training modules that help observers minimize bias and orient teachers to the observation process

This self-paced online training was developed to help observers increase their reliability and accuracy in identifying, categorizing, and scoring evidence of teaching practice. With modules covering all four domains of the Framework for Teaching, Teachscape *Focus* training helps observers accurately differentiate teaching at all four levels of performance.

Framework for Teaching Proficiency System

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Training 2a: Creating an Environment of Respect and Rapport Print

Overview

Elements

Indicators

Identify relevant evidence

Rubric

Recognize level descriptions

Distinguish between levels

Levels of Performance

Level 3: Critical Attributes

Level 3: Sample Videos

Level 2: Critical Attributes

Level 2: Sample Videos

Level 1: Critical Attributes

Level 1: Sample Videos

Level 4: Critical Attributes

Level 4: Sample Videos

Practice gathering evidence

Assign a level

Overview

Identify relevant evidence

Having reviewed the indicators for Creating an Environment of Respect and Rapport, select whether each piece of evidence is "relevant" or "not relevant" for the component. (We discuss more examples of evidence when we discuss rubric levels in detail.) You will not be able to click on "See Answers" until you have selected an answer choice for every piece of evidence.

The teacher says, "I think most of you will be able to do this."

☒ Relevant ☐ Not relevant

Students roll their eyes at a classmate's idea; the teacher does not respond.

☐ Relevant ☒ Not relevant

The teacher asks a student to explain the task to other students.

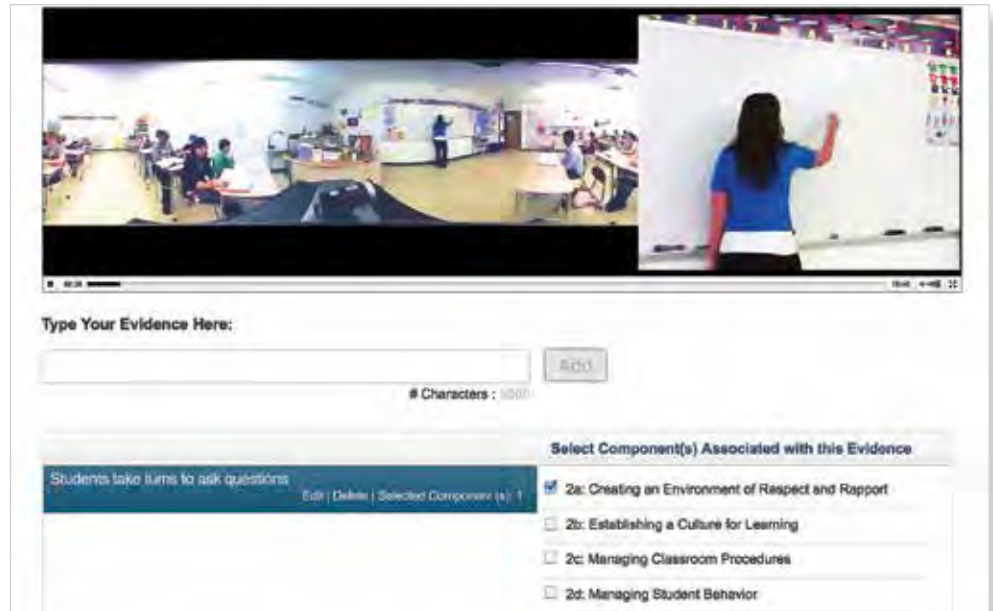
☒ Relevant ☐ Not relevant

The teacher greets students by name as they enter the class or during the lesson.

Scoring Practice: Apply Skills with Classroom Videos

Scoring practice uses master-scored videos to help prepare observers for real-world classroom observations. Observers can view and score classroom videos using rubrics, compare their scores with those assigned by a master rater, and review the rationale for the scores.

- Practice videos cover English language arts, math, and social studies or science
- Includes videos in grade levels K–5, 6–8, K–8, 9–12, and K–12
- Each practice video includes the correct scores for each component assigned by a master rater, along with rationale for the scores
- Scoring accuracy reports help identify specific components in which observers may require more training



Proficiency Assessment: Assess Observation Skills

Developed using a scientifically sound methodology, the proficiency assessment challenges observers to demonstrate that they understand and can apply the Framework for Teaching to assess classroom teaching in an accurate and consistent manner.

The proficiency assessment uses master-scored videos and multiple-choice test items to measure observers' ability to distinguish between evidence and interpretation or bias, categorize evidence to the correct component of the Framework, and assign accurate scores to classroom videos.

- Rigorous assessment measures observers' proficiency in assessing classroom practice accurately
- Five test versions: elementary, middle school, high school, K–8, and K–12
- Includes videos from several content areas, including English language arts, math, science, and social studies
- Includes proficiency analysis reports for district administrators and pass reports for observers
- Sub-skills report provides observers with feedback on specific areas of observation they may need to develop



Calibration: Maintain Observer Proficiency

Over time, even observers who have demonstrated proficiency in scoring classroom practice can experience “drift” in their accuracy. Calibration helps observers check their scoring accuracy throughout the school year, includes suggestions for improving accuracy, and helps maintain inter-rater reliability.

- Up to four calibration exercises (or “windows”) per year that take about one hour to complete and include two 15-minute master-scored videos
- Observers score each video using the eight observable components of the Framework for Teaching and compare their scores to the master scores
- Instant feedback and expert rationale are provided, along with recommendations for improving accuracy
- Includes dashboards to support coaching and collaborative learning sessions based on the observer’s individualized feedback from calibration exercises



Partnerships



Teachscape *Focus* was born out of our work with Charlotte Danielson and ETS in the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Measures of Effective Teaching (MET) project. In the MET project, Teachscape captured video from more than 3,000 classrooms and 20,000 lessons across grades 4–9 English language arts, grades 4–9 math, and grade 10 biology, and we worked with Charlotte Danielson and ETS to develop a rater training and certification system for 500 raters nationwide.

Informed by our joint work in the MET project, Teachscape, Charlotte Danielson, and ETS have partnered to create this new online training, assessment, and calibration system that is now available to all districts to help improve the accuracy and integrity of the observation and evaluation process.



To find out more about **Teachscape Focus**, call 877.98.TEACH, or visit our website at www.teachscape.com.

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