

Sample Selection Protocol

Purpose of the Protocol: To collect a range of samples that represents work from a grade level.

Prior to the Conversation: The facilitator identifies a focus question (i.e. Would you agree that this work represents the range of work – developing, on the way, exceeding – for this grade level?)

(2 minutes)

Getting Started: Select a facilitator and a timekeeper. Review the purpose of the Protocol and ground rules for this process. Be sure everyone has brought samples created by students in response to the same task. Note: student and teacher names should be removed.

(5 minutes)

Context: The facilitator offers any background information and the purpose for the assessment. The focus question is written on chart paper or board for all to see.

(5 minutes)

Review: The group members review the student work in regard to the focus question. (If student work is lengthy, the work and the focus question may be given ahead of time.)

(12 minutes)

Group Discussion: Using the focus question as their guide, group members generate their insights and observation by what they see in the work. The facilitator moderates the discussion.

(5 minutes)

The group selects and organizes two or three samples as exemplars of each level (e.g. developing, on the way, exceeding) to show the range of work found at the grade level in response to the task.

(5 minutes)

Reflection on the Conversation: The group discusses how they experienced this protocol conversation and what they learned.