

FINAL REFLECTION PAPER

As a teacher, it is important to be a reflective practitioner. Your final reflection paper should consider the entirety of your first field placement. Think about the topics described below. Even though you may differ philosophically from your cooperating teacher, it is important to be professional and positive in your reflections. All situations can be learning opportunities.

Begin with a description of your placement. Use the first paragraph of your paper for this. Include some brief information about the grade level, the physical appearance of the classroom, and some information about the students' demographics (gender, race, age, etc.) [3 pts]

Discuss the following questions [15 pts]

Classroom Community

What did the classroom teacher say and plan that established community?

Classroom Management strategies

Compare classroom management strategies you observed. What worked well and what strategies did not seem to work?

Instructional strategies

List various instructional strategies you observed during the semester. Comment about the advantages of one strategy over another.

Time management

What reminders did you see the cooperating use to keep the class on schedule?

Organization and planning

List several organization techniques you observed. Comment on the planning you observed both short term and long term. How did the two fit together?

Concluding reflections: Think about the following questions. [12 pts]

How did your placement match your own teaching style?

What ideas, techniques and models will you take away with you?

What have you learned that will make you a better teacher?

This reflection paper is worth 30 points. Length: at least 3 pages, no more than 7. Papers may be rewritten to receive up to 24 points. Points will be deducted for late assignments (late papers may not be rewritten). Up to 6 points will be deducted for spelling and grammar errors.