

Pre-Conference Questions

*Before asking the Pre-Conference Questions, be sure to make personal connections with the teacher.

1. Tell me more about the lesson I will observe.
2. What do you expect students to know and be able to do at the end of the lesson? How will you communicate this to your students?
3. Talk about the lesson structure (beginning, middle, end).
4. How is the lesson structured for students that may progress at different learning rates? (Differentiation)
5. How are your students progressing towards meeting your current SLO goals? How will this lesson address these goals? Concerns?
6. What special circumstances/situations would you like us to consider?

*Be sure to close the Pre-Conference by saying, “Thank you for this time and I look forward to seeing the lesson.”

The following are examples of questions the observer may plan to ask in a pre-conference.

General Questions

- Tell me about the lesson I will observe.
- What do you expect students to know and be able to do at the end of the lesson?
- What kind of background do the students need to have for this lesson?
- Tell me about any challenges or areas of the rubric that you are working to strengthen.

Standards/Objectives

- How will you check for student mastery in the lesson?
- How will the learning objective be communicated to students?
- How does this lesson relate to the content standard?
- How do you plan to connect the lesson to previous learning?

Motivating Students

- How will you make the lesson relevant to students?

Presenting Instructional Content

- Talk about the visuals that will be used in the lesson to maximize student learning.
- How will you model performance expectations for students?
- How will internal summaries be used to strengthen understanding for students?

Lesson Structure and Pacing

- Talk about the lesson structure (beginning, middle, end).
- Talk about classroom procedures.
- How is the lesson structured for students who progress at different learning rates?

Activities and Materials

- How do activities relate to the objective?
- How will you provide time during the lesson for student reflection?

Questioning

- How will you question students during the lesson to ensure questioning at various levels?
- How will you call on students to respond during the lesson?

Academic Feedback

- Talk about the feedback that will be provided to students during the lesson.

Grouping Students

- Talk about grouping to be used in the lesson to maximize student learning.

Teacher Content Knowledge

- Talk about strategies to be used during the lesson to maximize student understanding.

Teacher Knowledge of Students

- Talk about any anticipated learning difficulties that may occur during the lesson.

Thinking/Problem Solving

- What type(s) of thinking will be evident in the lesson?
- How will students apply this thinking during the lesson?

Closure

- Is there anything I can help you with before the lesson?
- Is there anything else you would like me to know before the lesson?