

Classroom Observation Tool: Structured Academic Class Discussion

Assess each item using this scale: 3 = strongly evident, 2 = somewhat evident, 1 = not evident. Provide concrete observational data and constructive feedback for each item.

Structured Academic Discussion Strategies	Observations and Feedback
<p>Teacher has analyzed the lesson demands and prepared to support students in participating in critical discussions.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3</p>	
<p>Teacher clearly sets up discussion tasks including; written and verbal instructions, time frames, student responsibilities (e.g. note taking, text marking, active listening).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3</p>	
<p>Teacher structures student use of academic language; modeling an appropriate academic response, providing sentence starters w/target vocabulary and syntax, and building in partner rehearsal before whole class reporting, etc.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3</p>	
<p>Every student appears appropriately engaged in each discussion phase (e.g. taking notes, using academic language, etc).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3</p>	
<p>Teacher actively monitors student responses (e.g. walking around, providing feedback, redirecting off task behavior).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3</p>	
<p>Teacher calls on a range of students to respond (e.g., gender, proficiency, seating area, etc.) before eliciting volunteers.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3</p>	
<p>Teacher assigns an active listening task (e.g., jot down two additional reasons/examples; acknowledge similarities, etc.)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3</p>	

