

RESEARCHED DISCUSSION

Performance Standard 28B.J

Research a topic of interest in the target language society to prepare for a discussion accordingly:

- *Knowledge*: know vocabulary and cultural contexts for discussions;
- *Comprehension*: understand written and verbal clues given; and
- *Communication*: use appropriate skills and strategies to convey ideas.

Procedures

1. ***In order to interact in the target language in various settings (28B)***, students should experience sufficient learning opportunities to develop the following:
 - Discuss and defend a position on an issue using discourse strategies;
 - Communicate confidently in sustained discourse; and
 - Apply techniques and skills used in other classes for various discussion forums.
2. Have students review and discuss the assessment task and how the rubric will be used to evaluate their work.
3. Give students a specific topic to research and have them do independent research on the topic. If students are assigned the same topic they will work in groups of 3-4. Topics should be somewhat controversial, such as the death penalty, school uniforms, terrorism, music censorship, importance of sports, violence reactions, road rage, gangs, smoking, etc.
4. Have each student give an opening statement of approximately one minute to summarize his/her own research information. Have the group discuss their findings and make comparisons of the similarities and differences found between the target language society and their own society.
5. After a discussion period of 5 – 7 minutes, each student in the group should make a closing statement summarizing his/her own opinion of the topic.
6. Optional: have a debate with pairs of students taking opposing viewpoints on their researched topics.
1. Evaluate the student's performance using the Foreign Language Rubric as follows and add the scores to determine the performance level:
 - *Knowledge*: knew vocabulary, structures and context.
 - *Comprehension*: understood main points of presentation.
 - *Communication*: used appropriate strategies during discussion.

Examples of Student Work not available

Time Requirements

- One week to prepare information
- Enough days for presentations

Resources

- Dictionary
- Internet
- Magazines
- Textbooks
- Foreign Language Rubric