

Standard III **Element F**

LEVEL 2 PRACTICES

THE TEACHER:

3 *Articulates thoughts and ideas clearly and effectively.*

Teaching is more than imparting knowledge to students. For students to learn and understand the content being taught, teachers must be able to communicate effectively with each student by clearly articulating their thoughts and ideas.

The manner in which a teacher responds to student responses can support or inhibit communication. Teachers can display respect for students' ideas and promote further communication by summarizing or paraphrasing their comments.

- Summarizing
Summarizing requires teachers to listen and respond for accuracy and emphasis. Summarizing information can ensure that all students are clear on what has been discussed.

Examples of starter phrases that can lead to summarizing statements:

- "There seem to be some key ideas expressed here..."
- "If I understand you, you feel this way about [describe]..."
- "I think we agree on this. What we are saying is that we intend to..."
- "In talking about this issue, we have come up with three main points..."

- Paraphrasing
Paraphrasing is restating what someone said in an objective manner even when emotions may be interfering. This form of communication can be applied when there is a need to sort out fact from emotion or excitement.

Examples of starter phrases that can lead to paraphrasing statements:

- "You are saying..."
- "In other words..."
- "I gather that..."
- "If I understand what you are saying..."
- "You're suggesting..."
- "So, you..."
- "So there are a couple of things going on..."
- "You're thinking..."
- "You're wondering..."
- "You're feeling..."

When teachers effectively communicate with all students, they are able to provide a model for how students should communicate with one another and with others outside of the classroom. For students to view a teacher's communication as something they can replicate, teachers need to explicitly label the communication skills they are using with the rationale for how these skills improve their ability to communicate with others.

See also [Standard II, Element A.](#)

Refer to this internal resource for additional information:

- [Communicating Effectively with Students](#)
[Click here to go back to the table of contents and view the resource guide in its entirety.](#)



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Document provides strategies for effectively communicating with students.

4 ***Uses active listening strategies with students.***

This is not just about teaching students how to actively listen, but also about how the teacher models the use of these skills. The resources below address what active listening is, how teacher might model, and how to teacher students how to actively listen.

Teaching Listening Skills (This resource provides specific examples of activities that will help students gain the listening skills needed to be successful. While this resource addresses elementary students, the activities could be adjusted to older students as well.) <https://proudtobeprimary.com/teaching-listening-skills/>

Seven Ways to Improve Students' Listening Skills (This article provides concrete ways to improve listening skills): <https://www.facultyfocus.com/articles/teaching-and-learning/active-listening-seven-ways-to-improve-students-listening-skills/>

Active Listening for the Classroom: An Important Motivational Strategy (Addresses how the teacher's listening skills impact student learning, and the steps that a teacher might use to model active listening. Specifically, the article states: "There is an emphasis on students developing speaking and listening skills. The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) promote the academic reasons for providing ample opportunities for students to take part in a variety of rich, structured conversations in order to build a foundation for college and career readiness. The CCSS suggest that speaking and listening be planned as part of a whole class, in small groups, and with a partner. But research shows that it is listening--really listening--to students that is critical to the student/teacher relationship.")

https://www.thoughtco.com/active-listening-for-the-classroom-6385?utm_term=active+listening+is&utm_content=p1-main-1-title&utm_medium=sem&utm_source=msn_s&utm_campaign=adid-e8df0f73-3a1e-4631-baae-095436d22b04-0-ab_mse_ocode-31766&ad=semD&an=msn_s&am=exact&q=active+listening+is&o=31766&qsrc=999&l=sem&askid=e8df0f73-3a1e-4631-baae-095436d22b04-0-ab_mse

Planning/Coaching Questions

- How will you ensure that you are clearly and effectively articulating thoughts and ideas to all students?
- How will you teach students to consider their audience when articulating their thoughts and ideas with others?
- How will you plan for strategies that model and teach effective communication skills?
- What opportunities will you provide for students to communicate orally and/or in writing with others?
- What will be the academic language included in your model and instruction?
- How will you ensure students are able to utilize the academic language associated with the content and skill being taught?

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