# TASK 1: CONTEXT FOR LEARNING INFORMATION

Respond to the prompts below (**no more than 4 single-spaced pages, including prompts**) by typing your responses within the brackets following each prompt. Do not delete or alter the prompts. Pages exceeding the maximum will not be scored.

## About the School Where You Are Teaching

1. In what type of school do you teach? (Type an “X” next to the appropriate description; if “other” applies, provide a brief description.)

Elementary school (K–6): \_\_\_\_\_

Middle school (6–8): \_\_\_\_\_

K–8: \_\_\_\_\_

7–9: \_\_\_\_\_

Other (please describe): \_\_\_\_\_

2. Where is the school where you are teaching located? (Type an “X” next to the appropriate description.)[[1]](#footnote-1)

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_

Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Rural: \_\_\_\_\_

3. List any special features of your school or classroom setting (e.g., charter, co-teaching, themed magnet, remedial course, honors course) that will affect your teaching in this learning segment.

[ ]

4. Describe any district, school, or cooperating teacher requirements or expectations that might affect your planning or delivery of instruction, such as required curricula, pacing plan, use of specific instructional strategies, interdisciplinary teaming, or standardized tests.

[ ]

## About the Class Featured in this Learning Segment

1. What is the name of this course?

[ ]

2. What is the length of the course? (Type an “X” next to the appropriate description; if “other” applies, provide a brief description.)

One semester: \_\_\_\_\_

One year: \_\_\_\_\_

Other (please describe): \_\_\_\_\_

3. What is the class schedule (e.g., 50 minutes every day, 90 minutes every other day)?

[ ]

4. Is there any ability grouping or tracking in science? If so, please describe how it affects your class.

[ ]

5. Identify any textbook or instructional program you primarily use for science instruction. If a textbook, please provide the title, publisher, and date of publication.

[ ]

6. List other resources (e.g., electronic whiteboard, graphing calculators, online resources) you use for science instruction in this class.

[ ]

## About the Young Adolescents in the Class Featured in this Learning Segment

1. Grade level:

[ ]

Age range of students:

2. Number of students in the class: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Complete the charts below to summarize required or needed supports, accommodations or modifications for your students that will affect your instruction in this learning segment. As needed, consult with your cooperating teacher to complete the charts. Some rows have been completed in italics as examples. Use as many rows as you need.

Consider the variety of young adolescent learners in your class who may require different strategies/supports or accommodations/modifications to instruction or assessment (e.g., students with Individualized Education Programs [IEPs] or 504 plans, students with specific language needs, students needing greater challenge or support, students who struggle with reading, students who are underperforming or those with gaps in academic knowledge).

For Assessment Task 3, you will choose work samples from 3 focus students. **At least one of the focus students must have an identified learning need** (for example, an English learner, a student with an IEP [Individualized Education Program] or 504 plan, a struggling reader, an underperforming student or a student with gaps in academic knowledge, and/or a gifted student needing greater support or challenge).

### Students with IEPs/504 Plans

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| IEPs/504 Plans: Classifications/Needs | Number of Students | Supports, Accommodations, Modifications, Pertinent IEP Goals |
| *Example: Visual processing* | *2* | *Close monitoring, translating information in word problems into sketches* |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

### Students with Specific Language Needs

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Language Needs | Number of Students | Supports, Accommodations, Modifications |
| *Example: English learners with only a few words of English* | *2* | *Pre-teach key words and phrases through examples and graphic organizers (e.g., word cluster, manipulatives, visuals)*  *Have students use pre-taught key words and graphic organizers to complete sentence starters* |
| *Example: Students who speak a variety of English other than that used in textbooks* | *5* | *Make connections between the language students bring and the language used in the textbook* |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

### Students with Other Learning Needs

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Other Learning Needs | Number of Students | Supports, Accommodations, Modifications |
| *Example: Struggling readers* | *5* | *Provide oral explanations for directions and simplified text* |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

1. If you need guidance when making a selection, reference the NCES locale category definitions (<https://nces.ed.gov/surveys/ruraled/definitions.asp>) or consult with your placement school administrator. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)