

Reflection Prompts for CTSE Interns

Every week you should reflect on an interesting episode by describing it, provide three alternative explanations for what that episode might mean, and write some questions this raised in your mind about *students, content, strategies, or yourself*. This should cause you to move beyond merely noticing what's happening to interpreting why it's happening.

Your reflection should run approximately two pages, double spaced with five distinct paragraphs.

Your interpretive language should be extremely *tentative*. Examples of appropriate words: could be explained; possibly means; could be interpreted as; potentially indicates; etc. You're not sure, you are hypothesizing. Your words should reflect that.

Paragraph 1:

Describe one very small incident you found interesting: comment, facial reaction, incident, behavior, etc. This should be extremely tightly defined. *Be careful not to interpret – only describe.*

Paragraph 2:

Provide your initial explanation for the incident. Remember to be tentative.

Paragraph 3:

Provide an alternative explanation for the incident. Remember to be tentative.

Paragraph 4:

Provide one last explanation for the incident, remaining quite tentative.

Paragraph 5:

Your final paragraph should provide us some additional questions this incident raised in your mind. What might you want to watch for in the future? What might you want to know about each of your possible explanations? What questions does this raise about your students, your content, your strategy, your teaching?