

TESAT

TUTOR EVALUATION AND SELF-ASSESSMENT TOOL

TUTOR'S OVERVIEW

The TESAT will assist you in assessing tutoring techniques designed to encourage independent learning and reduce student dependence on tutoring. It is a structured profile that evaluates your effectiveness in 1) understanding and using the steps in peer tutoring and 2) understanding and using the steps in helping students *learn how to learn*. These steps are supported by educational research in teacher education and proven effective for peer tutoring by Dr. Ross B. MacDonald's California Tutor Project, commonly known as The Tutor Cycle (SEE descriptive chart on page 2).

Simply stated, the 12 Step Tutor Cycle helps move your thinking beyond how you will solve a task or problem to how you will help a tutee learn to solve that task or problem. Research indicates if you follow these steps in helping tutees solve their problems, they will learn how to learn independently, thereby reducing their dependence on tutoring. The TESAT provides a tool to help you measure your effectiveness in learning these steps from a pre- to post-learning perspective.

The 12 Steps are relatively easy to follow. Some occur naturally in all tutoring. Others are critical to tutoring but are often overlooked. To master these steps, much of your learning will be self-directed or learned independently, especially during the trial and error of practice. Formal training may or may not be provided. However, you have already proven your ability as a learner, so this learning should be easy for you. Invest the time in learning these steps, as the rewards you will receive in heightened satisfaction and reduced frustration during tutoring will be worth the effort.

Now begin the TESAT and frankly assess your knowledge and understanding of the steps and the steps' strategies to provide an initial benchmark or profile. Then, in the days and weeks that follow, revisit the steps of the Tutoring Cycle each time you tutor. Focus on difficult steps. Get help by reading, talking to other peer tutors, or asking your supervisor.

Another administration of the TESAT will undoubtedly be planned in the future. Some observations of tutoring sessions may be scheduled. Therefore, start preparing today. A wealth of research is available in your library or you can read more detailed information about these and other helpful peer tutoring strategies in Dr. MacDonald's book, *The Master Tutor: A Guidebook for More Effective Tutoring*.

Now, turn the page. Follow the instructions and begin. Good luck in learning how to help others learn.



NOTE: The TESAT is not used to evaluate total tutoring performance nor should it be used as a statistically valid tool for comparing individual tutors to a national norm. Personal characteristics, professional relationships, and day-to-day initiative and interaction must be considered when reviewing total tutor performance.

There is no grade or overall assessment given, merely an assessment of each individual item. Therefore, mark your answers honestly each time you complete the TESAT.