



COGNITIVE LAB PART 2

Small Group Interview



After students finish, ask them a few questions, such as the ones below. Print out your questions ahead of time with enough room for taking notes. You may want to ask questions based on your notes and observations (e.g., I noticed when some of you were working on this part . . . ; can you tell me about your thinking when you were solving this one?)

Thinking Aloud With Students After They Complete the Assessment

When students have completed the assessment, take about 10 minutes to ask them questions like these (large group, small groups, or ask a few individuals that represent your high to low performing students). Also add your own observations and recommendations.

“I’d like to ask you some questions about the task: _____

- 1. Were the directions clear? Did you know what you were supposed to do? Did you understand all parts of the task?*
- 2. Was the [planning sheet, graphic organizer, checklist, manipulative] helpful?*
- 3. What was the easiest part? Why?*
- 4. What was the hardest or most confusing part? Why?*
- 5. Have you done tasks like this before in your classroom? How did this one compare—Easier? Harder? About the same?*
- 6. Can you suggest ways to improve this task for use next year?*
- 7. Other?*



Available for download at resources.corwin.com/HessToolkit