Figure 7.3 Protocol for Sorting Student Work

1. If possible, make a copy of the set of class work for each participant. Otherwise, make fewer copies for participants to examine in pairs. Alternatively, the work can be divided among the group, and participants can write comments on sticky notes before passing their stack to the next person.

2. Read through the entire set of class work, looking for trends relative to the learning targets.

3. Discuss the trends that were noticed. Collectively, decide which ones are the most significant and need further instruction—either whole or small group.

4. Go back to the work to sort students according to the identified needs. If something pertains to the whole class, this will be addressed in whole group instruction.

5. Plan for instruction based on the needs of each group.