Rubric to Assess a Benchmark Lesson

	Novice	Apprentice	Practitioner	Expert
Topic	focused on concept (not skill) meaningful to students	focused on concept (not skill) that is: • key to understanding unit content • meaningful to students	focused on concept (not skill) that is: • based upon need as determined by assessment data • key to understanding unit content • meaningful to students	all of *Practitioner* plus: includes intriguing/provocative title related to content/topic
Opening	includes objective of the *benchmark lesson*	includes explanation of purpose and importance of content	• begins with reflective question to focus students on need for content • includes student reflection, news story, metaphor, or other technique to build "felt need" for content	all of *Practitioner* plus: includes a connection to previous *benchmark lessons* and/or content
Content	includes significant amount of content	includes: • reasonable amount of content for time frame of lesson • at least three clear points	includes: • reasonable amount of narrowly focused content for time frame of lesson • three to five clear points related to content • connection to an authentic context to build felt need for related skills • logical sequence of content	all of *Practitioner* plus: includes a formative assessment to plan follow-up group discussion
Delivery	includes 2–3 criteria from the *Practitioner* column	includes 4–5 criteria from the *Practitioner* column	includes: • repeated key points • clearly articulated speech at appropriate volume • pausing between key points and/or instructions for students to pause and ponder • meaningful vocabulary related to concept and content • friendly tone and manner as if speaking directly to students • eye contact with camera	all of *Practitioner* plus: includes tone, speed, and volume as tools to aid in delivery
Logistics	between 2 and 3 minutes in length	• between 2 and 3 minutes in length • smooth transitions between visuals	• between 2 and 3 minutes in length • smooth transitions between visuals • use of video/computer setup to provide best camera angle/point of view for students	all of *Practitioner* plus: includes video/audio clips, photos/graphics, etc.
Closing	includes summary of key points	includes: • summary of key points • clear and concise final statement	includes: • review of how content connects to an authentic context • summary of key points • metaphor, quote, or other technique as final statement to punctuate content	all of *Practitioner* plus: includes thought-provoking question

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