

## **MAT Student Log**

**MAT Student:** Michael White \_\_\_\_\_

**School Assignment** \_\_ MCHS \_\_\_\_\_ **MAT Supervisor** \_ Dana Sorrell \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of classroom participation:** \_\_ 10/10/2006 \_\_\_\_\_

### **REFLECTIONS**

Analyze the experiences of the day and respond to the following questions:  
(add additional pages, as deemed appropriate)

**1. What success occurred today? (What worked, and how did it contribute to student success?)**

I have found throughout my experiences so far that the way I move about the classroom and speak to the students seems to make them feel comfortable while at the same time limiting discipline problems. Because I asked them pointed questions while I walked around, I actually helped some of the students figure out more about what they wanted to write about for their major assignment.

Also, the game at the end not only had me smiling, but it had the students laughing and smiling. We weren't able to finish it, but it did help to impress upon them four of the major components of a story (setting, characters, conflict, and resolution). (The activity was finished the next day, and the students did very good jobs writing their quick fictions.)

**2. What could be improved? Why didn't the strategy or method work, and what suggestions can be made for improvement?**

Even though I did speak with the students individually during the class, I felt I was not praising enough of them. I didn't say as much as I should have with enough sincerity. According to others, and after thinking about it, I agree, I was not very enthusiastic about the lesson. I should have been because creative writing is my favorite activity, but it didn't show well with the students.

I never seem to stress assessment nearly as much as I should. I may have known how well the students were doing because of the conversations we had throughout class, but they never truly knew how well they were doing or if they were going in the right direction. I did let them know as I spoke to them, but I think they should have known how they were going to be assessed sooner than our own conversations. Assessment is one of my weakest abilities, so I need to improve upon it tremendously. I especially have a hard time grading a piece of creative writing on anything other than grammar, but I know there are other parts that can be measured.

**To conclude:** I need to keep talking to the students. It works and they seem comfortable with it. On the other hand, I need to learn to assess the same students and praise them more often for jobs well done.