Creating a Performance Task

Step 1: Identify a content standard to be taught.
Step 2: Select thinking/reasoning skill processes
Step 3: Write a 1st draft of the task incorporating Steps 1 and 2.
Step 4: Identify standards from Learner Performance goals (LLL) to be included and revise task to make these standards explicit.
Step 5: Identify what kind of product/performance will be produced, add it to the performance task description.

Teaching A Thinking Skill

• Introduce skill
  Give several examples
   Discuss its importance
  (when, where, how to use it)
• Explain mental processes to do the thinking, model the process
• Let students practice the skill several times using personal, easy to understand content
• Put the skill into the content of your academic content.
• Model, model, model, model!

Example: It is 1969. You are on the Board of TIME Magazine. Your job is to select the "Person of the Decade" for the December issue cover. Be able to justify your decision.

Decision Making

(9 of 13 thinking/reasoning skill processes)

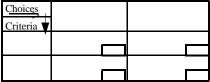| Generating and applying criteria to select from among seemingly equal alternatives |
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Questions the process helps explore:
• Is there an important decision that should be studied or made?

Steps in the process:
• Identify a decision you wish to make.
• Write the decision question in a number of different ways until it accurately reflects the situation.
• Identify the different alternatives you are considering.
• Identify the criteria you consider important to a good decision or the things you want to accomplish as a result of your decision.
• Assign each criterion an importance score.
• Determine extent to which each alternative possesses each criterion.
• Multiply the criterion scores by the alternative scores.
• Determine which alternative has highest total points.
• Based on your reaction to the selected alternative, determine if you want to change importance scores or add or drop criteria.

Optional Graphic Organizer:

Choices / Criteria ▼		

Decision Making

The Decision Maker's Flow Chart

Topic_____

Need:

+

−

Decision: