PREPARING STUDENTS FOR NATIONAL STANDARDIZED TESTS

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CETLA Presentation April 5, 2006
01:02:03  04/05/06
OVERVIEW

• Why do our students fail?

• What’s different about standardized tests?

• What can we do?
WHY STUDENTS FAIL

- Lack of familiarity with question types/practice
- Anxiety
- Lack of a strategy
- Cognitive style mismatch
- Affective effects
STANDARDIZED TESTS

• Perception of difficulty

• Types of questions

• Reasoning skills
Perception of Difficulty

Bloom’s Taxonomy of Educational Objectives

Multiple Cognitive Abilities
- Evaluation
- Synthesis
- Analysis
- Application
- Comprehension
- Knowledge

Least Difficult

Most Difficult
Types of Questions

- Best Answer
- Case Study
- Roman Numeral
- Negative Stem
Reasoning Skills

Knowing how to select the intended answer

Classification
Fusion
Comparison
Focusing
Abstract Reasoning
Predicting the Examiner

Critiquing
Creativity
Grouping
Cluing
What To Do

Faculty Development
- Know the test
- Teach critical thinking skills
- FFAE Grants
  - Speakers, Research, Course development, Travel, Materials development, Books

Student Preparation
- Workshops
- Course approach
- Opportunities for practice
- Materials