

How to Submit: Well-written Rationales

To insure that an artifact provides a substantive contribution to one’s overall evaluation, include a complete rationale. Here, we’ve adapted approaches introduced by Charlestown High and East Boston High to create an exemplar.

Step 1: Identify the standard, indicator, element, or goal that the artifact addresses.

Step 2: Describe the artifact and identify the section that directly connects to the standard, indicator, element, or goal.

Step 3: Highlight the artifact’s impact on student learning.

Step 4: Specify the evidence of professional growth or proficiency in the standard, indicator, element the artifact provides.

Here are two annotated examples of rationales written in this format:

Sample 3rd Grade ELL Rationale

Name	Tags	Description	Rationale	Uploaded By	Upload Date	File Size	Comments
Meetingnotes.docx	IV-C-1. Professional Collaboration	Monthly meeting notes with mainstream teachers Identifies a specific element. Evidence of proficiency in the element.	These notes from monthly meetings with mainstream teachers demonstrate proficient practice in IV-C-1. I have been meeting with mainstream teachers who teach Spanish SEI students routinely since the beginning of the year to discuss these students' strengths and weaknesses and then what each of us can do to better support these students. In the notes, I included an explanation of how the Spanish SEI students are doing in the mainstream class and also a list of actions that the mainstream teacher and I will each take to support the students' achievement. These notes from meetings with mainstream teachers are strong evidence of how I consistently and effectively collaborate with colleagues to analyze student performance and plan appropriate interventions (IV-C-1).	Teacher, BPS	4/15/13	0.11	Comments

Quick description of the artifact.

Highlights the impact on student learning!

Sample 8th Grade, Math Rationale

<u>Name</u>	<u>Tags</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Rationale</u>	<u>Uploaded By</u>	<u>Upload Date</u>	<u>File Size</u>	<u>Comments</u>
ReteachPlan.docx	I-B-2. Adjustments to Practice	Re-teach plan for 8 F 1 Functions and definitions <div data-bbox="688 690 835 820" style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #ADD8E6; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Identifies a specific element.</div> <div data-bbox="594 857 793 1003" style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #ADD8E6; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Evidence of proficiency in the element.</div>	This post-assessment debrief form shows proficient practice in I-B-2. Adjustments to Practice. Using the re-teach template I highlighted the important aspects of re-teaching an objective. I identified particular students in each class who need support on mastering this objective, so that I will be able to logically differentiate my lesson plan. I also have specific dates for action items and have planned to give students additional opportunities to practice the skills. Therefore, this artifact shows that I am adjusting my practice to provide support to particular students given previous assessment data (I-B-2).	Teacher, BPS	12/08/12	0.17	<u>Comments</u> <div data-bbox="1430 618 1671 716" style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #ADD8E6; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Quick description of the artifact.</div> <div data-bbox="1402 760 1696 857" style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #ADD8E6; padding: 5px; margin: 5px;">Highlights the impact on student learning!</div>