

Assessing Performance in Problem Solving

Student _____ Date _____

Check each statement below that accurately describes the student's work.

— Understand —

- _____ Reads the problem carefully
- _____ Studies any tables or graphs
- _____ Can restate the problem in his or her own words
- _____ Can identify given information
- _____ Can identify the question to be answered

— Plan —

- _____ Chooses an appropriate strategy for solving the problem
- _____ Estimates what the answer should be

— Solve —

- _____ Works systematically
- _____ Shows solution in an organized fashion
- _____ Computes correctly
- _____ States the answer in a complete sentence, giving correct units

— Look Back —

- _____ Checks to see that the answer is reasonable
- _____ Tries other ways to solve the problem

Use the following criteria to assess the student's performance:

- Level 4** (11–13 items checked) The student demonstrates an in-depth understanding of the problem and communicates that understanding in a clear and concise manner. He or she is able to relate the problem to other work previously accomplished.
- Level 3** (8–10 items checked) The student understands the problem and shows a correct solution in a clear and organized fashion.
- Level 2** (4–7 items checked) The student displays an adequate understanding of major concepts, but may commit errors in some of the specific components.
- Level 1** (0–3 items checked) The student has partial or no apparent understanding of the problem. He or she does not complete the necessary work or uses an inappropriate strategy. No answer, an inappropriate response, or an incorrect answer with no work is shown.