

Test plans allow you to make advance decisions about what you will teach and assess in a unit. As described in Chapter 4, they help you ensure that what you assess matches what you teach, whether the test is part of a textbook or curriculum materials or one you are developing.

Two sample test plans follow. Use the first when an assessment will include only selected response or extended written response assessment methods. For selected response items, place the total number of items included for each combination of target and type of reasoning. (Add columns as needed to include all reasoning types tested.) For extended written response, include both the total number of items and the total number of points for each combination.

Use the second plan when you will be mixing selected response and extended response methods with performance assessments and you want to plan your overall assessment balance. The list of targets needs to include type of target—knowledge, reasoning, skill, or product—so that you can match target to assessment method. The final column represents the percentage of total points you assign to each target. For selected response, total points might equal the number of individual items. For extended written response and performance assessment, it will equal the sum of points assigned to all tasks.

Plan 1: Content By Pattern of Reasoning—Blank

	Pattern of Reasoning				
Learning Target	Know	Analyze	Compare	??	Total
Total					

Plan 2: Learning Target By Assessment Method, Blank

Learning Target	Type of Target	Assessment Method	Percent Importance