


**FIGURE 1. Handout for Teacher Observers**



## Teachers in Classrooms Getting Connected

**Premise:** We have a lot to learn from each other. What can we learn from getting into other people's classrooms? What ideas can we gather for ourselves? What does the experience make us think about our own teaching? What questions are we left with?

### Norms

- Arrive on time.
- Stay for the entire period.
- Resist the urge to talk with students.
- Conversations with students and teacher are at the teacher's discretion.
- Say thank you!

### Overarching guiding questions

1. What does learning look like in other classrooms?
2. How are other teachers working to engage students?

### In the classroom

#### Thoughts to Consider:

| What do I notice?   | What does it make me wonder?  |
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| Students are very engaged and excited.<br>Lots of different ways information is shared: visually, vocally, on paper.<br>Very calm teacher, she doesn't stop the excitement but keeps it going.<br>Kids who are chattering are on topic.<br>Kids seem used to seat changes.<br>No objections to new partners.<br>Remarkably focused for 7th hour.<br>I like how she prepared them to focus.<br>Teacher finds positive ways to interact, even if the comment strays a little from topic.<br>I notice that she starts with finding out what they already know, and activates the prior knowledge.<br>It's a very positive environment, students seem happy and interested. | How often do they get new seats?<br>Why are they so comfortable together? How has the teacher created this environment?<br>Do students know if assignment will be collected?<br>What will the learning target for the language unit be? |

### Reflection

How have I benefited from this experience?

It's great to see what and how students are learning in another content area. I'd like to take this class. I benefitted by seeing how she manages the classroom so effectively. She doesn't lose her cool and keeps the momentum going. I liked that there were several different types of activities in the lesson. It benefits me to see an ally in the war on ignorance! I also learned that there is an orderly way of collecting and handing back papers. Great experience! Thanks for having me!

Please bring this sheet with you to the debrief to help guide your thinking.