**Contextual Factors**

**TWS Standard**

***The teacher uses information about the learning-teaching context and student individual differences to set learning objectives and plan instruction and assessment.***

**Task**

Discuss **relevant** factors and how they may affect the teaching-learning process. Include any supports and challenges that affect instruction and student learning.

**Prompt**

In your discussion, include:

* **Community, district, and school factors.** Address geographic location, community, and school population, socio-economic profile and race/ethnicity (this information should be obtained from the campus TAPR report). You might also address such things as stability of community, political climate, community support for education, and other environmental factors. A Community Chamber of Commerce website usually offers this information.
* **Classroom factors.** Address physical features, availability of technology equipment, resources, and the extent of parental involvement. You might also discuss other relevant factors such as classroom rules and routines, grouping patterns, scheduling and classroom arrangement.
* **Student characteristics.** Address student characteristics you must as you design instruction and assess learning. Include factors such as:
  + students’ characteristics (i.e., age, gender, race/ethnicity, special needs, achievement/developmental levels, culture, interests, etc.);
  + students’ varied approaches to learning (i.e., English Language Proficiency level, Reading level, Response to Intervention (RtI), Learning Modalities, etc.); and
  + students’ skill levels and prior learning that may influence the development of learning objectives, instruction and assessments.
* **Instructional implications.** Address how contextual characteristics of the community, district, school, classroom, and students have implications for instructional planning and assessment. Include specific instructional implications for at least two characteristics and any other factors that will influence how you plan and implement your unit.

**Suggested Page Length:** 1 – 2