

## answer 5

“Involving students in the assessment process through descriptive feedback and self-assessment is an essential part of assessment *for* learning. When teachers and students work in partnership, students become more engaged in their own learning, gain a better sense of themselves as learners and can identify the next steps in their learning.

Providing descriptive feedback related to criteria is an essential part of engaging a student in the assessment process. Descriptive feedback is specific, constructive, linked to clear criteria and helps the student understand where he or she is still needs to do in order to meet the success criteria.

Sutton (1998) clearly shows that the type of feedback given to student affects their motivation to learn. She suggests that effective feedback should:

- Be descriptive rather than evaluative.
- Be specific --- both positive and critical.
- Be provided as soon as possible.
- Look forward to specific next steps to improve performance.
- Encourage and plan for opportunities for feedback to be used as soon as possible.
- Involve the learner wherever possible, to improve the chance of feedback being understood and acted upon.”

P. 32 “A Framework for Thinking About Assessment” , St. James S.D