

Teacher effectiveness scores were determined based on the gap reduction score. The gap reduction score is calculated as follows:

*Actual growth score:* The difference between post-test scores and pre-test scores.

*Potential growth score:* The difference between a perfect score and the pre-test score. = *Gap reduction score*

Let's look at the example below to clarify how the gap reduction score is calculated.

<b>Pretest score</b>	60/100	60%
<b>Posttest score</b>	80/100	80%
<b>Actual growth score</b>	80-60%	20%
<b>Potential score</b>	100-60%	40%
<b>Gap reduction score</b>	20/40	50%

The gap reduction score is then converted into a 1-4 rating:

<b>(1) Novice/Ineffective</b>	10% or below	1
<b>(2) Developing/Minimally Effective</b>	25% to 11%	2
<b>(3) Proficient/Effective</b>	26% to 50%	3
<b>(4) Expert/Highly Effective</b>	51% to 100%	4

**Goal 2:** Develop students' thinking and literacy skills based on Common Core State Standards

In working with Durand to develop a set of Common-Core-based assessments, we focused on these critical Common Core skills:

- Comprehension and inference
- Summarizing
- Using evidence
- Explaining
- Conducting comparative analysis
- Developing an extended essay

What follows is a sample Common-Core-based assessment unit on cell phone safety we developed for the fourth grade in Durand, Michigan.