

Rebecca Walker Assessment Instrument

Learning Goals:

- (a) knowledge and conceptual understanding; Students will be able to compare two quantities by calculating both absolute comparisons and relative comparisons.
- (b) thinking and other skills; Students will use absolute or relative comparisons to support a thesis. They will also identify absolute and relative comparisons that are presented in sources they may read and then use their own words to communicate what the values tell them.
- (c) attitudes, values, dispositions and habits of mind; Students will demonstrate productive persistence when searching for data to support a thesis. They will demonstrate this by communicating a initial strategy for finding their data and then keeping track of what they have tried and how successful it was. Productive persistence can also be measured by the number of students who persist until they find appropriate data.

My assessment plan includes a question that addresses students ability to calculate and explain both relative and absolute comparisons (addressing the first two goals) and will use the homework assignment as a means of assessing productive persistence.

The question that will be used on a quiz or test is:

The table below provides information about the use of busses and heavy rail transportation in the US in 2000 and in 2006.

Type of Transportation	Bus	Heavy Rail
2000 Passenger miles (in millions)	21,241	13,844
2006 passenger miles (in millions)	22,281	14,721

- a. Using the data, make an argument that between 2000 and 2006 the change in passenger miles was greater for buses than it was for heavy rail.
- b. Using the data, make an argument that between 2000 and 2006 the change in passenger miles was greater for heavy rail than it was for busses.

Homework from class session was: Find an article or advertisement that allows you to determine or identifies both absolute and relative change or absolute and relative difference. Write a paragraph that describe the situation, reports the values and conveys what each value means.

Student work on this will allow me to further assess their ability to communicate what the values tell them and also their persistence in finding appropriate articles will indicate their willingness to work hard and eventually end up at their goal.