

## Effective Classroom Practice Task Difficulty

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### Addressing Task Difficulty in Your Classroom

<b>List several of the activities students complete in your class:</b>	<b>Identify ways you could address task difficulty in each activity:</b>
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

## Strategies to Address Task Difficulty

<b>Length of Time</b>	<b>Increase Instruction/Practice</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shorten the assignment, allowing the student to demonstrate mastery with fewer items.</li> <li>• Highlight, in color, those problems the student is to complete.</li> <li>• Break the assignment up into shorter tasks; put fewer problems on a page.</li> <li>• Have shorter work periods with other tasks in between.</li> <li>• Have the student cover all items except the one he is working on at the time.</li> <li>• Provide physical breaks between difficult tasks.</li> <li>• Provide alternative times for the work to be completed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arrange for additional brief instructional sessions using the modeling-guided practice-independent practice approach (<i>acquisition stage</i>).</li> <li>• Arrange for a peer tutor to assist with guided practice opportunities (<i>fluency-building stage</i>).</li> <li>• Use partner work to increase fluency with flash cards (<i>fluency-building stage</i>).</li> <li>• Use meaningful real life examples for practice and application (<i>mastery or generalization stage</i>).</li> </ul>
<b>Response Mode - Reading</b>	<b>Response Mode - Writing</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include illustrations on worksheets that depict how to complete tasks.</li> <li>• Highlight or underline important words in instructions and texts.</li> <li>• Create guided notes that limit reading and draw attention to key points.</li> <li>• Provide text on recording for the student to listen to as they read.</li> <li>• Assign a partner to share the reading requirements and assist the student with unfamiliar words.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a choice between written and oral answers.</li> <li>• Allow the student to dictate answers to the teacher, an assistant, or peer.</li> <li>• Create guided notes to minimize writing.</li> <li>• Allow the student to tape record answers to tests or assignments.</li> <li>• Allow the student to use other creative modes for demonstrating understanding (e.g., building, drawing, drama, etc.).</li> </ul>