Analogies

Description

Students identify the relationship between two words and choose another pair of words that exhibits the same relationship.

You Need

- ► Analogies I and II sheets
- ► Analogies Assessment—Class Record form

Why Use It

This assessment is designed to show you whether students can understand the relationships between words. By inviting them to think through their selections out loud, you can assess how well they understand the vocabulary and word relationships. The vocabulary used for analogies should be slightly easier for students so that they can concentrate on the relationships between the words without struggling excessively with word meaning.

How to Use It

- Administer this assessment individually or as a whole class. If students are new to analogies, or if you think they may need easier words, begin with the Analogies I sheet. If students are more advanced, begin with the Analogies II sheet.
- If any students are not familiar with the format of analogies, explain that the first two words in each item are related in some way. Students need to select from the answer choices the pair of words that share the same relationship. Suggest that students create a simple sentence that describes the relationship, and then add each answer choice into that sentence to see if it fits. For example:

Up is to down as ____

look is to see

page is to book

hot is to cold

Using the sentence "Up is the opposite of down," substitute each answer choice for the words up and down.

Page is the opposite of book. False.

Look is the opposite of see. False.

Hot is the opposite of cold. True.

- Ask the student to read each analogy and choose the pair of words that shares the same relationship as the pair of exemplar words. If students have difficulty, ask them to think out loud about the word relationships so you can determine if they are having trouble with the format of the analogies or the vocabulary itself.
- Keep the sheet as the student's individual record. Record the results on the Class Record.

- **What to Notice** Whether the student understands the format of analogies
 - Words the student understands
 - Words the student can almost understand
 - ▶ Whether the student can identify the relationships between words