

Tapatoru - Reflective Commentary

Candidate instructions

1. Refresh your understanding of the Tapatoru

Make sure that you've got a sense of the three key components of the Tapatoru. These are values, knowledge and practice.

Also, make sure you're aware of how these three areas breakdown into the other parts shown in the diagram below.



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2. Generate your four reflective questions

Use the Tapatoru question cards to generate four questions for your reflective commentary. These are structured around the four areas of professional practice from Ā Tātou Mahi - What we do:

- Whakahoahoa - Design
- Tautoko - Support
- Whakautuutu - Give feedback
- Tūhonohono - Engage

Here's an example of what a set of four questions might look like.



Once you have selected and finalised your four questions, add your questions to the Reflective Commentary template, one in each of the four sections.

Write each question in the box provided. You'll see a prompt that says "Write your question here". You can delete or type over that.

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3. Brainstorm and make notes for each question

Allow yourself some time to think about each question. Keep in mind the following:

- You will need to write or talk about two scenarios for each question. That's eight scenarios in total.
- For each scenario, you'll need to briefly describe it and then reflect on it.

Here's a visual reminder using the four sample questions from above.

SECTION 1: DESIGN		SECTION 2: FACILITATE	
<i>How have you fostered meaningful and positive relationships when you engaged with whanau, hapu and/or communities</i>		<i>How have you encouraged mana or self-esteem when you designed and planned learning and/or support?</i>	
SCENARIO 1.1	SCENARIO 1.2	SCENARIO 2.1	SCENARIO 2.2
• Describe	• Describe	• Describe	• Describe
• Reflect	• Reflect	• Reflect	• Reflect
SECTION 3: GIVE FEEDBACK		SECTION 4: ENGAGE	
<i>How have you protected wairua or spirituality/wellbeing when you facilitated learning and/or support</i>		<i>How have you strengthened meaningful and positive support systems when you assessed and gave feedback?</i>	
SCENARIO 3.1	SCENARIO 3.2	SCENARIO 4.1	SCENARIO 4.2
• Describe	• Describe	• Describe	• Describe
• Reflect	• Reflect	• Reflect	• Reflect

You may find any or all of these helpful as a way of getting started:

- Do some brainstorming or mind mapping.
- Write a concise list or make brief notes using bullet points.
- Do some unstructured writing just to get some initial thoughts on paper.
- Record yourself on your phone.
- Have a conversation with a colleague.
- Print out the **Reflective Commentary Notes and Brainstorming template** and use it to help organise your thoughts.

Repeat any of these steps as many times as you need to. Also, remember that the more experience you have, the easier it will be to put this together. If you're new to teaching or any of the concepts in the Tapatoru it might take a bit longer.

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4. Write your responses

Refer to the Tapatoru diagram to guide your brainstorming, thinking and writing.

If you're going to do a written reflective commentary:

- Draft your responses using the **Reflective Commentary Template**.

If you're going to do a verbal submission:

- We recommend that you draft your thoughts or organise an outline or other notes using the **Reflective Commentary Template** to guide your discussion.

You'll see in the Reflective Commentary Template that you need to do the following:

1. Choose two scenarios to illustrate your answer to each question.
2. Describe each scenario or situation. For the scenarios, you'll see prompts. Use these if they're helpful or ignore if they're not.
3. For each, reflect on what worked well, what you learned or changes you made to your practice. Again, for each of your reflections, you'll also see prompts and sentence starters which you can either use or ignore.

At all times, and this applies for written as well as verbal responses, consider the following:

- How do my values and knowledge inform what I do in this example?
- What's a concrete example that answers the "How?" and "Why?" of what I do rather than "What?"

Finally, imagine that your Tapatoru assessors are prompting you at each point:

- How do you do that?
- Can you show me an example?
- Could you unpack that for me?
- Could you take me on that journey?

When you've finished writing your responses and your reflective commentary is complete you can then share it with your referees.