

# Teacher Responses to Student Answers

## Ways of moving on to another student

- Criticizes. "Come on. That answer shows no thought at all."
  - "No," and redirect to another student.
  - "No, then give the correct answer.
  - "No," with the reason, which may serve as a cue.
    - Cue, but move on to another student.
    - Move to another student if the first student doesn't answer.
    - Redirect to another student to add, build, or extend. "Would you add anything to that, Zach?"
    - Student authorized to call on another student to answer in his or her place.

## Ways of sticking with a student

- Supplying the question for which the answer is right, cuing, and holding the student accountable.
  - "No, but it's good you brought it up because others probably thought that too."
    - "Try again."
      - Validate what is right or good about an answer and then cue, sticking with the student.
      - Ignore the answer, and cue the student.
      - Wait time II.
        - Follow up with an expression of confidence or encouragement: "I think you know."
        - Follow up with an expression of confidence or extend.
        - Ask the student to elaborate.
        - Call for a self-evaluation of the answer.
        - Follow-up question to clarify: "Are you saying that . . . ?"

## Ways of acknowledging, affirming

- Acknowledge, "Um-hmmm."
  - Repeat the student's answer.
  - Restate the answer in fuller or more precise language.
    - "Right."
    - "Right," with the reason.
    - Praise or praise and extend.

Source: Saphier, Jon, Haley-Speca, Mary Ann and Gower, Robert. *The Skillful Teacher: Building Your Teaching Skills*, 6<sup>th</sup> edition. Acton, MA: Research for Better Teaching, 2018.

