

Student Variance: Discover Student Thinking

In this simulation, you'll see variance among students across four qualities: **academic language**, **accuracy**, **careful**, and **reflective**.

- **Academic Language** refers to whether or not students' responses use vocabulary and complex sentence structures
- **Accuracy** refers to the extent to which students' responses are accurate, clear, and complete
- **Careful** refers to the extent to which students are able to support their ideas with evidence and explanation
- **Reflective** refers to the extent to which students are able to make connections and link to bigger abstract ideas

Use the table below to see examples of variance among student responses across these four qualities.

Quality	Negative Presence	Not Present	Starting Out	Present	Strong
Academic Language	"The picture is brown and she's wearing a big dress and a scarf and a hat."		"Yes, based on what I know, the timing can't be determined by the picture on its own."	"The color is brown, her name, Sojourner Truth and a quote is underneath. Her hand is holding yarn."	"It has a sepia color. Her name, Sojourner truth is written underneath, along with a quote. It looks like she's knitting something."
Accuracy	"I think it's from one of those festivals with the costumes and photo booth."		"The portrait is brown, like an app filter, and her clothes look really old."	"The title underneath says Sojourner Truth. She was alive hundreds of years ago."	"It says 'Sojourner Truth' at the bottom of the portrait. I learned about her. She was an activist during slavery."
Careful	"Maybe in the olden days?"		"You can see her dress looks like what people wore during slavery time."	"She is wearing this big dress and knitting something and my grandma knits too."	"She is wearing a big dress and knitting something. The dress style is from slavery times, but the knitting could be from any time."
Reflective	"She's wearing a hat and a big dress and there are words underneath the picture."		"She looks old like my grandma."	"The dress is much more fabric than women wear now."	"Her dress and hat show that she is not from current times because women wear much smaller dresses now."

All, Some, Individual

Use this chart to help you notice trends across student responses in your class.

ALL students can...	SOME students can...	INDIVIDUAL students can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Write a response that starts with a capital letter and ends with a form of punctuation.• Answer clarifying questions when prompted.• Connect to background knowledge or past experiences when prompted.• Notice details in the image.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make reasonable inferences about when the picture was taken.• Incorporate vocabulary into their responses.• Use evidence from the image to support their thinking.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use a complex sentence structure that starts with “although” or “despite” in their responses• Connect to bigger abstract ideas about what it means to be literate.