

**Figure C3.3 Protocol for Problems of Practice**

**1. Presentation (5 minutes)**

The presenter will present clearly and succinctly an incident or situation for which she or he would like help. The presentation will finish with a question to focus the discussion.

**2. Clarification (5 minutes)**

The group will ask questions to clarify the situation. This is not a time for suggestions or judgments.

**3. Restatement of the question (1 minute)**

The presenter will restate the question based on the clarifying questions.

**4. Brainstorm (15 minutes)**

The group will discuss the question. The presenter will listen and take notes on helpful comments and suggestions but is NOT part of the discussion.

**5. Sharing (4 minutes)**

The presenter will share those ideas that seem useful to her or him. Other ideas may be fine, but the sharing is from the presenter's perspective only.

As a participant, you must:

- Stay focused on the issue and question while drawing from your own knowledge and experiences.
- Not try to engage the presenter in the conversation.
- Help to assure that all members of the group feel comfortable speaking and have a chance to speak.

Adapted from McDonald, J. P., Mohr, N., Dichter, A., & McDonald, E. C. (2003). *The Power of Protocols: An Educator's Guide to Better Practice*. New York: Teachers College Press.

Retrieved from the companion DVD for *The Power of Teacher Teams: With Cases, Analyses, and Strategies for Success* by Vivian Troen and Katherine C. Boles. Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin, [www.corwin.com](http://www.corwin.com). Copyright © 2011 by Corwin. All rights reserved. Reproduction authorized only for the local school site or nonprofit organization that has purchased this book.