

## Questions to Assess the Effectiveness of a Textbook

### Questions Pertaining to Format

#### Whole book presentation

- Is the title of the book descriptive of the book and is it appealing?
- Does the table of contents provide a clear overview of the contents of the text?
- Does the glossary contain the critical terms important for understanding the concept presented in the textbook?
- Are references cited at the end of each chapter or at the end of the book?
- Is there a comprehensive index?

#### Chapter organization

- Do chapter headings clearly define the content of the chapter?
- Do chapter subheadings clearly define the important concepts in the chapter?
- Is there a connection between the text boxes and the ideas cited on the page?
- Are graphs, charts, and pictures clear and illustrative of the text? Are they included on the page where referenced?
- Are illustrations accurate and appropriate to the level of the students?
- Are acronyms used? Is the meaning of the acronym referenced?
- Are key vocabulary terms in italics or boldface type for easy identification?
- Are the review questions at the literal, interpretive, or applied levels of comprehension? Do the questions encourage thoughtful responses?
- In what ways do the assignments at the end of the chapter increase the reader's understanding of the concepts outlined in the chapter?

### Questions Pertaining to Readability

#### Concept presentation

- Does the text introduce new concepts one at a time with a sufficient number of examples or illustrations?
- Does the text present relevant, up-to-date information about each of the concepts?
- Is the level of vocabulary appropriate for the background of the students?