

**Explanation**

This is a tool to promote better classroom climate and learning. Research says that students who set personal goals for learning learn more effectively (Marzano). I have combined this goal setting with getting feedback to help improve my teaching and student learning

I teach Chumash. At the beginning of the year, I give my students a list of skills that are necessary to learn Chumash (segmenting a passuk up to comparing Meforshim's essential premise) and ask them to rate themselves 1-5 for each skill. I then ask them to pick 5 skills in which they would like to improve, for any instructional techniques that help them, what can I do to help them achieve their goals and their favorite subjects. This lets them know from the start that I am tailoring the class to them, and I expect the year to be a learning process for both of us.

On subsequent tests, I include a feedback section. I take out the key skills that we have worked on in that unit and ask them to rate themselves 1-5. I then ask questions about what instructional practices have helped them achieve their goals and other open ended questions about the learning going on in class. It is worth 5 points on the test so the students answer it. Asking them to rate themselves is important because it focuses their suggestions on academics rather than personality.

Shockingly, most students are very sincere and concrete in their feedback. They have asked to increase homework frequency, use the board differently and have even suggested a particular graphic organizer. I make sure to modify my instruction and tell them I am doing so. If I can find educational research that backs up their request, I tell them about it. This helps the students be conscious of their thinking and learning styles. It becomes highly motivating for them to come up with clear, concrete suggestions instead of general complaints. It creates a classroom focused on growth rather than on getting good grades. I love when a student comes up at the end of class and says she is proud of me that I \_\_\_ while I am teaching. It also means I can change course if I see something isn't working instead of waiting until the end of the year to hear that a kid feels he didn't learn all year.

I save the feedback sheets. On the final, I ask them the same questions as I did on the first day. Last year, I circled their original rating from the first day so they could see their growth. This was particularly meaningful for kids who got C's & D's since they saw their own growth and they cared less that their grade was low. I then use their feedback from the whole year to plan for my next year. If I see that students don't feel like they have improved in a particular area, I use my summer to think of strategies of how to address that skill set.

# Year 1 Beginning of Year

## Getting To Know You

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

My birthday is \_\_\_\_\_ I am in Grade \_\_\_\_\_

I grew up in \_\_\_\_\_

I live in \_\_\_\_\_

In Rochester, I live \_\_\_\_\_

My family members are \_\_\_\_\_

After graduation I plan to

My greatest asset is

Something I value in a friend is

Three words that describe my personality are

I always laugh when

My favorite place to go is

My favorite color is

My teachers from last year will tell you that I am

It was easy for me to learn

It was difficult for me to learn

To plan the class and how we will learn, it is important for me to know things about you.

Please rate yourself in the following areas

### פסוקים

א. Reading the פסוק (קריאה)	1	2	3	4	5
ב. Translating the פסוק	1	2	3	4	5
ג. Summarizing the פסוק	1	2	3	4	5
ד. Develop theme for sections of פשט	1	2	3	4	5
ה. Knowing the פשט	1	2	3	4	5
ו. Noticing problems in the פסוקים	1	2	3	4	5
ז. Suggesting answers for the problems	1	2	3	4	5

Comments:

### דקדוק

ח. Prefixes & Suffix	1	2	3	4	5
ט. Common שרשים	1	2	3	4	5
י. בנין קל עבר הווה	1	2	3	4	5
יא. בנין קל עתיד	1	2	3	4	5
יב. בנין נפעל	1	2	3	4	5
יג. בנין פעל/התפעל	1	2	3	4	5
יד. טעמי המקרא	1	2	3	4	5

Comments:

**רש"י**

טו. Reading רש"י letters	1	2	3	4	5
טז. Reading רש"י with נקודות	1	2	3	4	5
יז. Reading רש"י without נקודות	1	2	3	4	5
יח. Understanding רש"י פירוש when a translation is provided	1	2	3	4	5
יט. Understanding רש"י פירוש without a translation provided	1	2	3	4	5
כ. Inferring רש"י's question	1	2	3	4	5
כא. Understanding an analysis of רש"י	1	2	3	4	5
כב. Understanding מפרשי רש"י	1	2	3	4	5

*Comments:***מפרשים**

כג. Understanding מפרשים "outside"	1	2	3	4	5
כד. Understanding מפרשים with translation and guide questions	1	2	3	4	5
כה. Understanding מפרשים with translation help and guide questions	1	2	3	4	5
כו. Understanding מפרשים with just translation help	1	2	3	4	5
כז. Understanding מפרשים with just guide questions	1	2	3	4	5
כח. Stating the main premise of a פירוש	1	2	3	4	5
כט. Comparing and contrasting מפרשים	1	2	3	4	5

*Comments:*

I learn best when

---

I am interested in

---

My personal goals for חומש are

---

I can help you by

---

You can help me by

---

# Year 2 Beginning of Year

## Getting To Know You

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

My birthday is \_\_\_\_\_ I am in Grade \_\_\_\_\_

I grew up in \_\_\_\_\_ I live in \_\_\_\_\_

Address in Rochester \_\_\_\_\_

This summer \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

During the summer I learned that \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

After graduation I plan to \_\_\_\_\_

My greatest asset is \_\_\_\_\_

Something I enjoy is

\_\_\_\_\_

My favorite color is \_\_\_\_\_

I learn best when

\_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in

\_\_\_\_\_

My personal goals for חומש are

\_\_\_\_\_

I can help you by

\_\_\_\_\_

You can help me by

\_\_\_\_\_

To plan the class and how we will learn, it is important for me to know things about you.

Please rate yourself in the following areas

### פסוקים

א. Reading the פסוק (קריאה)	1	2	3	4	5
ב. Translating the פסוק	1	2	3	4	5
ג. Summarizing the פסוק	1	2	3	4	5
ד. Develop theme for sections of פשט	1	2	3	4	5
ה. Knowing the פשט	1	2	3	4	5
ו. Noticing problems in the פסוקים	1	2	3	4	5
ז. Suggesting answers for the problems	1	2	3	4	5

Comments:

### דקדוק

ח. Prefixes & Suffix	1	2	3	4	5
ט. Common שרשים	1	2	3	4	5
י. Past, Present, Future	1	2	3	4	5
יא. וי ההיפוך	1	2	3	4	5
יב. Recognizing Different בנינים					
יג. טעמי המקרא	1	2	3	4	5

Comments:

### רש"י

יד. Reading רש"י letters	1	2	3	4	5
טו. Reading רש"י with נקודות	1	2	3	4	5
טז. Reading רש"י without נקודות	1	2	3	4	5
יז. Understanding פירוש רש"י when a translation is provided	1	2	3	4	5
יח. Understanding פירוש רש"י without a translation provided	1	2	3	4	5
יט. Inferring רש"י's question	1	2	3	4	5
כ. Understanding an analysis of רש"י	1	2	3	4	5

Comments:

**מפרשים**

כא. Understanding מפרשים "outside"	1	2	3	4	5
כב. Figuring out what problem the מפרש is addressing	1	2	3	4	5
כג. Reading & Pausing in a פירוש for commas and periods	1	2	3	4	5
כד. Understanding מפרשים with translation and guide questions	1	2	3	4	5
כה. Understanding מפרשים with just translation help	1	2	3	4	5
כו. Understanding מפרשים with just guide questions	1	2	3	4	5
כז. Understanding מפרשים with translation help and guide questions	1	2	3	4	5
כח. Stating the main premise of a פירוש	1	2	3	4	5
כט. Stating how the פירוש developed his main ideas	1	2	3	4	5
ל. Comparing and contrasting מפרשים	1	2	3	4	5
לא. Know which פירוש to go to when you have a question	1	2	3	4	5

*What else would you like to be able to do when you learn חומש with מפרשים?*

**First Test Feedback**

The lesson you most loved

- 1) Is there anything that could be changed about the class
  
- 2) The pace is
  - a) Too fast
  - b) Too slow
  - c) Ok

<b>פסוקים</b>					
א. Translating the פסוק	1	2	3	4	5
ב. Noticing problems in the פסוקים	1	2	3	4	5
ג. Suggesting answers for the problems	1	2	3	4	5
Comments:					
<b>דקדוק</b>					
ד. Prefixes & Suffix	1	2	3	4	5
ה. בנין קל עבר הווה	1	2	3	4	5
ו. בנין קל עתיד	1	2	3	4	5
ז. טעמי המקרא	1	2	3	4	5
Comments:					
<b>רש"י</b>					
ח. Reading רש"י without נקודות	1	2	3	4	5
ט. Understanding פירוש רש"י when a translation is provided	1	2	3	4	5
י. Understanding פירוש רש"י without a translation provided	1	2	3	4	5
יא. Inferring רש"י's question	1	2	3	4	5
יב. Understanding an analysis of רש"י	1	2	3	4	5
Comments:					
<b>מפרשים</b>					
יג. Understanding מפרשים with just translation help	1	2	3	4	5
יד. Understanding מפרשים with just guide questions	1	2	3	4	5
טו. Stating the main premise of a פירוש	1	2	3	4	5
טז. Comparing and contrasting מפרשים	1	2	3	4	5
Comments:					



**Midterm/Larger Test Feedback**

- 1) How did you study for this test?
- 2) Did you find the test challenging?
- 3) What has been your favorite part of the semester?
- 4) What was your least favorite part?
- 5) What are two ways the class can be improved?
- 6) Is there anything else that would be helpful for me to know?
- 7) What classwork and homework best help build your skills?
- 8) The pace is
  - a) Too fast
  - b) Too slow
  - c) Ok

<b>פסוקים</b>					
א. Translating the פסוק	1	2	3	4	5
ב. Noticing problems in the פסוקים	1	2	3	4	5
ג. Suggesting answers for the problems	1	2	3	4	5
Comments:					
<b>זקדוק</b>					
ד. Prefixes & Suffix	1	2	3	4	5
ה. בנין קל עבר הווה	1	2	3	4	5
ו. בנין קל עתיד	1	2	3	4	5
ז. טעמי המקרא	1	2	3	4	5
Comments:					
<b>רש"י</b>					
ח. Reading רש"י without נקודות	1	2	3	4	5
ט. Understanding פירוש רש"י when a translation is provided	1	2	3	4	5
י. Understanding פירוש רש"י without a translation provided	1	2	3	4	5
יא. Inferring רש"י's question	1	2	3	4	5
יב. Understanding an analysis of רש"י	1	2	3	4	5
Comments:					
<b>מפרשים</b>					
יג. Understanding מפרשים with just translation help	1	2	3	4	5
יד. Understanding מפרשים with just guide questions	1	2	3	4	5
טו. Stating the main premise of a פירוש	1	2	3	4	5
טז. Comparing and contrasting מפרשים	1	2	3	4	5
Comments:					

**Test Feedback – around Purim/ Pesach time**

- 1) The lesson you most loved
- 2) Is there anything that could be changed about the class
- 3) The pace is a) Too fast    b) Too slow    c) Ok
- 4) Goals from now until the end of the year :
- 5) Is there anything else that would be helpful for me to know?

## Self assessment

<b>פסוקים</b>					
א. Translating the פסוק	1	2	3	4	5
ב. Noticing problems in the פסוקים	1	2	3	4	5
ג. Suggesting answers for the problems	1	2	3	4	5
Comments:					
<b>זקדוק</b>					
ד. Prefixes & Suffix	1	2	3	4	5
ה. בנין קל עבר הווה	1	2	3	4	5
ו. בנין קל עתיד	1	2	3	4	5
ז. טעמי המקרא	1	2	3	4	5
Comments:					
<b>רש"י</b>					
ח. Reading רש"י without נקודות	1	2	3	4	5
ט. Understanding רש"י פירוש when a translation is provided	1	2	3	4	5
י. Understanding רש"י פירוש without a translation provided	1	2	3	4	5
יא. Inferring רש"י's question	1	2	3	4	5
יב. Understanding an analysis of רש"י	1	2	3	4	5
Comments:					
<b>מפרשים</b>					
יג. Understanding מפרשים with just translation help	1	2	3	4	5
יד. Understanding מפרשים with just guide questions	1	2	3	4	5
טו. Stating the main premise of a פירוש	1	2	3	4	5
טז. Comparing and contrasting מפרשים	1	2	3	4	5
Comments:					

### Self Assessment

Please rate yourself in the following areas

#### פסוקים

א. Reading the פסוק (קריאה)	1	2	3	4	5
ב. Translating the פסוק	1	2	3	4	5
ג. Summarizing the פסוק	1	2	3	4	5
ד. Develop theme for sections of פשט	1	2	3	4	5
ה. Knowing the פשט	1	2	3	4	5
ו. Noticing problems in the פסוקים	1	2	3	4	5
ז. Suggesting answers for the problems	1	2	3	4	5

Comments:

#### דקדוק

ח. Prefixes & Suffix	1	2	3	4	5
ט. Common שרשים	1	2	3	4	5
י. בנין קל עבר הווה	1	2	3	4	5
יא. בנין קל עתיד	1	2	3	4	5
יב. בנין נפעל	1	2	3	4	5
יג. בנין פעל/התפעל	1	2	3	4	5
יד. טעמי המקרא	1	2	3	4	5

Comments:

**רש"י**

טו. Reading רש"י letters	1	2	3	4	5
טז. Reading רש"י with נקודות	1	2	3	4	5
יז. Reading רש"י without נקודות	1	2	3	4	5
יח. Understanding רש"י פירוש when a translation is provided	1	2	3	4	5
יט. Understanding רש"י פירוש without a translation provided	1	2	3	4	5
כ. Inferring רש"י's question	1	2	3	4	5
כא. Understanding an analysis of רש"י	1	2	3	4	5
כב. Understanding מפרשי רש"י	1	2	3	4	5

Comments:

**מפרשים**

כג. Understanding מפרשים "outside"	1	2	3	4	5
כד. Understanding מפרשים with translation and guide questions	1	2	3	4	5
כה. Understanding מפרשים with translation help and guide questions	1	2	3	4	5
כו. Understanding מפרשים with just translation help	1	2	3	4	5
כז. Understanding מפרשים with just guide questions	1	2	3	4	5
כח. Stating the main premise of a פירוש	1	2	3	4	5
כט. Comparing and contrasting מפרשים	1	2	3	4	5

- 1) Are there any other skills or content that can be added to the above list?
- 2) Has this self assessment helped you in any way? If so how, If not, why not?
- 3) How did you study for this test?
- 4) What do you need to best learn?
- 5) How would you structure the class next year
- 6) What skills should be developed next year
- 7) Did you achieve your goals this year in חומש
- 8) What פרשיות should chumash a learn next year
- 9) What are two ways the class can be improved?