

## Feedback to Six Common Student Responses

*Note:* Follow-up questions are often the best feedback to students, whether their response is correct or incorrect. Questions as feedback place the cognitive load back on students by requesting that they continue thinking –to either self-correct by using the questions as scaffolds or take their thinking deeper. Below are examples of follow-up questions appropriate for each of six types of student responses.

1. **Incomplete, but partially correct, responses.** Example: *Could you say more about [the correct concept included in the student's answer.]*
2. **Incorrect due to a careless error.** Example: *Reflect on what you just said. Can you identify the error?*
3. **Incorrect because of faulty reasoning.** Example: *How did you arrive at this conclusion [or answer]? Please walk us through your thinking.*
4. **Incorrect and reflecting a misconception or incorrect assumption.**  
Example: *What makes you say [the incorrect assumption]?*
5. **Correct, but lacking evidence.** Example: *How can you support this statement?*
6. **Correct and open to deeper analysis or interpretation.** *Can you compare this to [a previously studied concept]?*

Adapted from J.A. Walsh, *Questioning for Formative Feedback*, Alexandria, VA: ASCD, pp. 55-56.