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KEY=PAPER - BRADFORD CLARA

THE MYTHS OF STANDARDIZED TESTS

WHY THEY DON'T TELL YOU WHAT YOU THINK THEY DO

Rowman & Littlefield Publishers Much of the common knowledge about standardized tests is simply wrong, and these misunderstandings have led to the distortion of the education of children and the judgments made about them. The Myths of Standardized Tests debunks these assumptions, proposing better ways to judge the success of our schools and offering readers suggestions for ways they can help reduce the burden of tests on their children.

A MARTIAN SENDS A POSTCARD HOME

Oxford University Press, USA

THE TEST

WHY OUR SCHOOLS ARE OBSESSED WITH STANDARDIZED TESTING-BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE

PublicAffairs "[The anti-testing] movement now has a guidebook. . . . Kamenetz shows how fundamentally American it would be to move toward a more holistic system." -New York Times Book Review The Test is an essential and critically acclaimed book for any parent confounded by our national obsession with standardized testing. It recounts the shocking history and tempestuous politics of testing and borrows strategies from fields as diverse as games, neuroscience, and ancient philosophy to help children cope. It presents the stories of families, teachers, and schools maneuvering within and beyond the existing educational system, playing and winning the testing game. And it points the way toward a hopeful future of better tests and happier kids.

PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING IN THE SERVICE OF DISABILITY DETERMINATION

National Academies Press The United States Social Security Administration (SSA) administers two disability programs: Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), for disabled individuals, and their dependent family members, who have worked and contributed to the Social Security trust funds, and Supplemental Security Income (SSI), which is a means-tested program based on income and financial assets for adults aged 65 years or older and disabled adults and children. Both programs require that claimants have a disability and meet specific medical criteria in order to qualify for benefits. SSA establishes the presence of a medically-determined impairment in individuals with mental disorders other than intellectual disability through the use of standard diagnostic criteria, which include symptoms and signs. These impairments are established largely on reports of signs and symptoms of impairment and functional limitation. Psychological Testing in the Service of Disability Determination considers the use of psychological tests in evaluating disability claims submitted to the SSA. This report critically reviews selected psychological tests, including symptom validity tests, that could contribute to SSA disability determinations. The report discusses the possible uses of such tests and their contribution to disability determinations. Psychological Testing in the Service of Disability Determination discusses testing norms, qualifications for administration of tests, administration of tests, and reporting results. The recommendations of this report will help SSA improve the consistency and accuracy of disability determination in certain cases.

THE EFFECTS OF STANDARDIZED TESTING

Springer Science & Business Media When George Bernard Shaw wrote his play, *Pygmalion*, he could hardly have foreseen the use of the concept of the self-fulfilling prophecy in debates about standardized testing in schools. Still less could he have foreseen that the validity of the concept would be examined many years later in Irish schools. While the primary purpose of the experimental study reported in this book was not to investigate the Pygmalion effect, it is inconceivable that a study of the effects of standardized testing, conceived in the 1960s and planned and executed in the 1970s, would not have been influenced by thinking about teachers' expectations and the influence of test information on the formation of those expectations. While our study did pay special attention to teacher expectations, its scope was much wider. It was planned and carried out in a much broader framework, one in which we set out to examine the impact of a standardized testing program, not just on teachers, but also on school practices, students, and students' parents.

WRITING AND SCHOOL REFORM

WRITING INSTRUCTION IN THE AGE OF COMMON CORE AND STANDARDIZED TESTING

CSU Open Press In *Writing and School Reform*, Joanne Addison and Sharon James McGee respond to a testing and accountability movement that has imposed increasingly stronger measures of control over our classrooms, shifted teaching away from best practices, and eroded teacher and student agency. Drawing on historical and empirical research, *Writing and School Reform* details the origins of the accountability movement, explores its emerging effects on the teaching of writing, and charts a path forward that reasserts the agency of teachers and researchers in the field.

THE PEDAGOGY OF STANDARDIZED TESTING

THE RADICAL IMPACTS OF EDUCATIONAL STANDARDIZATION IN THE US AND CANADA

Springer Based on a large-scale international study of teachers in Los Angeles, Chicago, Ontario, and New York, this book illustrates the ways increased use of high-stakes standardized testing is fundamentally changing education in the US and Canada with a negative overall impact on the way teachers teach and students learn. Standardized testing makes understanding students' strengths and weaknesses more difficult, and class time spent on testing consumes scarce time and attention needed to support the success of all students—further disadvantaging ELLs, students with exceptionalities, low income, and racially minoritized students.

CLOSING THE OPPORTUNITY GAP

WHAT AMERICA MUST DO TO GIVE EVERY CHILD AN EVEN CHANCE

Oxford University Press While the achievement gap has dominated policy discussions over the past two decades, relatively little attention has been paid to a gap even more at odds with American ideals: the opportunity gap. Opportunity and achievement, while inextricably connected, are very different goals. Every American will not go to college, but every American should be given a fair chance to be prepared for college. In communities across the U.S., children lack the crucial resources and opportunities, inside and outside of schools that they need if they are to reach their potential. *Closing the Opportunity Gap* offers accessible, research-based essays written by top experts who highlight the discrepancies that exist in our public schools, focusing on how policy decisions and life circumstances conspire to create the "opportunity gap" that leads inexorably to stark achievement gaps. They also describe sensible policies grounded in evidence that can restore and enhance opportunities. Moving beyond conventional academic discourse, *Closing the Opportunity Gap* will spark vital new conversations about what schools, parents, educators, and policymakers can and should do to give all children a fair chance to thrive.

AMERICA 2000

AN EDUCATION STRATEGY

AUTHENTIC ASSESSMENT

A HANDBOOK FOR EDUCATORS

Addison Wesley Publishing Company An innovative guidebook that takes you beyond the usual assessment buzzwords to an understanding of why educators are searching for alternatives to standard assessment procedures.

RESOURCES IN EDUCATION

GET READY! FOR SOCIAL STUDIES : BOOK REPORTS, ESSAYS AND RESEARCH PAPERS

McGraw-Hill Education Everything parents need to help their kids succeed in social studies The only comprehensive social studies skill-building series available, the Get Ready! For Social Studies series equips proactive parents with the tools they need to help their children develop the core skills required to perform at grade level in social studies-related subjects. Book Reports, Essays, and Research Papers provides step-by-step instruction, models, and practice exercises to help parents guide their children through the writing and research process.

HOW TO STUDY FOR STANDARDIZED TESTS

Jones & Bartlett Publishers How to Study for Standardized Tests focuses on the skills and test-taking strategies that students need to master in order to excel on tests. This book is a great resource for high school students preparing for the ACT and SAT; college students preparing for the GRE; professional students preparing to take their licensing or national board examinations; and healthcare practitioners studying for their initial or recertification examinations. How to Study for Standardized Tests focuses on three key variables: the test, you, and important study resources (including study methods and techniques). This detailed guide describes and explains how to take tests effectively and efficiently in a timed environment while helping to reduce the impact of test anxiety. The authors include a discussion of techniques to help you select answers when guessing is your only option. By learning as much as you can about what it takes to prepare for and perform well on standardized tests and by following the advice in this book you can realize your high-scoring potential. Why should you buy a book on How to Study for Standardized Exams? A. You want to increase your test score B. You believe that although you will perform well, you can do better C. You want to learn how to study less and still get a high score D. You are committed to devoting the time and energy necessary to improve your study techniques and test-taking skills E. All of the above!

WRITING SMART, 3RD EDITION

THE SAVVY STUDENT'S GUIDE TO BETTER WRITING

Princeton Review YOUR GO-TO GUIDE FOR EFFORTLESS WRITING. This classic, easy-to-follow guide teaches you foundational skills to improve your writing and express yourself clearly in essays, emails, reports, and more. Knowing how to communicate through clear, articulate writing is an essential skill in today's world. Whether it's a college application essay, class paper, or professional report, you need to be able to express your thoughts clearly and with appropriate context. This updated third edition of Writing Smart sets you up for success with step-by-step approaches for all types of writing, from essays to academic assignments to workplace emails. Get ready to build your confidence and improve your skills with writing that makes an impression. INCLUDES CHAPTERS COVERING: • Fundamental grammar rules and terms • How to construct sentences and choose the right words • The best ways to approach exam essays, research papers, professional emails, and more • Processes for editing and revising your own work to achieve the best possible result

STEALTH ASSESSMENT

MEASURING AND SUPPORTING LEARNING IN VIDEO GAMES

MIT Press An approach to performance-based assessments that embeds assessments in digital games in order to measure how students are progressing toward targeted goals. To succeed in today's interconnected and complex world, workers need to be able to think systemically, creatively, and critically. Equipping K-16 students with these twenty-first-century competencies requires new thinking not only about what should be taught in school but also about how to develop valid assessments to measure and support these competencies. In *Stealth Assessment*, Valerie Shute and Matthew Ventura investigate an approach that embeds performance-based assessments in digital games. They argue that using well-designed games as vehicles to assess and support learning will help combat students' growing disengagement from school, provide dynamic and ongoing measures of learning processes and outcomes, and offer students opportunities to apply such complex competencies as creativity, problem solving, persistence, and collaboration. Embedding assessments within games provides a way to monitor players' progress toward targeted competencies and to use that information to support

learning. Shute and Ventura discuss problems with such traditional assessment methods as multiple-choice questions, review evidence relating to digital games and learning, and illustrate the stealth-assessment approach with a set of assessments they are developing and embedding in the digital game Newton's Playground. These stealth assessments are intended to measure levels of creativity, persistence, and conceptual understanding of Newtonian physics during game play. Finally, they consider future research directions related to stealth assessment in education.

THE KNOWLEDGE GAP

THE HIDDEN CAUSE OF AMERICA'S BROKEN EDUCATION SYSTEM--AND HOW TO FIX IT

Penguin The untold story of the root cause of America's education crisis--and the seemingly endless cycle of multigenerational poverty. It was only after years within the education reform movement that Natalie Wexler stumbled across a hidden explanation for our country's frustrating lack of progress when it comes to providing every child with a quality education. The problem wasn't one of the usual scapegoats: lazy teachers, shoddy facilities, lack of accountability. It was something no one was talking about: the elementary school curriculum's intense focus on decontextualized reading comprehension "skills" at the expense of actual knowledge. In the tradition of Dale Russakoff's *The Prize* and Dana Goldstein's *The Teacher Wars*, Wexler brings together history, research, and compelling characters to pull back the curtain on this fundamental flaw in our education system--one that fellow reformers, journalists, and policymakers have long overlooked, and of which the general public, including many parents, remains unaware. But *The Knowledge Gap* isn't just a story of what schools have gotten so wrong--it also follows innovative educators who are in the process of shedding their deeply ingrained habits, and describes the rewards that have come along: students who are not only excited to learn but are also acquiring the knowledge and vocabulary that will enable them to succeed. If we truly want to fix our education system and unlock the potential of our neediest children, we have no choice but to pay attention.

SHARPEN YOUR ESSAY WRITING SKILLS

Enslow Publishing, LLC With the recent emphasis on essay writing in many standardized tests and classroom assignments, this book aims to help young writers in this process. A positive, conversational tone, fun illustrations, and helpful examples make this book engaging and easy to use.

TESTING, TEACHING, AND LEARNING

A GUIDE FOR STATES AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS

National Academies Press State education departments and school districts face an important challenge in implementing a new law that requires disadvantaged students to be held to the same standards as other students. The new requirements come from provisions of the 1994 reauthorization of Title I, the largest federal effort in precollegiate education, which provides aid to "level the field" for disadvantaged students. *Testing, Teaching, and Learning* is written to help states and school districts comply with the new law, offering guidance for designing and implementing assessment and accountability systems. This book examines standards-based education reform and reviews the research on student assessment, focusing on the needs of disadvantaged students covered by Title I. With examples of states and districts that have track records in new systems, the committee develops a practical "decision framework" for education officials. The book explores how best to design assessment and accountability systems that support high levels of student learning and to work toward continuous improvement. *Testing, Teaching, and Learning* will be an important tool for all involved in educating disadvantaged students--state and local administrators and classroom teachers.

LIBRARY OUTREACH, PARTNERSHIPS, AND DISTANCE EDUCATION

REFERENCE LIBRARIANS AT THE GATEWAY

CRC Press Increase patronage with effective outreach strategies! From the Introduction, by Wendi Arant and Pixie Anne Mosley: "Outreach is a concept that is gaining more and more significance for libraries, particularly with the recent developments in information technology. Dictionaries define it as 'the act of extending services, benefits, etc. to a wider section of the population.' This definition also implies a mission to communicate a particular message to an audience in order to gain their support. Its meaning for libraries is profound, having consequences for fund raising, public service, and public relations." *Library Outreach, Partnerships, and Distance Education: Reference Librarians at the Gateway* focuses on extending community outreach in libraries toward a broader public by expanding services that are based on recent advances in information technology. This crucial volume will help you will explore many of the issues that are currently affecting libraries, including: the growth of technology and its effect on libraries and library users emerging literacy issues (computer literacy, non-English-speaking populations) providing effective services to at-risk populations diversity and multiculturalism and how they are changing the ways that libraries are used targeting and reaching specific user groups distance education--bringing the mountain to Mohammed If the public perception of

libraries is ever to move beyond that of "musty old book warehouses," librarians must take a more active role in the development of new services and in heightening awareness of their existing services and collections. *Library Outreach, Partnerships, and Distance Education* presents ideas and strategies that are now being implemented around the United States to do just that. This book should be a part of every library's plans for the future!

TAKING THE STRESS OUT OF HOMEWORK

ORGANIZATIONAL, CONTENT-SPECIFIC, AND TEST-PREP STRATEGIES TO HELP YOUR CHILDREN HELP THEMSELVES

Penguin "As a mother of three, this book's practical road map for helping our kids learn independently is invaluable. This should be a must-read for all parents." --Jenna Bush Hager Drawing on extensive experience as classroom teachers and the directors of their highly regarded tutoring business, Abby and Brian address a range of common frustrations caused by homework. They answer the most pressing questions on every parent's mind: How much should I get involved, what does constructive help look like, and how can I help my child work independently? *Taking the Stress out of Homework* breaks down for parents exactly when and how to offer homework support. Whether your child's stress point is executive functioning--the ability to plan or organize--or a subject-specific struggle in math, reading, writing, or standardized test-preparation, Abby and Brian use real-life stories to provide individualized, actionable advice. At the center of Abby and Brian's philosophy is encouraging students to break free of the "let's get to the answer already so that we can be done with the assignment" mindset; they focus instead on a process-oriented approach that fosters engagement and self-sufficiency both in and out of school. Filled with expert tips about how to build executive functioning and content skills, Abby and Brian share stress-reducing best practices so homework not only supports what kids are learning, but also helps build confidence and skills that last a lifetime.

HIGH STAKES

TESTING FOR TRACKING, PROMOTION, AND GRADUATION

National Academies Press Everyone is in favor of "high education standards" and "fair testing" of student achievement, but there is little agreement as to what these terms actually mean. *High Stakes* looks at how testing affects critical decisions for American students. As more and more tests are introduced into the country's schools, it becomes increasingly important to know how those tests are used--and misused--in assessing children's performance and achievements. *High Stakes* focuses on how testing is used in schools to make decisions about tracking and placement, promotion and retention, and awarding or withholding high school diplomas. This book sorts out the controversies that emerge when a test score can open or close gates on a student's educational pathway. The expert panel: Proposes how to judge the appropriateness of a test. Explores how to make tests reliable, valid, and fair. Puts forward strategies and practices to promote proper test use. Recommends how decisionmakers in education should--and should not--use test results. The book discusses common misuses of testing, their political and social context, what happens when test issues are taken to court, special student populations, social promotion, and more. *High Stakes* will be of interest to anyone concerned about the long-term implications for individual students of picking up that Number 2 pencil: policymakers, education administrators, test designers, teachers, and parents.

AMERICAN REPUBLIC SINCE 1877, STANDARDIZED TEST PRACTICE WORKBOOK, TEACHER'S EDITION

THE BIG TEST

THE SECRET HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN MERITOCRACY

Macmillan Surveys the history of educational testing in the United States, and discusses the ideas, the people, and the politics behind the system.

WASHBACK IN LANGUAGE TESTING

RESEARCH CONTEXTS AND METHODS

Routledge Washback refers to the influence of language testing on teaching and learning. This volume, at the important intersection of language testing and teaching practices, presents theoretical, methodological, and practical guidance for current and future washback studies. In the field of language testing, researchers' major interest has traditionally been focused on issues and solving problems inherent in tests in order to increase their reliability and validity. However, the washback effect goes well beyond the test itself to include factors, such as curriculum, teacher and learner behaviors inside

and outside the classroom, their perceptions of the test, and how test scores are used. Only recently have researchers started to empirically investigate the phenomenon of washback. This volume of such research serves two essential purposes by: *providing an overview of the complexity of washback and the various contextual factors entangled within testing, teaching, and learning; and *presenting empirical studies from around the world that offer insights into the effects of washback in specific educational contexts and models of research on which future studies can be based. The extensive use of test scores for various educational and social purposes in society nowadays makes the washback effect a high-interest phenomenon in the day-to-day educational activities of teachers, researchers, program coordinators/directors, policymakers, and others in the field of education. Washback in Language Testing: Research Contexts and Methods is a valuable resource for those who are interested in the application of findings to actual teaching and learning situations or conduct washback research in their own contexts, including educational and psychological testing experts, as well as alternative assessment people in all fields, and for policy- and decision-makers in educational and testing organizations.

A+ GUIDE TO NARRATIVE ESSAYS

Four-Ply Publishing "Just tell a story," the teacher said. "It will be fun." Yet the student stares at a blank screen, uncertain what to write, and it's far from a fun experience. The narrative essay -- a personal form of storytelling about true experiences -- requires the writer to abandon familiar tools such as topic sentences, thesis statements, and supporting authority. But this doesn't mean the writer should just type words until the pages are filled. Rambling freeform narratives are not what most writing instructors hope to see. There is a better method, and it can be found in this short booklet. This booklet explains everything the writer needs to generate a successful narrative essay in step-by-step fashion. Starting with a story goal, proceeding through a timeline, and finishing with two targeted paragraphs, this booklet will turn a blank screen into a finished paper. Table of Contents How to Use This Booklet What is a narrative essay? Special Note Regarding Use of the Word "Narrative" Assignment Analysis: beginning, middle, end: outline the event on a timeline Thesis: the Goal Beginning: the Setup -Premise/Theme -Characters -Your point of view Middle: Events on a timeline -Action -Dialogue -Description A Special Note About Paragraphing A Special Note About One Exception to the Timeline A Special Note About the Second-to-Last Paragraph End: the Resolution: how you changed/how things changed Proofreading Here's what students have said about this method: "This made it all seem really easy." "I thought I should just write about what happened. If I had done that, I would have left out some important things. Thanks for showing me what was missing!" "Whew! I tried this, and wrote my paper in record time!"

THE DEATH AND LIFE OF THE GREAT AMERICAN SCHOOL SYSTEM

HOW TESTING AND CHOICE ARE UNDERMINING EDUCATION

Basic Books (AZ) Discusses how school choice, misapplied standards of accountability, the No Child Left Behind mandate, and the use of a corporate model have all led to a decline in public education and presents arguments for a return to strong neighborhood schools and quality teaching.

UNDERSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT TESTS

A GUIDE FOR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

Amer Inst for Research in Current information about tests and testing procedures is provided for school district staff, particularly in districts without specially trained testing directors. Practical information is given about selecting and administering tests and about reporting results effectively. This guide opens with a discussion of the basic principles of testing. The various types of district-level tests are described, and different types of test scores are presented. The advantages and limitations of certain types of tests and scores are reviewed. The viewpoints of measurement experts on important issues in testing are expressed in the following chapters: (1) "Common Misuses of Standardized Tests" (Eric Gardner); (2) "Preparing Students To Take Standardized Achievement Tests" (William A. Mehrens); (3) "Matching Your Curriculum and Standardized Tests" (Jane C. Conoley); (4) "Using Customized Standardized Tests" (Paul L. Williams); (5) "Interpreting Test Scores for Compensatory Education Students" (Gary Echternacht); and (6) "Working with the Press" (Allan Hartman). Four additional discussions are appended: "Finding Information about Standardized Tests" (Lawrence M. Rudner and Kathryn Dorko); "Organizations That Provide Test Information" (Ronald T. C. Boyd); "Putting Test Scores in Perspective: Communicating a Complete Report Card for Your Schools" (M. Kevin Matter); and "Major Achievement Tests and Their Characteristics" (Northwest Regional Education Laboratory). Names and addresses of major test publishers, and a glossary of testing terms are also included. (SLD)

MEASUREMENT AND EVALUATION IN TEACHING

Macmillan Publishing Company

CONTRADICTIONS OF SCHOOL REFORM

EDUCATIONAL COSTS OF STANDARDIZED TESTING

Psychology Press *Contradictions of School* is essential reading for parents, teachers, and policymakers concerned about the effects of standardized testing on our children. Increasingly, states are rushing to impose these systems as a "quick fix" for public schools.

CLINICIAN'S GUIDE TO PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT AND TESTING

WITH FORMS AND TEMPLATES FOR EFFECTIVE PRACTICE

Springer Publishing Company cs.psych.clinic_psych

THE TESTING CHARADE

PRETENDING TO MAKE SCHOOLS BETTER

University of Chicago Press For decades we've been studying, experimenting with, and wrangling over different approaches to improving public education, and there's still little consensus on what works, and what to do. The one thing people seem to agree on, however, is that schools need to be held accountable—we need to know whether what they're doing is actually working. But what does that mean in practice? High-stakes tests. Lots of them. And that has become a major problem. Daniel Koretz, one of the nation's foremost experts on educational testing, argues in *The Testing Charade* that the whole idea of test-based accountability has failed—it has increasingly become an end in itself, harming students and corrupting the very ideals of teaching. In this powerful polemic, built on unimpeachable evidence and rooted in decades of experience with educational testing, Koretz calls out high-stakes testing as a sham, a false idol that is ripe for manipulation and shows little evidence of leading to educational improvement. Rather than setting up incentives to divert instructional time to pointless test prep, he argues, we need to measure what matters, and measure it in multiple ways—not just via standardized tests. Right now, we're lying to ourselves about whether our children are learning. And the longer we accept that lie, the more damage we do. It's time to end our blind reliance on high-stakes tests. With *The Testing Charade*, Daniel Koretz insists that we face the facts and change course, and he gives us a blueprint for doing better.

EAGER TO LEARN

EDUCATING OUR PRESCHOOLERS

National Academies Press Clearly babies come into the world remarkably receptive to its wonders. Their alertness to sights, sounds, and even abstract concepts makes them inquisitive explorers--and learners--every waking minute. Well before formal schooling begins, children's early experiences lay the foundations for their later social behavior, emotional regulation, and literacy. Yet, for a variety of reasons, far too little attention is given to the quality of these crucial years. Outmoded theories, outdated facts, and undersized budgets all play a part in the uneven quality of early childhood programs throughout our country. What will it take to provide better early education and care for our children between the ages of two and five? *Eager to Learn* explores this crucial question, synthesizing the newest research findings on how young children learn and the impact of early learning. Key discoveries in how young children learn are reviewed in language accessible to parents as well as educators: findings about the interplay of biology and environment, variations in learning among individuals and children from different social and economic groups, and the importance of health, safety, nutrition and interpersonal warmth to early learning. Perhaps most significant, the book documents how very early in life learning really begins. Valuable conclusions and recommendations are presented in the areas of the teacher-child relationship, the organization and content of curriculum, meeting the needs of those children most at risk of school failure, teacher preparation, assessment of teaching and learning, and more. The book discusses: Evidence for competing theories, models, and approaches in the field and a hard look at some day-to-day practices and activities generally used in preschool. The role of the teacher, the importance of peer interactions, and other relationships in the child's life. Learning needs of minority children, children with disabilities, and other special groups. Approaches to assessing young children's learning for the purposes of policy decisions, diagnosis of educational difficulties, and instructional planning. Preparation and continuing development of teachers. *Eager to Learn* presents a comprehensive, coherent picture of early childhood learning, along with a clear path toward improving this important stage of life for all children.

NBS SPECIAL PUBLICATION

THE NATION'S REPORT CARD

MATHEMATICS 2000

ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY

QUICKSTUDY REFERENCE GUIDE TO PLANNING, RESEARCHING, AND WRITING

Quickstudy Reference Guides Extremely important essay form that lays the groundwork for persuading others to see your side. Students will be asked to write this essay type (also known as a persuasive essay) from grade school through college, and definitely on standardized tests. Beyond school, much of a career can be spent debating points to persuade your peers, coworkers, colleagues, customers, vendors, constituents, etc. Which is why the skill is important enough to be tested nationwide. Great for school, these 6 laminated pages can last to support the process of persuasion for a lifetime. 6-page laminated guide includes: Understanding Argument & the Writing process Logic in Argument Six Evidences of a Good Argument Types of Arguments What an Argument Requires Arguable Issues Reading Argumentative Materials Writing Your Own Argument Critical Thinking Prompts Purpose & Parts of an Argument Types of Claims Types of Evidence Types of Fallacies Questions for Reading/Writing an Argument Writing the Argumentative Essay Understanding the Audience Research Model Essay Outline Sample Essay

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE WELL EDUCATED?

AND MORE ESSAYS ON STANDARDS, GRADING, AND OTHER FOLLIES

Beacon Press Few writers ask us to question our fundamental assumptions about education as provocatively as Alfie Kohn. Time magazine has called him 'perhaps the country's most outspoken critic of education's fixation on grades [and] test scores.' And the Washington Post says he is 'the most energetic and charismatic figure standing in the way of a major federal effort to make standardized curriculums and tests a fact of life in every U.S. school.' In this new collection of essays, Kohn takes on some of the most important and controversial topics in education of the last few years. His central focus is on the real goals of education—a topic, he argues, that we systematically ignore while lavishing attention on misguided models of learning and counterproductive techniques of motivation. The shift to talking about goals yields radical conclusions and wonderfully pungent essays that only Alfie Kohn could have written. From the title essay's challenge to conventional, conservative definitions of a good education to essays on standards and testing and grades that tally the severe educational costs of overemphasizing a narrow conception of achievement, Kohn boldly builds on his earlier work and writes for a wide audience. Kohn's new book will be greeted with enthusiasm by his many readers and by any teacher or parent looking for a refreshing perspective on today's debates about schools. From the Trade Paperback edition.

THE TYRANNY OF THE MERITOCRACY

DEMOCRATIZING HIGHER EDUCATION IN AMERICA

Beacon Press A fresh and bold argument for revamping our standards of “merit” and a clear blueprint for creating collaborative education models that strengthen our democracy rather than privileging individual elites Standing on the foundations of America’s promise of equal opportunity, our universities purport to serve as engines of social mobility and practitioners of democracy. But as acclaimed scholar and pioneering civil rights advocate Lani Guinier argues, the merit systems that dictate the admissions practices of these institutions are functioning to select and privilege elite individuals rather than create learning communities geared to advance democratic societies. Having studied and taught at schools such as Harvard University, Yale Law School, and the University of Pennsylvania Law School, Guinier has spent years examining the experiences of ethnic minorities and of women at the nation’s top institutions of higher education, and here she lays bare the practices that impede the stated missions of these schools. Goaded on by a contemporary culture that establishes value through ranking and sorting, universities assess applicants using the vocabulary of private, highly individualized merit. As a result of private merit standards and ever-increasing tuitions, our colleges and universities increasingly are failing in their mission to provide educational opportunity and to prepare students for productive and engaged citizenship. To reclaim higher education as a cornerstone of democracy, Guinier argues that institutions of higher learning must focus on admitting and educating a class of students who will be critical thinkers, active citizens, and publicly spirited leaders. Guinier presents a plan for considering “democratic merit,” a system that measures the success of higher education not by the personal qualities of the students who enter but by the work and service performed by the graduates who leave. Guinier goes on to offer vivid examples of communities that

have developed effective learning strategies based not on an individual's "merit" but on the collaborative strength of a group, learning and working together, supporting members, and evolving into powerful collectives. Examples are taken from across the country and include a wide range of approaches, each innovative and effective. Guinier argues for reformation, not only of the very premises of admissions practices but of the shape of higher education itself.

DEFENDING STANDARDIZED TESTING

Psychology Press The education reform movement of the past two decades has focused on raising academic standards. Some standards advocates attach a testing mechanism to gauge the extent to which high standards are actually accomplished, whereas some critics accuse the push for standards and testing of impeding reform and perpetuating inequality. At the same time, the testing profession has produced advances in the format, accuracy, dependability, and utility of tests. Never before has obtaining such an abundance of accurate and useful information about student learning been possible. Meanwhile, the American public remains steadfast in support of testing to measure student performance and monitor the performance of educational systems. Many educational testing experts who acknowledge the benefits of testing also believe that those benefits have been insufficiently articulated. Although much has been written on standardized testing policy, most of the material has been written by opponents. The contributing authors of this volume are both accomplished researchers and practitioners who are respected and admired worldwide. They bring to the project an abundance of experience working with standardized tests. The goal of *Defending Standardized Testing* is to: *describe current standardized testing policies and strategies; *explain many of the common criticisms of standardized testing; *document the public support for, and the realized benefits of, standardized testing; *acknowledge the limitations of, and suggest improvements to, testing practices; *provide guidance for structuring and administering large-scale testing programs in light of public preferences and the "No Child Left Behind Act" requirements; and *present a defense of standardized testing and a vision for its future. *Defending Standardized Testing* minimizes the use of technical jargon so as to appeal to all who have a stake in American educational reform.

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR TESTING AND DOING BETTER IN SCHOOL

Simon and Schuster Help students master test taking through preparation strategies that lead to academic success! As the stakes on high-profile student tests such as the SAT continue to rise, student preparedness is becoming increasingly important. As a result, helping students do well on tests and succeed in school has become a top priority for teachers. This indispensable guide responds to this need by providing resources to promote content learning and test-taking abilities in middle and secondary school students. This practical text provides charts, checklists, Internet resources, and sample exercises for teachers to use with students, plus a final test covering content from each chapter. Using research-based practices, educators will be able to help students develop • Strategies for dealing with test anxiety • Effective time management and organizational skills • Note-taking and study techniques applicable across content areas • Methods for taking essay and objective tests Tests are often a source of anxiety for students and teachers alike, but they don't have to be! Use these proven tools and strategies to help your students develop the skills and confidence that lead to positive academic experiences.

TESTS THAT TEACH

USING STANDARDIZED TESTS TO IMPROVE INSTRUCTION

ASCD Now that the No Child Left Behind Act has left its mark on public education, educators across the United States are all the more invested in preparing their students for state and national assessments. In *Tests That Teach: Using Standardized Tests to Improve Instruction*, Karen Tankersley guides you with proven tips and instructional strategies to help your students perform to their potential. Covering all core contents areas--language arts, social studies, math, and science--and respecting all levels of student performance, Tankersley *Examines the various types of questions that routinely appear on these assessments; *Provides sample multiple-choice and constructed-response questions from the tests; *Offers guidelines on how to create daily lessons that encourage students to practice the skills and demonstrate the knowledge they'll need to use on the high-stakes tests; *Suggests word lists, games, discussion topics, and testing ideas for your classroom; and *Describes how school staff can create a learning community that fosters collaboration among teachers and high performance in students. Also included are a wealth of online resources for lesson plans, daily classroom activities, and virtual field trips, as well as links to every state's released materials on its own assessment. As Tankersley explains, teaching students the skills they need to do well on constructed-response tests will better prepare students both to score well on state and national assessments and to take their place as thoughtful and organized thinkers in a rapidly changing, competitive society.