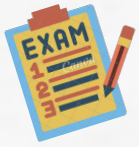
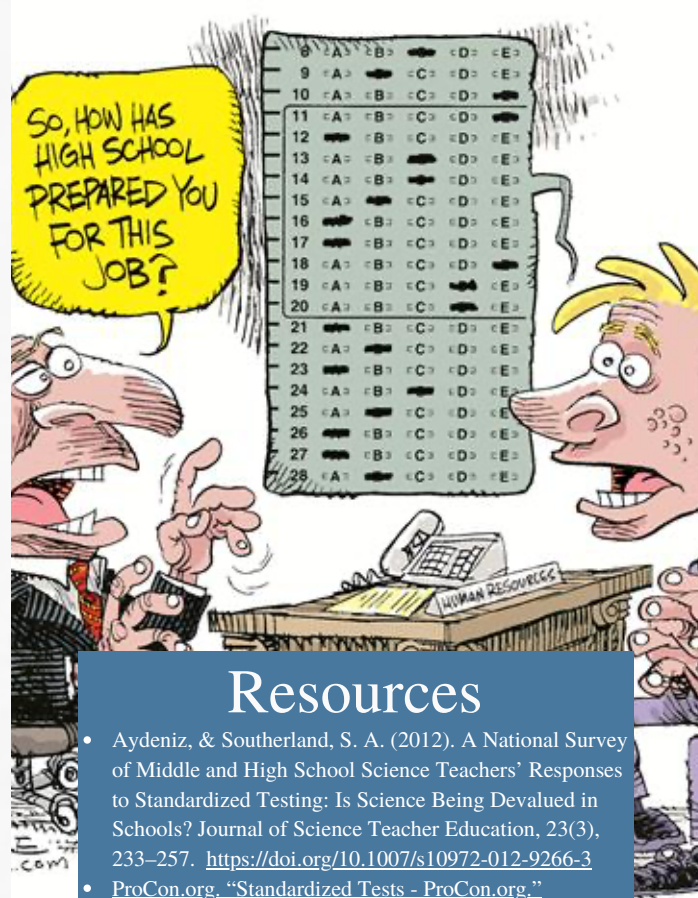
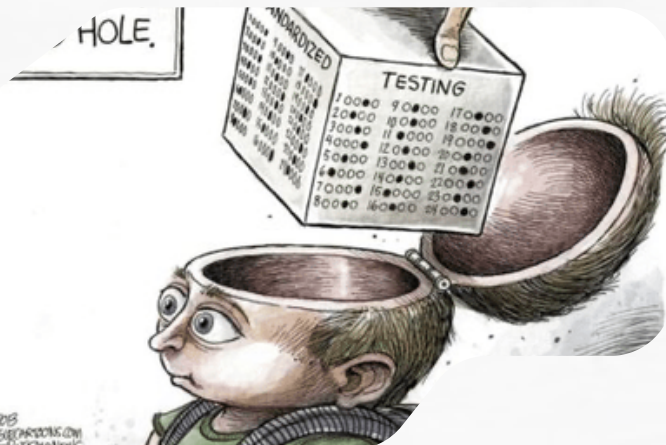


Facts about Standardized Testing



- Students take over 100 standardized tests from pre-k to grade 12
- Most standardized tests are self-imposed by school districts, not the federal government
- Students who live in poverty perform poorly on standardized tests. The best predictor of SAT score isn't education, IQ, or grade level at the time of the exam. It's socioeconomic status.
- Only 26% of parents believe their child is receiving too much standardized testing
- With multiple-choice questions, boys perform better than girls. In open-ended questions, girls perform better than boys. As a result, the gender gap in test results varies depending on the kind of exam given.

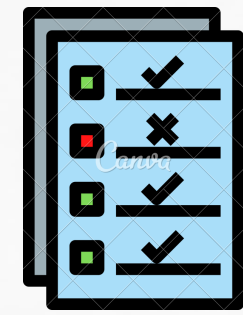


Resources

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The Problem With Standardized Testing



By: Laura Lalla

Overview

What is Standardized Testing? Standardized testing is a test that calls for all test takers to respond the same way to all of the questions or a set of questions drawn from a common bank of questions. That is scored in a "standard" or uniform way that enables comparison of the relative performance of specific students or groups of students. Standardized testing has been a significant issue for students, teachers, and parents because students need to know if they benefit from standardized tests or if they find them fitting or necessary for their lessons. Students are placed under a lot of stress and anxiety by parents and instructors when it comes to these tests. Students are expected to pass since they are being prepped for it, which goes along with what they learned over the school year. Standardized testing requires a lot of studying, applying memorized formulas, understanding answers to reading comprehension, and defining words that would never be applied to real-world situations.

People who can help these changes

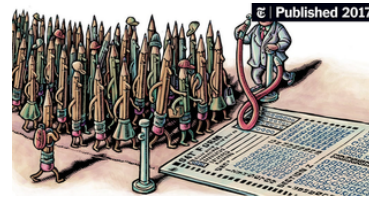
- Department of Education (DOE)
- Colleges
- College Board
- Teachers
- Students



Main Purpose of

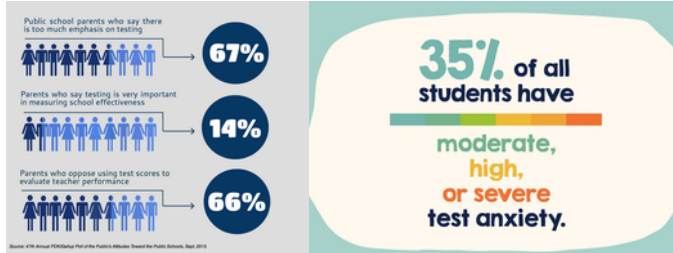
Standardized Testing

Standardized testing makes it possible to compare student accomplishments across schools, promotes teacher accountability, and can help educators improve their lesson plans. These significant justifications demonstrate why standardized testing is one of the most popular subjects in school. But, the concept of testing has negatively impacted students and turned it into something detrimental to their well-being.



Statistics

Negative statement	N = 164	Representative statement
1. Administration of standardized tests leads teachers to water down the content	53	I am unable to go in-depth in most disciplines because I have to rush through to cover all of the material. Skimming through is the wrong approach to teaching science I no longer teach parts of my subject that are fun and interesting
2. Such tests do not inform subsequent instruction	13	It does not allow for re-teaching
3. Administration of such tests forces teachers to teach to the test	98	Unfortunately, I often am forced to "teach to the test" rather than making sure that students are truly learning the "big idea" concepts that would serve them better



Negative statement	N = 238	Representative statement
1. Standardized tests do not measure what students learn in science courses	141	Topics relating to earth science are not on the test I teach physics but I am not sure how much of what I teach is on the test I think the test only measures what they learned in 8th grade. It is almost like a joke One question cannot gauge whether a student knows or understands motion
2. Students do not take the test seriously	89	Students are very smart. They know the test does not count so they do not try their best
3. These types of test discriminate against special needs students such as ESL	8	How can you understand the question if it is not written in your home language?

Pros and Cons



Pros: ✓

- Standardized testing helps teachers understand and determine what to teach students and when to teach it
- Determines whether a person is qualified for a specific position
- Parents can get a decent picture of how their children are doing by comparing them to students locally and nationally through standardized testing.

Cons: ✗



- Standardized tests do not promote student performance; they just identify children who are proficient test takers and provide no useful indicators of development.
- The use of standardized testing is sexist, racist, and classist.
- The results of standardized tests do not indicate future success.

