

The Best Standardized Test EVER

Warning: this exam is an end-of-the-year assessment of your skills as a student and of the success of your entire school district. Please make your marks heavy and dark, pay close attention to how much time is left in this session, and whatever you do, make sure you don't get so nervous that you pee in your pants while taking it.

- 1) **Standardized tests best measure:**
 - a) the ability to reason and think clearly
 - b) the radius of a purple beach ball falling at 532 miles per hour
 - c) a student's overall ability to succeed
 - d) the mental capacity for 8 year olds to do busywork
 - 2) **An intelligent student might:**
 - a) score above the 90th percentile in all subjects
 - b) blow their nose with their test answer blank
 - c) read and study for enjoyment
 - d) whistle Rachmaninoff throughout the entire exam
 - 3) **Standardized testing began:**
 - a) to prove the mental superiority of certain genetic breeds
 - b) to make sure the native children knew how to grow corn
 - c) as a way to screen contestants for Jeopardy
 - d) at a Harvard tea party
 - 4) **While a child takes a 12 hour exam, the child most likely feels:**
 - a) tickled pretty by algebraic functions
 - b) a strange sensation of nausea and near vomit
 - c) trapped in a never-ending tunnel of boxes and numbers
 - d) the sheer discomfort of a plastic orange chair
 - 5) **Approximately x dollars were spent by states on testing alone in 2001:**
 - a) nothing - the test companies volunteer for the good of humanity
 - b) \$400 million
 - c) \$635.34
 - d) Half of Bill Gates' estate
 - 6) **In New York state, students**
 - a) boycotted the Regents exam by the hundreds and marched on the Albany capitol building
 - b) praised the department of education for such exciting exams
 - c) ate ham sandwiches for lunch
 - d) balanced score sheets on the tip of their noses
 - 7) **The "Texas Miracle" proved that:**
 - a) country music makes kids smarter
 - b) all we need to do is kick out all the low scoring and minority students
 - c) testing is the same as learning
 - d) y'all can't think for y'allselfes
 - 8) **If a student left a test blank, they would:**
 - a) lose all hopes of future success
 - b) jump for joy and save a trip to the child psychologist
 - c) read a book
 - d) give their local board of education a hernia
 - 9) **The scores of students most accurately reveal:**
 - a) their parent's income
 - b) their ability to learn and explore the world
 - c) the number of nose hairs they have
 - d) how many doses of Prozac they were given the week before
 - 10) **What education really needs today is:**
 - a) real and caring human beings
 - b) higher standards and tougher accountability
 - c) more Coke machines in the hallways
 - d) better toilet paper in the bathrooms
- True or False** (and nothing in between!)
- _____ In the end, we need tests as a way to hold schools accountable.
- _____ The 4th Grade MCAS exam is longer than the Massachusetts Bar Exam.
- _____ There's nothing I can do to change the testing craze in our schools.
- _____ Tests are graded accurately and carefully by well-trained staff at testing corporations.
- _____ One day, you'll discover the reason you had to take so many tests.

Extra Credit: (hint: you just might get even more state money if you do this!)

- 1.) Create your own educational system. Tell us how it would run, what teachers would do, what students would do, what the schools would look like, where the money would go, what programs would be offered, and anything else you can come up with.
- 2.) List everything you'd do right now if you didn't have to take this or any other tests.

When finished, please turn this in to your principal, your local board of education, your elected officials, then make more copies of this and hand them out at your school. In case they ask you how you scored, tell them there are no right or wrong answers.

If you wish more tests were like this, then go to:

www.NoMoreTests.com