

# [Proponents too fixated. for example, an outstanding student](https://assignbuster.com/proponents-too-fixated-for-example-an-outstanding-student/)

Proponents of standardized tests arguethat it is the most efficient way to measure students’ performance andteachers’ effectiveness. They assert that standardized test is accountable, analytical, structured, and objective. One of thegreatest benefits of standardized test is that teachers, schools, and peoplewho are related to education system areresponsible for teaching students what they are required to know forthese standardized tests. This is mostly because students’ scores remain as publicrecord and it can be used as mean to compare teachers’ and schools’effectiveness.

In a similar context, standardized test allows test data from New York to be compared to scores in Los Angeles and, themost of time, it is developed by academic experts so each question undergoes anintense process to ensure its validity. There are the most appealling reasonsthat many states have adopted standardized test. Inaddition, establishing standards or an instructional framework is necessary in order to follow the standardized test. Thus, it may help teachers to deliver large amount of information in arelatively short period of time.

Lastly, standardized test is objective sincethere is little chance that bias would affect the scoring (Meador, 2017). However, just as coins have both sides, there are also disadvantages of standardizedtest. Opponents of standardized testing contend that it is inflexible, a wasteof time, impossible to measure real progress, stressful, and political (Meador, 2017).

They assert that a one-size-fits-all approach cannot assess uniqueindividuals because it is too fixated. For example, an outstanding student maynot perform well on the standardized test because he/she is not use to theformat. Moreover, standardized tests prevent both students and teachers frombeing creative since standardized test force them to spend time on material that will appear on the test. Although learningis an ongoing process and the process is as important as the outcome, standardized tests tend to focus only on students’ outcome rather thanstudents’ progress and proficiency over time.

In other words, standardized testdon’t provide any information about how much the student has gotten better. Atlast, the atmosphere of the classroom is influencednot only by students but also by teacher. So, if teacher is stressed, it may affect the quality ofthe lecture. However, teachers and students alike feel test stress. For educators, poor student performance may result in a loss of funding andteachers being fired. (Meador, 2017). I don’t believe that “ high-stakes” tests are helpful to society overall because it may undermine the value ofeducation.

The purpose of education should be considered first. Many people maynot agree, but I support John Dewey’s saying that “ Education is not preparationfor life, education is life itself.” Though, education is not means but apurpose itself, many people treat education as a means of getting things like diplomas, passing test, college acceptance, salary increase, and so on.

Sometime high-stakestest confuses the reason for being educated. Occasionally, students are notstudying to learn but either to pass the exam or to gain good grade on exam. Inshort, high-stakes tests can cause goal displacement of education.   There are many benefits of highereducation on later life.

One of the main advantages of higher education inlater life is ‘ Higher salary’. Individual earning is strongly related toeducational attainment. For example, people who have completed high school earn more thanthose who have not; people with a bachelor’s degree earn more than those with only a high school diploma; andthose with a graduate education earn more than those with only an undergraduateeducation (Hill, Hoffman, & Rex, 2005).

Consequently, people with higherincome are more likely to purchase healthy food, have time to exercise, haveless stress, and pay for health services and transportation. On the other hand, individuals with less education have more likely to suffer from the job insecurity, low wages, and lack of assets, which can lead to poor nutrition, unstable housing, and unmet medical needs. Furthermore, higher education builds skills and foster traits that are important throughoutlife and may be important to health, such as conscientiousness, perseverance, asense of personal control, flexibility, the capacity for negotiation, and theability to form relationships and establish social networks. These skills canhelp with a variety of life’s challenges. Therefore, it is difficult to denythe fact that higher education influences one’s life in positive way andelevates one’s life quality. However, going to college is not ‘ always’ advantageous.

There is famous saying “ We are all unique, andhave our own special place in the puzzle of the universe.” we are all unique inour own way so having the same choice cannot be the right choice for all of us. It is not right to force a fish to ride a tree because a monkey can. In similarcontext, the benefits of going to college maynot apply to everyone.

As stated above, one of the benefits of attendingcollege is higher income. According to The CollegePayoff (2011), a report published today by the Georgetown University Centerfor Education and the Workforce while those earning master’s, doctoral, orprofessional degrees still earn more during their careers than those with lesseducation, the gap is closing. Thus, going to college may not be a panacea toall. Despite the factthat going to college is not good for every individual, I still think highereducation is beneficial to many people.