The Effectiveness of Standardized Testing as an Analytical Tool for Various Purposes

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Intelligence Levels
• Standardized testing accounts for linguistic and logical intelligences even though there are eight total intelligences.
• There has been evidence found that shows that the SAT does not measure minority students’ intelligence levels.
• Pressure from standardized testing on teachers, “discourages schools from broadly implementing experiential learning opportunities.”

Merit Pay
• Merit pay is defined as the act of paying teachers based on student performance.
• The performance measure most often used to award merit pay is standardized tests.
• Standardized tests and merit pay performance can also lead to cheating scandals.
• Many teachers do not believe standardized tests to be fair.
• A study conducted found that around 90% of don’t believe standardized tests to be fair.
• Alternative methods have been used to award merit pay that may be more reliable than standardized tests.

College Admissions
• Every college in the United States has an average ACT or SAT score range that their admitted students’ scores fall in.
• Standardized testing causes heightened stress levels, starting as early as in kindergarten, and they continue taking standardized tests until they get to college.
• Some of the other factors are written supplements, commonly essays and short answer questions, and high school GPAs/grades and high school attendance.
• Some schools have implemented a test-optional option for their applications.

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