

# Education And Schooling

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specialization, however, it is equally important that one specialize in one or two fields.

Interest is the greatest asset a person can have as a student. Many students go through college with average, or even good, grades, but they lack any particular interest in their work. This type of student is inclined to think of education in terms of a college degree. To benefit most from his schooling, one should enjoy his studies. He should have a vital interest in them.

The greatest conflict in the life of the student of today revolves around the question of how much time to devote to his studies and how much time to devote to social life. The trend now is to over-emphasize social life. I do not wish to underemphasize the benefits of the social life afforded by college, but with proper evaluation I believe one would reach the conclusion that scholarship should always take precedence over social life. Long hours of studying and deep concentration have never dulled anyone's intelligence.

Grades are a means of measuring accomplishment in the classroom. However, there is no perfect method of measuring intellectual accomplishment. Too much emphasis should not be put on these fallible symbols called grades. Grades may be an asset or a hindrance depending on the attitude of the individual toward them.

Good grades may give the student incentive and encouragement, or they may influence him to slacken up in his work, giving him the impression that he can get by with less work. Bad grades may warn the student that he is not doing his

best, or they may discourage him. Grades should never be an end toward which one should work. If he devotes himself to his studies, a student with normal intelligence need give little consideration to grades. They will take care of themselves.

In one of his essays, Francis Bacon wrote, "A little learning is a dangerous thing." It is dangerous to draw conclusions based on inadequate knowledge. One of the most important things one can learn in high school and college is how much he does not know. One should never let this lack of knowledge frustrate him. On the contrary, it should be a challenge to him to strive for more perfect scholarship.

Transfer of training is an important part of education. By transfer of training is meant the application of knowledge acquired in one subject to a seemingly unrelated subject or situation. There is more to learning than memorizing facts. If one cannot draw logical conclusions and apply what he has learned to situations existing in his environment, he has accomplished little. There is no purpose in learning the events of history if one cannot see a logical connection between these events and contemporary life.

What qualities constitute the make-up of an educated man? A well-educated man is one who can live a happy, normal life under reasonably normal circumstances. He is one who can contribute something beneficial to the lives of others. He is able to assign proper values to things in his environment. He has an interest in a wide variety

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