

What are Standardized Tests?



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- A standardized test is a test given to many individuals, often across the nation, to develop appropriate content and scoring comparisons, and it is administered and scored according to uniform procedures.
- Standardized tests are Uniform, the tests are constructed so that every person taking the tests gets a similar experience.
- They are purchased.
- Textbook publishers often offer banks of test question and teachers make up test, these are not considered standardized tests.



Norm-Referenced Tests:

- The scores of the tests takers are compared with the scores of all the test takers
- Large numbers of test takers helps to develop norms and normative scores. Which means we can find out how the student is compared with other children in the same age group or grade
- Parents, teachers, and administrators can find out how their school performance is compared to others
- Most often norms are based on national samples but they can be based on scores across a state, or a school district, or even a classroom



Criterion-Referenced Tests:

- The scores of this test measure the student's performance of what they should already know. They are not compared to other students.
- This helps the teacher to know what forms of certain areas the child did or did not understand.
- They are developed differently than norm referenced tests, they want to be able to compare students' understanding of the knowledge they were suppose to receive from the given curriculum, rather than comparing to another students tests.



Expectation of Students:

- Students are expected to perform at their maximal performance-the very best you can perform under optimal circumstances.
- Teachers know that a student's maximal performance is not always a good way to predict their typical performance-how well you perform under ordinary, everyday circumstances.
- Some students can perform extremely well on a standardized test but when it comes to a simple homework assignment they do horrible.



Make the importance and purpose of the test clear.

- Many decisions about student and teacher placement depend on test scores.
- Teachers who tell students “the scores really do not matter that much” are making it so that the students do not work as hard and they are giving false information about the test.
- Teachers should give a realistic idea of the uses of the test scores, but not overemphasize them, to eliminate nervousness and stress.

Take the mystery out of standardized tests

- Take time to prepare for the test, children who are prepared for a test focus better on the content of the test questions. When students are not prepared they tend to get distracted by the directions or form of the questions.
- Use the practice tests.
- Help students become familiar with the way questions are phrased and learn to spot words that can be misunderstood.
- Practice strategies for understanding what the tests are asking the students to do.



Provide good testing conditions

- Make the test area known and comfortable.
- Make the seating arrangements so that everyone can see the clock.
- Have supplies ready
- Make sure the lights and the room temperature are ok.

Prepare yourself

- Being a test monitor, you should know how to reduce distractions.
- Make sure all students understand the directions.
- A test monitor must be prepared to deal with issues like cheating, student illness or anxiety, and interruptions.