

TEST AND ITS PURPOSE

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Tests are significant tools used to gather information required for assessment purposes. Tests provide teachers with information that can aid them in improving instructions. Students are provided with loads of information that will help them in comprehension and understanding texts and lessons. In addition to that, tests can also supply parents with facts about their children such as performance and academic achievement which will be a great help in their educational and professional planning. Lastly, tests can be an important tool that can provide the school administrators with information for preparation and assessing the efficiency of existing programs about education.

Commonly, tests' purpose is categorized into three functions these are instructional, administrative and guidance function.

A. Instructional Purpose

1. Test provides more effective instructional guidance for pupils and for the whole class
2. Test can measure achievements
3. It determines teaching methods to be utilized and to be improved
4. Test determines specific objectives that need to be emphasized more
5. Test provides information on how subject matter may be better presented or organized

6. It helps students identify their own strengths and weaknesses
7. Test motivates students to learn

B. Administrative Purpose

1. Provides information needed for quality control – bases for assessing curricular strength and weaknesses.

2. Useful for making selection decisions – provide information on who should be accepted in particular type of curricular progress. Example: NCEE and other tests given by universities

3. Facilitates better classification and placement decisions such as grouping of children according to their abilities. Example – readiness test

4. Useful means of accreditation or certification. Example – Comprehensive exam for MA, LET, Professional Board Exams, Bar Exam.

5. Useful for evaluating instructional programs

Guidance Purpose

1. Useful in predicting an individual success in a field of study thus aid him in choosing an appropriate course of study.

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