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Affirmative or Against: Analyzing the Pros and Cons of Standardized Testing  
Pros and Cons of Standardized Testing

Standardized testing is a controversial academic practice that has arguments for and against its purpose—a purpose which is held by colleges nationwide in order to systematically determine academic placement, a view that is widely supported but a method that is nonetheless criticized by various educators and groups, a stance I support.

### **Annotated Bibliography**

Multiple Authors. (2013, November 1). Is the Use of Standardized Tests Improving Education in America? *ProCon.org*. Retrieved from <http://standardizedtests.procon.org/>

This is a very elaborate and detailed article that not only states the positives and negatives of standardized testing but also delves into the background, current debate and even facts and statistics regarding the tests' usage and administration. Furthermore, includes an extensive list of arguments for both sides with each argument supported by a source via footnote as they are compiled from a wide array of viewpoints and perspectives. This will especially prove helpful for developing full paragraphs for each side evenly when discussing pros vs. cons.

Lewin, T. (2014, March 5). A New SAT Aims to Realign With Schoolwork. *Education* (1), all.

This *New York Times* article explains how controversy that has surrounded the SAT—one of the more noteworthy standardized exams—has finally led to the test being restructured into a format not dissimilar from that of more than a decade earlier. The changes will address most of the problems that various groups and educators have called out on and will still serve to cater to the needs of colleges needing to analyze incoming students based on academic performance. The article will work best when discussing my opinion of how changing the format of standardized tests is necessary as well as how having this done is a compromise between the two sides in this issue.

Fletcher, D. (2009, December 11). Standardized Testing. *Brief History* (1), all.

This is an article from *TIME* magazine which goes into the history and evolution of standardized testing. Similar to the expository essay, the information here will

introduce readers to the subject and will highlight the causes and effects for why there is a debate on the matter of standardized exams.