

What colleges will teach in 2025

Pre-reading discussion 1

Which do you think is more important: giving students general information expected of all educated individuals or giving them area-specific knowledge necessary for their future careers?

Pre-reading discussion 2

Answer the following questions to the best of your knowledge:

- 1) Who is the current Minister of Finance in Russia?
- 2) Name three Russian Nobel prize winners
- 3) What year was the twentieth KPSS meeting?

Did you answer all of them? If not, is it a particularly bad thing? Is general knowledge like that important?

Key words

*Liberal arts K-12 impetus alumni key credential grade-point average
core curriculum the great books cognitive gain graduate earnings*

- 1) Used to describe primary education up to the point of college
- 2) Most commonly required qualification
- 3) An estimate of an average salary of university graduates
- 4) A clear and calculable progress of one's mind
- 5) A set of literary works perceived as essential classics
- 6) Social sciences and the humanities
- 7) A basic general knowledge university course
- 8) A means of measuring a student's success in the American system of education
- 9) Graduates of a particular institution
- 10) A moving force, a stimulus

Scanning for information

1 What is the percentage of students not knowing who the Chief Justice is?	A
2 How many hours per week did full-time students dedicate to schoolwork in 2003?	B
3 When did the battle of Appomatox happen?	C
4 How many colleges is CLA+ to be administered to?	D
5 Which university is the author of the article a visiting faculty member at?	E

General understanding

Match the beginnings and the ends of these sentences.

1 More and more students	A give employers a more reliable way of picking candidates
2 Exit exams could	B contemplate the usefulness of a university program
3 Most traditionalists	C have trouble finding qualified graduates
4 Many employers currently	D aims to ensure graduates' success
5 Council for aid to Education	E insist that core knowledge is essential

Vocabulary development

Synonyms

1 Core	A Legislative, organisational
2 Pious	B Parties involved
3 Notion	C Lead, priority
4 Prevailing	D Obvious, apparent
5 Precedence	E Predominant, prevalent
6 Self-evident	F Discordant, dissimilar
7 Accountability	G Righteous, devout
8 Constituencies	H Basic, general
9 Disparate	I Liability, answerability
10 Departmental	J Conception, assumption

Discussion

- 1 Are exit exams a good idea?
- 2 Should there be drastic changes in the American system of education?
- 3 Do you take the traditional approach or would you rather switch to a more modern view?
- 4 Do you think this article provides an accurate depiction of the situation?
- 5 How do you think the situation will change in your country in the near future?