

Homework, as used in this section and in File: IKB, includes all assignments which are made to extend the learning experience beyond the classroom. Consideration must be given to the following practices if homework is to be used effectively in the instructional program:

1. The teacher should have a definite purpose when assigning homework and should communicate this purpose to the students for whom the homework is intended.
2. Consideration should be given to time limitations and to the responsibilities that students have; such as, part-time jobs, home chores, and other activities. If possible, weekends and holidays should be kept free of homework; however, students may do homework at these times on a voluntary basis.
3. Keeping in mind the uniqueness of each student, the teacher should gear homework to individual needs, abilities, and interests.
4. The criteria for evaluation and the process of rating should be understood by both the student and the teacher when an assignment is made. All assignments, mandatory or voluntary, should be assessed accordingly, returned to the student with the corresponding credit value affixed, and recorded so that they become an integral part of the student's evaluation.
5. Homework should be an extension of classwork with reinforcement of instruction as a primary goal. It should not require additional interpretation beyond the class.
6. Assignments should be varied in kind, purpose, and procedure to appeal to the students' imagination and to promote self-direction.
7. The request for specialized materials relative to homework should recognize the conditions which prevail in the community affecting such acquisitions by the students. Common sense and personal empathy would dictate that any request should be guided by existing economic, physical, or cultural factors.
8. Homework should be a learning experience; therefore, it should never be given as a disciplinary measure.

9. Teachers should be aware that students are often responsible for homework in more than one area of study. Therefore, homework should be distributed equally throughout the school year so as not to overburden, overwhelm, or frustrate students.
10. Homework practices should be reviewed and evaluated periodically by students and teachers. Consideration should be given to the inclusion of a discussion of homework practices during parent conferences to ensure parent input.

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