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Essay Type of Examination

B.A.Part- 3 (Hons.)

Paper -6

Educational Psychology

Essay type examination

- ◎ The aim and object of education is the comprehensive, over-all development of the child. This development and progress is gradual. Hence, it is essential to examine the child at regular intervals to find out the extent to which he has progressed.

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- ◎ In the school and college, students study a number of subjects. To test one in respect of these subjects from time to time is essential as it makes clear the success with which he is studying and understanding them. It is the examination that makes it possible for one to know the child's achievement in terms of ability in learning these subjects.

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- ① The examination system that exists at present in Indian schools and colleges is the essay type examination.
- ① In this the examinee is provided with a question paper at a definite time, the paper containing 8 or 10 questions, out of which the candidate is required to answer 5 or 6.

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- ⦿ These questions relate to the syllabus studied by the student, and normally every part of the syllabus is covered, each question requiring an answer, in essay form, that extends between 3 to 10 pages.
- ⦿ It much depends upon the student's language, style, handwriting and mode of presentation of material.

Advantages

- **Simplicity in setting examination papers** - In the essay type examination, the paper setter is not put to much trouble since every aspect of the syllabus is to be included, and one question to be allocated to it. He needs nothing more than a superficial knowledge of his subject.

Advantages cont..

- Use of whole method – In preparing for the essay type examination the student does not benefit by the use of the part method, since a study of the complete syllabus requires application of the whole method. And this method is superior to the part method in many respects.

Advantages cont..

- Expression of the student's weaknesses and problems – Answers given to questions in the essay type examinations have the advantage of revealing the student's weakness and shortcomings, with the natural result that the teacher can make every effort to improve the child in the class.

Disadvantages

- ◎ Student does not study throughout the whole year, but achieves competency for it by labouring only through the last few weeks before the examination. In this manner, the student does not attain any real ability or capacity even though he passes the examination.

Disadvantages cont..

- In every examination paper, the student is required to do four to six questions out of nine or ten that are set. The consequence is that even without having gone through more than one-third of the course prescribed for study, the average student finds three or four questions that he is a position to answer.

Disadvantages cont..

- In the way examinations are conducted at present, success is more a matter of luck than of anything else. His entire future is to be decided in two or three hours. No matter what skill a student has gained in his subject through constant labour during the entire session.

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- Finally, the fundamental fact that must be pointed out is that the improvements in the existing scheme of examinations depend upon the co-operation between teachers and the various examining bodies. Better results can be obtained by supplementing the essay type examination with the objective type.

Thank You