

## STUDENTS' OPINIONS ABOUT HOMEWORK

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### Abstract

Homework has long been considered an essential component of the educational process. However, students hold diverse opinions regarding its effectiveness and impact on learning. This article analyzes students' perspectives on homework, focusing on its advantages and disadvantages. It also explores how homework influences academic performance, motivation, time management, and personal development. The findings suggest that while homework can reinforce knowledge, develop responsibility, and promote independent learning, excessive or poorly designed assignments may negatively affect students' well-being, motivation, and academic engagement. The study highlights the importance of balanced and meaningful homework practices that take into account students' needs and individual differences.

### Keywords

homework, student opinion, education, motivation, academic performance, independent learning

### Introduction

In modern education, homework is widely used as a tool to support learning outside the classroom. It helps students practice, revise, and deepen their understanding of the material learned during lessons (Cooper, 2006). Homework also allows learners to apply knowledge in different contexts, which improves long-term retention and understanding (Hattie, 2009).

Teachers often assign homework to promote discipline, responsibility, and independent learning. Regular homework encourages students to manage their time, organize tasks, and take responsibility for their own learning process (Xu, 2010). These skills are important not only for academic success but also for future professional life.

However, the effectiveness of homework has been debated for many years. Some researchers argue that homework positively affects academic achievement, especially at higher levels of education (Cooper et al., 2006). Others believe that too much homework can lead to stress, anxiety, and a decrease in students' interest in learning (Kohn, 2006).

Students' opinions about homework differ depending on factors such as workload, type of assignments, and personal learning preferences. Understanding these opinions is essential for improving teaching practices and making homework more effective and meaningful.

### The Role of Homework in Education

Homework plays a significant role in connecting classroom learning with independent study. It allows students to review lessons, practice skills, and prepare for future topics (Trautwein et al., 2009). Research shows that homework can have a positive effect on academic achievement, particularly when it is meaningful and well-structured (OECD, 2014).



In addition, homework provides teachers with an opportunity to assess students' understanding outside the classroom. It helps identify learning difficulties and areas that need improvement (Xu & Wu, 2013).

However, the role of homework is changing in modern education. Today, there is a shift from traditional repetitive exercises to more interactive and student-centered approaches. This change reflects the need to make homework more engaging, practical, and relevant to real-life situations (Epstein & Van Voorhis, 2012).

### **Positive Opinions of Students about Homework**

One of the most common positive views is that homework improves academic performance. Students who regularly complete homework tend to understand subjects better and achieve higher grades (Cooper et al., 2006). Practice helps them master difficult concepts and build confidence.

Another important benefit is the development of responsibility. Homework teaches students to plan their time, meet deadlines, and work independently. These skills are essential for lifelong learning and future careers (Xu, 2010).

Homework also enhances independent learning. Students learn to find information, solve problems, and think critically without constant teacher support. This independence increases their confidence and motivation (Zimmerman, 2002).

Furthermore, homework can encourage parental involvement. When parents help their children with assignments, they become more engaged in their education. This support can improve students' academic outcomes and emotional well-being (Epstein, 2001).

### **Negative Opinions of Students about Homework**

Despite its benefits, many students express negative opinions about homework. One major issue is excessive workload. Too much homework can cause stress, fatigue, and burnout, especially when students have multiple subjects (Kohn, 2006).

Another problem is the lack of free time. Students need time for rest, hobbies, and social activities. Excessive homework reduces these opportunities and may affect their overall development (Galloway et al., 2013).

Low motivation is also a common concern. When homework is repetitive or not meaningful, students may lose interest. Tasks focused only on memorization do not promote deep understanding (Hattie, 2009).

In addition, homework can create inequality. Not all students have equal access to resources such as the internet, books, or a quiet study environment. This can affect their ability to complete assignments successfully (OECD, 2014).

### **Factors Affecting Students' Opinions**

Students' attitudes toward homework depend on several important factors. The amount of homework is one of the most influential factors; too much homework often leads to negative attitudes (Cooper, 2006).

The type of assignment also matters. Creative, practical, and interactive tasks are more engaging than repetitive exercises (Trautwein et al., 2009).

Teacher support plays a key role as well. Clear instructions, timely feedback, and guidance improve students' experience and understanding (Hattie, 2009).

Individual differences are another important factor. Some students prefer independent work, while others need more support and struggle with homework tasks (Zimmerman, 2002).

### **Modern Approaches to Homework**

Modern education emphasizes innovative approaches to homework. Interactive homework encourages critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration. Examples include discussions, projects, and presentations (Epstein & Van Voorhis, 2012).



Technology-based homework is becoming increasingly popular. Online platforms, educational apps, and videos make learning more engaging and accessible. Digital tools also allow teachers to provide immediate feedback (OECD, 2015).

Personalized assignments are another effective approach. Teachers can adapt homework to students' abilities and interests, which increases motivation and learning outcomes (Tomlinson, 2014).

Project-based learning is also widely used. It connects academic content with real-life situations and helps students develop practical skills such as research, teamwork, and problem-solving (Bell, 2010).

### **Students' Suggestions for Improvement**

Students suggest several ways to improve homework practices. First, they recommend reducing the amount of homework and focusing on quality rather than quantity. Research supports this idea, showing that moderate homework is more effective than excessive homework (Cooper et al., 2006).

Students also emphasize the importance of creativity and practical relevance. Assignments should be interesting, meaningful, and connected to real life.

Clear instructions and feedback are also essential. Students perform better when they understand what is expected and receive constructive feedback (Hattie, 2009).

Finally, flexibility in deadlines can help reduce stress and improve time management.

### **Discussion**

The analysis shows that homework has both advantages and disadvantages. On one hand, it supports academic achievement, develops responsibility, and promotes independent learning. On the other hand, excessive or poorly designed homework can lead to stress, low motivation, and inequality.

Modern education should adopt a balanced approach to homework. Teachers should design assignments that are meaningful, engaging, and appropriate for students' level. Student-centered approaches are especially important in today's educational context.

Research indicates that the effectiveness of homework depends more on quality than quantity (Hattie, 2009). Therefore, teachers should focus on creating purposeful tasks that enhance learning rather than simply increasing workload.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, students have diverse opinions about homework. While it remains an important part of education, its effectiveness depends on how it is designed and implemented. Homework can improve academic performance, develop responsibility, and support independent learning. However, excessive homework can negatively affect students' well-being and motivation.

To achieve the best results, teachers should create balanced, meaningful, and engaging homework assignments. Considering students' opinions is essential for improving educational practices and creating a more supportive learning environment

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