



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CREATIVE RESEARCH THOUGHTS (IJCRT)

An International Open Access, Peer-reviewed, Refereed Journal

DOMINANCE OF MONSTER BOARD EXAMS

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ABSTRACT

Board exams are viewed by parents as the last chance for achievement in life. They make every effort to make sure their kids are as prepared as possible for board exams. Children are secluded in a room to study; cable connections are reduced, etc. However, schools sometimes shorten the time students have for extracurricular activities and turn it into study time. Children are fearful of their parent's and schools' attitudes. In this research work, the author aimed to investigate parents', teachers', and students' perspectives on board exams. It has been discovered that board exams make kids anxious and impact their happiness. Board exams reportedly caused students to have restless nights. Our conversations with pupils from various courses led us to the conclusion that all students worry about their upcoming board exams. Because they take the exam for the first time, pupils in class 10 are most impacted. Offering streams (which automatically imply careers) based on results from board exams has been a frequent practice. The interests of the pupils are frequently disregarded. The excellent grade thus becomes crucial for students in the 10th grade. This reality heightens the fear. The subject of whether passing boards ensures success is still up for debate. Parents should foster a supportive environment where kids feel joyful, at ease, and safe while the student should concentrate on learning. In the essay, we have included recommendations for what can be done to help both.

Key Words: Board Examinations, Fear, Anxiety, Public Examination, Delhi, Success

INTRODUCTION

The written tests after the school year are still used to determine educational standards. Board exams, often known as public exams, are administered by Central and State Boards each year. Class 10 (secondary) and 12 or higher secondary students take these examinations. These exams' results are considered when deciding whether to apply for admission to universities, training programmes, and professional programmes. The simultaneous nationwide administration of each board test emphasises the importance of the exam. For the board exams, it is made sure that the question papers are not leaked and that security is relatively high. Most crucially, the exam place is not the same school as the candidate is from. The exam consists of various sets,

and admissions cards (identity cards) are provided to all test takers. It guarantees objectivity on all fronts. These exams are given such high priority that pupils frequently have unfavourable opinions of public exams.

In this research paper, the researcher attempted to investigate the views of Meerut school students, instructors, and parents regarding board exams.

OBJECTIVES

The primary research goals for this study were as follows:

1. To study how board exams are perceived by students, parents, and teachers.
2. To study the effects of board exams on Meerut students.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The researcher engaged in conversation with board class pupils. The significant sample population for the current study consisted of 40 students from class 10, 30 from class 11, and 35 from class 12. The opinions and feelings of students regarding board exams were gathered using a survey method. These students were all enrolled in Meerut Public schools. Some parents and teachers of these pupils were also interviewed to gain insight into board exams. The current study's methodology was reflective.

RESPONSE AND CONVERSATION

DO YOU AGREE WITH MY VIEWS ON BOARD EXAMS?

For Indian girls, board examinations are similar to their wedding day. It is given much weight. As we joined the class of 10, students claimed, "all of our extracurricular activities and sports time slabs were cut short." "For all boarders that year, the breaks were turned into study sessions. There is no morning assembly for specific classes, and board class pupils are given Zero time for study. Everyone speaks about the essential board exams on the walk to and from school. The kids stated that we did not know what happened after we passed grade nine.

A father said that his son stopped attending hockey games when he started board classes, and when he was questioned about this, he replied, "Dad, I have to take Boards this year." The dad continued, "He played hockey whenever he was anxious or unwell because it helped him stay calm. What happened to him is unknown to me. There is a problem with the board tests.

Do you worry about upcoming exams? We requested to form the kids. 18% of the pupils disagreed, while 79% of them agreed. When I started school for the first time, a girl said, "I learned one thing: I will take the board exams one day. How on earth did you think I would not be anxious about these exams? To prevent me from becoming side-tracked, our cable connection has been disabled.

Added another, "The first and last chance for achievement in life, according to my father, are the board examinations. These determine a child's future in school ". Indian parents take every precaution to ensure their kids are well-prepared for board exams. To ensure the kids are reading regularly, they isolate them from other kids for long periods. Eighteen hours a day of study time is what parents want for their kids.

Last year, a youngster who did well on the 10th board was told of his parents' claims. He spoke. "My father told me I needed to perform better in the class 12th board examinations as soon as I received the results of my 10th board exam. I didn't get even a single minute to take a breath, unwind, or cool off. Instead, the stress associated with the exams rose ". Indian parents are reluctant to take a chance on something so significant!

Table 1: Can anxiety be caused by board exams?

S. No.	Response	10 th	11 th	12 th
1.	Extreme	69%	27%	41%
2.	Moderate	28%	41%	46%
3.	Mild	3%	32%	13%
	Total	100%	100%	100%

Our discussions with students in various classes led us to the conclusion that pupils experience anxiety related to board exams. The 10 pupils, who will be taking their first-ever board examinations, were anxious. The term "board examinations" caused great terror in 69% of the class 10 students. Extreme fear was indicated by 41% of students in class 12, which indicates that anxiety levels drop when students retain information from earlier classes. 27% of class 11 pupils reported feeling nervous before the board exams (which is shallow from class 10th and class 12th students). Since class 11 students do not have board examinations and class 12 students have more anxiety than class 11 students, this decrease in exam anxiety may be explained by the fact that class 11 students do not have board exams.

Students in classes 10, 11, and 12 reported having trouble sleeping because they had to take or will be taking board exams. All students acknowledged that their anxiety over the board examinations had negatively impacted their happiness.

CAN STUDENTS TRY BOARDS IN THE 10TH GRADE?

When class 10 pupils were in class 10, CBSE gave them the choice of whether or not to sit the board exams. There were, however, some restrictions on choosing it. This choice, though, is no longer accessible. We polled many parents, instructors, and students on this issue, asking them whether they would take the board exam if it were optional. This topic is covered in the next section.

Table 1: Should pupils take the boards in the tenth grade?

S. No.	Response	Students	Parents	Teachers
1.	Yes	48%	83%	79%
2.	No	52%	17%	21%
	Total	100%	100%	100%

Parents and educators, in general, concurred that pupils should attempt board exams in class 10. They were happy to provide us with several reasons for such reactions when we asked them why. The following paragraph explains the responses.

Boards are necessary. The 10th boards are the first significant achievement in a student's life. Boards assist pupils in learning more effectively and allow them to assess themselves more critically. These tests can assist students in understanding their standing or where they stand. Board exams for grade 10 are similar to the board exams for grade 12. Stress management skills are taught to students. They experience a taste of the rivalry. The majority of kids, however, were undecided; some preferred taking the boards in 10 while others preferred to bypass them.

JUDGE, WHAT DO BOARD EXAMS?

We learned a lot about board exams from our contacts with many stakeholders. Educators claim, "Exams for board positions can gauge candidates' conceptual knowledge and comprehension. Boards evaluate students' capacity to apply concepts across a range of life domains; therefore, any student who has not put much effort into their studies will suffer. So, the board truly assesses pupils' merit".

The class 10 boards are crucial because they play a crucial role in choosing the path for future study. Offering streams based on results from board exams has become a frequent practice. The interests of the pupils are frequently disregarded.

The students can select their preferred stream with a higher score. It implies that students' professional prospects are primarily determined by their performance on the 10th-grade boards. In addition to the 10th board grade, the 12th board grade is equally crucial. College admission depends on it. The board exams define all disciplines except medicine and engineering. Gaining admission to the preferred undergraduate programme with a high board exam score impacts the future. Parents believe that board exams determine a student's aptitude for science. The child cannot take science and choose art, and vice versa, if his score is not outstanding. In this way, board exams, in the eyes of parents, assess a child's capacity to learn science.

According to specialists, preparing for the board test, taking it, and handling the results aids the student's overall growth by strengthening their organisational, anxiety-management, and coping skills.

DO THE BOARD EXAMS GUARANTEE OF THE SUCCESS?

The 10th and 12th-grade boards are essential milestones to pass to succeed. These tests form a crucial component of a child's résumé and are retained throughout their lives. The test is a crucial element in determining a student's career.

Every year, tens of thousands of students are made to believe that passing their 10th and 12th-grade exams is the first step toward a better future.

Examinations are unquestionably important. Exams require students to study diligently and advance their knowledge in various subjects. The goal of the exam is not to rank pupils as high, average, or low based on their performance. Exams do not assess the fundamental qualities that determine success in life, such as verbal

communication skills, leadership abilities, resource management skills, honesty, and resourcefulness. "Students who have excelled academically throughout their lives may do so in a job in other fields. Therefore, pressuring kids to get top grades or high percentages will not assist them in discovering their area of interest in life. Instead, it would be best if you motivated them to identify their areas of strength and develop a career around them." - School Principal

A NOTE TO KIDS: BOARD EXAMS ARE NOT SERIOUS BUSINESS

Give your best, but do not berate yourself for it; the system survivors, who were once a part of the system, want to tell every child who will soon take the board. You could benefit if you concentrated on learning. Your future profession is built on the knowledge you acquire today. Learn how the periodic table is used, how to pronounce words correctly, how mathematics works, and how to write clearly. Focus on understanding the topics rather than worrying about your board exam performance. It will be simple to get good grades the better your base is. Do not forget that in 10 or 15 years, your expertise and attitude will be considered more important than your position on the board.

Also, dear parents, please maintain your composure. Your child will become tense and anxious due to your hyperactive mode. The over-control and pressure for the board test could have unfavourable effects. Providing a welcoming environment where kids feel content, cosy, and safe would be beneficial. Help them understand the idea and issue. Concentrate on your strengths, and work together to overcome your flaws. Always place more emphasis on learning quality than learning quantity. The outcomes of board exams determine a child's academic future. I do not believe so. Happy New Year!

CONCLUSION

Board exams, often known as public exams, are administered by Central and State Boards each year. These exams are given such high priority that pupils frequently have unfavourable opinions of public exams. This article discusses the perspectives of various stakeholders on the board test and how it affects children.

The primary sample population for the current study consisted of students in grades 10, 11, and 12, and parents and teachers of each of these students were also contacted. The study's technique was reflective. Children claimed that after class nine, something terrible happened. Everyone discusses the massive test board as if it were the only thing that matters. Parents have also stated that children's attitudes toward sports have entirely changed. Children no longer participate in sports. Parents are doing everything they can to help their kids achieve high test scores. Children are becoming afraid as a result of this.

We learn from our encounters with students that they worry about taking public exams. Students in class 10 were more anxious about the board exams than students in class 12. Students in class 11 who took the exam last year and will again in the following year reported less anxiety before their boards. Due to upcoming board exams, students reported having trouble sleeping and feeling anxious.

Offering streams based on results from board exams has become a frequent practice. Boards for the 10th grade so influence students' prospects. Parents and educators perceive board exams as a measure of students' aptitude for learning. Do boards ensure success is still a contentious issue? Any hard evidence does not

support this idea. Children should refrain from learning skills, and parents should remember that success rates are not based on board rank.

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