

EWL, 25/25

## Works Cited

The goal of my research was to find details supporting my topic against final exams. I was hoping to find alternate ways to assess students and measure their learning. There were many different articles against final exams that showed the negative affect they have on kids. The articles described how higher education is getting rid of finals in some institutions, so others may follow. I have concluded from my research that final exams affect everybody, in some cases it may be positive but in others it is definitely negative.

Andrew, Tammy. "Examining the Debate about the Importance of Final Exams." *Examiner.com*.

N.p., 29 Aug. 2010. Web. 4 Dec. 2011. <<http://www.examiner.com/education-in-manchester/examining-the-debate-about-the-importance-of-final-exams>>.

This article states the pros and cons of final exams while being courtesy to both sides. It shows that it's a tossup because there is the same amount of good as bad. The article ends with really good questions that keep you thinking about both sides. It also talks about other schools coming up with different ideas other than finals exams. Some schools are letting juniors and seniors be exempt from finals if they have a good grade in a class or have high scores on standardized tests. Other schools are having their students be assessed several times throughout the semester/year.

The article gives really good stances on both sides but it is more in favor of getting rid of finals so it helps my research. It gave more creative ways of measuring a students learning ability. It also shows we need more research on this topic because most of it is opinions. This supports my thinking about the topic and hasn't changed it at all. This source was very helpful in my research.

Rivera, Carla. "More Schools Are Ditching Final Exams." *Los Angeles Times*. N.p., 2011. Web.

4 Dec. 2011. <<http://articles.latimes.com/////wildwood29>>.

This article talks about different ways of measuring a student's learning besides final exams. In the article kids at Wildwood School in West Los Angeles give speeches over their growth and what they have learned. Other schools have kids give oral presentations of exhibitions, each instead of a final exam. The article shows there are other ways that better measure students learning retention than a final.

The article changed my opinion by helping me realize we do need to assess a student's growth in learning but there are other ways to do this besides a final. It helped put a new twist in my research and stance on this argument against finals. This fits perfectly with my views on the situation and will help my argument.

South, Todd. "Final Exams Don't Test Real Skills." *redandblack.com*. N.p., 2011. Web. 4 Dec. 2011. <<http://redandblack.com/exams-dont-test-real-skills/>>.

This article explains the negative effects finals have on students. It demonstrates how the real world works nothing like a final. It clearly states success will never come down to just one test which is exactly what final exams are teaching us. The article pin points the fact that there will be big projects in life but overall success will be determined by bettering oneself everyday not just on one project. Overall the article explains how finals will not help one's success in life in the real world.

This source was very helpful to my side of the argument. The article gave me plenty of reasons to back up my argument of why finals are bad. It helps prove my point and showed me more ways finals are bad that I never would have thought of before reading the article. The article changed my opinion because it gave me new ideas.

Strauss, Valerie. "Harvard Profs Dropping Final Exams." *The Washington Post*. N.p., 17 July 2010. Web. 3 Dec. 2011. <<http://voices.washingtonpost.com/sheet/profs-giving-up-final.html>>.

This article talks about the negative effects finals have on students. It tells us about Harvard getting rid of their final exams and how there are other ways to assess a student's learning. The article talks about how few Harvard professors give out final exams, and the ones that do have to ask for permission. They state the fact that Harvard has a high influence on education so they are likely to set a trend.

This source was very helpful and fit in perfectly with my topic about finals. By telling us Harvard is getting rid of final exams it helps show my argument against finals because they are leading in education. We had the same view and ways of thinking so mine has not changed.

Threats, Mikyle, and Cody McCumbers. "Do Final Exams Help or Hinder the Education Process?" *Helium*. N.p., 2011. Web. 4 Dec. 2011. <[http://www.helium.com/-do-final-exams-help-or-hinder-the-education-process/\\_by\\_side?page=9](http://www.helium.com/-do-final-exams-help-or-hinder-the-education-process/_by_side?page=9)>.

This article goes into deep detail on both sides of the argument. It has really great points that prove both sides. On the side against finals it brings up the points that not everybody is a good test taker, there are more effective ways to assess students, and it's not a good measurement of learning. On the side for finals it brings up the points that these tests should be easy, and if we studied the whole year we should be receiving easy A's.

This article was probably the most helpful because all of the reasons for finals didn't make a lot of sense and they didn't back them up very well, so it helps prove my stance even

more. The points they brought up against finals were excellent and really helped prove my argument. This article did not change my views at all; it just made me more against finals.