Chapter 5

What Are the Goals of Education?

To demonstrate how different people have different conceptions of the goals of education, one might ask readers to identify their priorities and then to discuss whether they focus primarily on private or on public good.

(IIdentify the three most important)

- To ensure that all students pass the required tests that indicate academic achievement at a required standard
- To help each student fully develop his or her intellectual abilities
- To teach people to critique and ask questions
- To teach students to be caring and empathic human beings
- To provide opportunities for student participation in extracurricular activities
- To provide opportunities for social mobility
- To socialize students into the American culture
- To ensure students are prepared for careers
- To increase the quality of life for individual students
- To prepare involved and knowledgeable citizens
- To prepare understanding global citizens
- To ensure a prosperous and sustainable economy
- To enhance students’ creativity
- To understand democratic purposes
- To prepare skilled workers
- To ensure everyone is treated equally
- To prepare students for college
- To help students contribute to society
- To help students explore and understand multiple career opportunities
- To teach about the knowledge economy
- To keep students off the welfare rolls
- To help students acquire the knowledge, skills, and understanding to be successful in a career
- To teach students how to learn
- To prepare students to participate in civic life

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