



## ***What kind of student are you really?***

**Clueless Student.** If you are a Clueless Student, school is something to “get through” and “leave behind.” You find school dull. You’re waiting for the excitement to begin, but it never seems to arrive. You think of your education in terms of compartments. You move from one course to the next, one semester to the next, one year to the next, until you’ve finished another phase of your education. Then you move on to the next phase, expecting it to be just like the last. You don’t really exert yourself. Nor do you look too far ahead — the future is not something you think about. Your goal is to work just enough to get an “okay” grade but not to do more work than you have to. Mostly, you’re content with getting by, and sometimes that means getting a pretty good grade for doing only a satisfactory job. Getting an occasional bad grade is okay with you. Reaching for a long-term goal is not something you think about. You’re willing to trust to luck or fate that things will work out.

**Typical Student.** If you are a Typical Student, you work harder than a Clueless Student. You put forth effort — but only when you want to- “I will take a 50%, thank you!”. You study for tests and complete assignments, but then you often draw a line: You don’t work at courses that you don’t like or that you find too hard or too boring. In general, you earn high grades, but basically, you work for grades, not knowledge. You have no real sense of how all of your courses fit together. There’s no BIG picture for you. What’s more, like a Clueless Student, you don’t think about how high school classes prepare you for varsity and what you might do in life.

**College/Varsity Smart Student.** If you are a College/Varsity Smart Student, you are a serious student “a cracker”. You understand that your education is more than something to “get through” and “leave behind.” That distinguishes you from a Clueless Student right away. And unlike a Typical Student, you work for *all* of your courses. You get high grades, but you know that **grades are not the real goal. There’s a larger purpose: filling your knowledge bank, developing learning skills, and achieving certain academic goals.** You are looking beyond classes, semesters, and grades. You’re trying to figure out *where this education is going to take you.* Even though your life goals may be a bit hazy and change over time, you’re still always thinking ahead. For example, you might say to yourself: *I like math. I wonder if I would like engineering or business. I like language and literature. I wonder if I would make a good lawyer.* You’re beginning to understand how academic success actually creates many opportunities for your life. You are continually working with possible goals in mind, thinking about the future.