

Homework Assignment:

Part A. For the Orientation, please read the article you have been assigned. You will find your assignment next to your name in the Table Assignment Chart. Click on the link to find your article

Article 1: [The Opportunity Myth](#)

Core Idea

The Opportunity Myth argues that millions of students are denied real opportunities to learn—not because they lack ability or motivation, but because schools often **underestimate** what they can do. Students are frequently given schoolwork that is **far below grade level**, limiting their potential and reinforcing inequity.

What the Study Found

Researchers observed classrooms, analyzed assignments, and gathered feedback from thousands of students. They discovered four things students need every day to succeed:

1. **Grade-appropriate assignments**
2. **Strong instruction** that empowers students to do the thinking
3. **Deep engagement** in learning
4. **Teachers who hold high expectations**

However, most students—especially Black, Latino, and low-income students—**rarely** received all four.

Article 2: [10 Principles for Schools of Modern Learning](#)

The 10 Principles of Schools for Modern Learning emphasize creating a dynamic, student-centered environment that fosters personal, self-determined learning through shared beliefs, co-constructed curriculum, and real-world application. **Key principles include using technology as an amplifier, prioritizing transparency, and encouraging community participation to develop agile, lifelong learners prepared for a constantly evolving world.**

10 Principles of Modern Learning (Super Simple Version)

1. **Students Come First**
Learning starts with *you* and what you care about.
2. **We Learn Together**
We get smarter by talking, sharing, and helping each other.
3. **We Learn Skills for Life**
We practice thinking, solving problems, being creative, and working with others.

4. **Learning Should Feel Real**
We learn by doing real things that matter, not just worksheets.
5. **You Have a Voice**
You get to make choices and share your ideas.
6. **Teachers Are Helpers**
Teachers guide and support—you are part of the learning team.
7. **Learning Can Happen Anywhere**
We learn in class, at home, online, outside—learning is everywhere.
8. **Feedback Helps Us Grow**
Mistakes help us learn. We reflect and try again.
9. **Everyone Works Together**
Families, teachers, and students support each other.
10. **We Keep Improving**
We learn, grow, and try new things all the time.

Article 3: [State of the Student Experience](#)

Many students today are working hard, but they are not always feeling **motivated, connected, or inspired** by school. Schools are full of caring adults, yet the structure of school itself often makes learning feel more about **performance** than **growth**.

What Students Are Experiencing

- **High stress** from grades and expectations
- Learning that can feel **repetitive or disconnected** from real life
- **Limited choice** in what or how they learn
- **Inconsistent relationships** with adults who know them well
- Not enough opportunities to **collaborate, create, or explore** interests

What Students Say Helps Them Learn

Students learn best when they:

- Feel **known and supported**
- See **purpose** in what they are learning
- Have **choice** and ownership
- Work with others and solve **real problems**
- Get **feedback** that helps them grow, not just a grade

The Challenge

Outside school, students live in a world that is **interactive and creative**. Inside school, learning can still feel **controlled and standardized**.

For that article, please **identify five important takeaways** that you would share with others who did not read the article to summarize what you learned that you feel will help you and others as you do your work as a strategic plan team member crafting future direction.

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Be ready to share.