




# Post-Secondary Assessment Blues

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“In a completely rational society, the best of us would be teachers and the rest of us would have to settle for something else.”

- Lee Iacocca (former Chrysler CEO)



# Outline

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- Challenges
- Responses
- Links with Pedagogy



# Challenges

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- Traditional assessment: Quizzes, assignments, tests, exam
- But...

# Challenges

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- “May I submit my math assignments in the form of interpretive dance?”
- “The thought of being in a math classroom made me physically ill.”

**Toto, I've got a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore!**





# Challenges

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- Appropriate assessment
- Formative vs. summative assessment
- Multiple learning modes = multiple modes of assessment
- Student assessment/evaluation of teaching

# Responses

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- group work
- peer instruction
- independent study
- presentations
- math essays
- journals/portfolios
- Just-In-Time-Teaching (cf: Mazur et al.)
- personal response systems (“clickers”)
- “start, stop, continue”
- mid-course evaluations (cf: Teaching Behaviours Inventory, Murray, UWO)



# Pedagogical Issues: Learning Styles

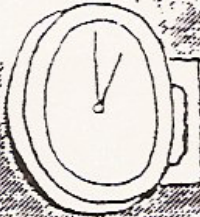
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- Learning styles inventories (Sternberg, Meyers-Briggs, Felder & Soloman)
  - Active vs Reflective Learners
  - Sensing vs Intuitive Learners
  - Visual vs Verbal Learners
  - Sequential vs Global Learners
- writing projects (“writing across the curriculum”)
- “rule of four” (symbolic, verbal, numerical, geometric/visual)



ROGER

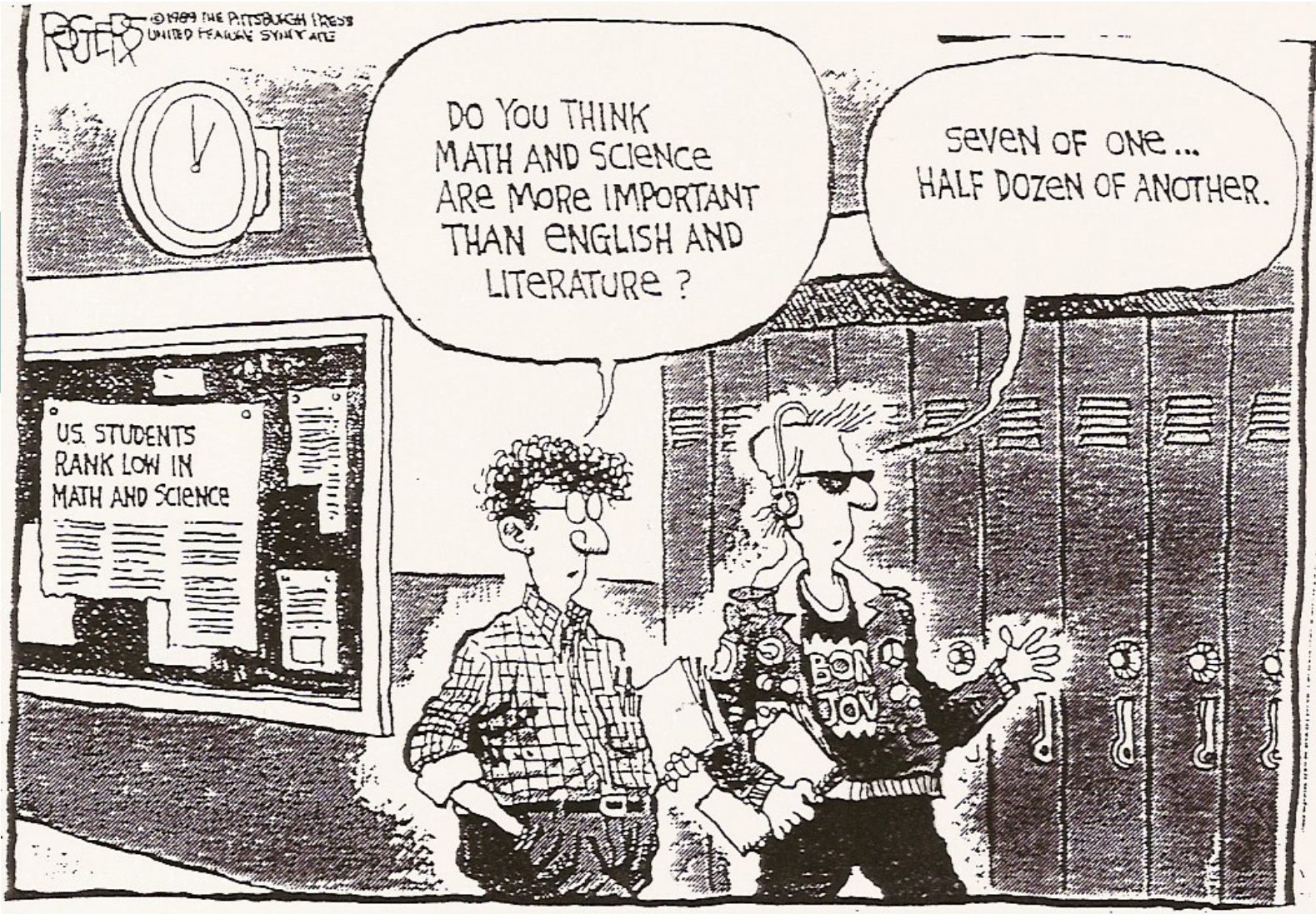
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U.S. STUDENTS  
RANK LOW IN  
MATH AND SCIENCE

DO YOU THINK  
MATH AND SCIENCE  
ARE MORE IMPORTANT  
THAN ENGLISH AND  
LITERATURE ?

seven of one ...  
HALF DOZEN OF ANOTHER.





# Questions? Comments?

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Thank you!

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