

## Evaluation

Evaluation has entered the educational world lately. It has been done to remove serious shortcomings of measurement. Measurement in fact provides symbols to different aspects, but in itself, it does not reveal much about a student. For example, a student has obtained 45 marks in Geography, it does not let us know anything about his knowledge of Geography. Are these marks the highest or the lowest, how many students scored more than this and how many less than this? What are the performance norms for Geography in the class? However, evaluation explains all these aspects. Evaluation assigns symbols to facts such that their values can be ascertained.

Evaluation is the assignment of symbols to phenomenon in order to characterise the worth or value of phenomenon usually with reference to some social, cultural or scientific standard.

To know the meaning of evaluation more clearly, we can discuss some of its definitions here :

1. "Evaluation of learning may properly be thought of as the method or methods used to determine the extent to which previously established goals, objectives and purposes that have been achieved. It is the process of comparing the outcomes of instructions with the anticipated or stated objectives."  
—Jarolimek

2. "Evaluation is the judgement or interpretation that one draws from the information at hand about a pupil's work."  
—Clark and Starr

3. In the words of **Wesley and Wronski** : "Evaluation is the process of gathering and interpreting all possible information that will give reliable and valid indications of changes in student's behaviour."

4. "Evaluation is the process of gathering and interpreting evidences of changes in the behaviour of the students as they progress through school."  
—Quillen and Hanna