

B Grade Round 1

That all school and university exams should be open book.

Background:

Exams have traditionally required students to memorise information and reproduce it under timed conditions. Some argue that open book exams, where students can use notes or other materials, better assess analysis skills and critical thinking. Proponents believe these exams mirror real-world problem-solving, reduce stress, and encourage deeper engagement with learning materials.

However, critics argue that open book exams may lead to over-reliance on materials. They also raise concerns about increased risk of cheating and the challenge of designing and grading open book questions effectively.

Questions for consideration:

- Would open book exams encourage or discourage students from studying thoroughly?
- Would all subjects and fields benefit equally from open book exams, or are there exceptions?
- How might open book exams impact the way teachers design lessons and assessments?
- Could open book exams create unfairness, such as unequal access to quality resources or inconsistent grading?

Resources:

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/evaluating-benefits-challenges-open-book-exams-abhijit-saxena-ah8pf/>

https://www.malaymail.com/news/opinion/2024/04/05/can-we-prepare-students-for-ai-assisted-learning-with-open-book-exams/127405#google_vignette

<https://www.ndtv.com/opinion/cbse-open-book-exams-can-foster-real-learning-in-the-indian-education-system-fixated-on-marks-5155219>

<https://www.cambridgeassessment.org.uk/blogs/open-book-web-assessments/>