

Conservative Versus Progressive View of Education  
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Idea	E.D. Hirsch, Jr. (Conservative)	Howard Gardner (Progressive)
Knowledge Deliverance	Teachers are there to communicate contents, to facilitate discussions, and to give tests. Grades measure the attentiveness of the students and to provide accountability for what they learn. The teacher is in charge, and the students are there to absorb the information provided and tested to check the retention rate (Gibbon, 2017, p.44).	Garner dislikes authority figure, prefers the classroom to be less structured and have the freedom to move around. He notices student absorb the best when they play, explore, develop their interests, and collaborate with others (Gibbon, 2017, pp.44 -45).
Learning	The emphasis of learning that involves both practice and repetitive drilling to get the contents through the learners (Hirsch, 1996).	Each person learns in different ways and have different intelligences. The emphasis of learning occurs through personalized computer instruction, cooperative learning, and to learn through social, emotional instructions.
Achievement Gap	Knowledge is the key to success. Declining SAT scores and the weakness in the worker’s skill set indicate the need to increase our vocabularies as a way to shrink the achievement gap (Peters, 2013).	Gardner does not focus on the achievement gap and emphasis no one can solve the issue since many students come from troubled homes (Gibbon, 2017, p.43).
Social Justice	Content knowledge is essential for social justice. Teaching students a rich content curriculum would give underserved population access to cultural resources for all to enjoy (Vaughan, 2008).	Gardner emphasizes to treat people the same, and on bringing out the best of their abilities. He explains the need to develop respect and ethics in students so that students can be active

		participants of the broader society (Gardner, 2012).
Opportunity	Knowledge is the key to get an equal footing, and the school should create an environment for learning to occur, no matter what social background they came from (Hirsch, 1999).	Every individual has the right to be educated. Gardner wants an education where the students leaving the system with a better understanding of the world (Gardner, 1997).
Human Nature	Humans are lazy and careless; they procrastinate and need to have pressure to keep them on track and to meet deadlines (Gibbon, 2017, p. 44).	Gardner is positive about human nature and have faith in student’s potential and disagrees with evolutionary psychology that human beings are aggressive. He believes students can do without competition and grades (Gibbon, 2017, pp. 44-45).
Knowledge	He believes in common knowledge that brings us together and the importance of background knowledge that helps us with reading and thinking (Abrams, 2012).	Gardner’s theory of Multiple Intelligences challenges an educational system that all students can uniformly learn the material and he sees students learning in distinct ways. The following learning styles include musical, study better with music in the background, interpersonal, student learn through interaction like an involvement in a drama (Roper & Davis, 2000).
Student’s Role	Students are passive learners where they sit and pay attention to the lesson plan provided by the teacher.	Students are encouraged to be active participants in the learning environment.

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