

Film: Waiting for Superman

1. ____ are unique public schools that are open to all children and tuition free. These schools do not have special entrance requirements: (a) Boarding school (b) Charter school

2. When there is not enough space, charter schools use (a) ____ in order to select students: (a) student's academic performance (b) family income (c) Lottery (d) "first come, first serve"

3. Which of the term describes the way districts' central offices shuffle ineffective teachers from school to school? (a) The dance with the lemon (b) Passing the trash (c) The turkey trot (d) All of the above

4. ____ began in the 1920s to protect the then largely female teaching force from arbitrary, unfair and often discriminatory employment decisions. Nowadays, it has been recognized as a greatest barrier to fire underperformed/problematic teachers: (a) Life-long employment (b) Tenure (c) Job security (d) none of the above

5. ____ are public schools with specialized courses or curricula. This type of schools draws students from across the normal boundaries defined by authorities as school zones that feed into certain schools: (a) Magnet school (b) Boarding school (c) Specialized school (d) Long-distance school

6. ____ is separating students by academic ability into groups for all subjects or certain classes and curriculum within a school. The entire school population is assigned to classes according to whether the students' overall achievement is above average, normal, or below average: (a) Segregation (b) Separation (c) Tracking (d) Classification

7. Although U.S. schools "have failed to keep pace with the rest of the world" and rank 25th in math and 21st in science among the 30 developed countries, what is the one category that the U.S. students ranked the highest in?: (a) reading (b) confidence (c) writing (d) logical thinking

8. Students' academic achievement gap between poor and rich can be best explained by: (a) family background (b) neighborhood environments (c) teachers' quality (d) all of the above

9. The film shows life stories of four children of color who live in urban areas. What do you think the director's focus on this particular group of children tell us about problems with educational system in the U.S.? And what do you think it does not tell us about problems with educational system in the U.S.? Support your ideas with specific examples, statistical information, and key concepts from your reading for this week and/or Internet search.