

第三節

高階英語閱讀與寫作 試題

Instruction: Please read the following paragraphs and based on the information provided, write a short essay (150-200 words) on your position and justify your comments.

Most American universities today still use traditional grading system of A-B-C-D-F, with A meaning “excellent,” B “good,” C “Satisfactory” or “average,” D “unsatisfactory but passing,” and F of course “failing.” While Some feel that this system has shortcomings (too imprecise, too arbitrary), it does represent the possible range of students’ work, and most students and faculty members are comfortable-or at least familiar –with it. However, American universities since the mid- 1960’s have increasingly been afflicted by the problem of grade inflation. This refers to the tendency of many faculty members to over-evaluate the quality of a student’s work and consequently to assign her/him a grade higher than the work deserves. The reason this practice is called inflation, a term borrowed from economics, is that it resembles paying too high a price for a given item. The problem is common among American universities.

The trend toward inflated grades unrest on college campuses in the United States. There were widespread students protests against the Vietnam War and civil authority in general, frequently with the enthusiastic support and even participation of the faculty. Under the circumstances, grading standards began to shift for the worse. Faculty members became more and more reluctant to give students a D, let alone an F; the grade of C came to denote a minimal pass, B to represent “satisfactory,” and A to mean “better than a B.” Today, student and faculty alike have this new, watered-down system in their heads, although their university’s official grading policy may be unchanged.

What is the purpose of grades? What is grade inflation? Do you think grade inflation is a problem? Why or why not? What solution would you suggest?

試題完