

## **Theme :** Analysis of an Argument

### **Taken from :**

[https://www.ets.org/gre/revised\\_general/prepare/analytical\\_writing/argument/pool](https://www.ets.org/gre/revised_general/prepare/analytical_writing/argument/pool)

### **Text :**

Fifteen years ago, Omega University implemented a new procedure that encouraged students to evaluate the teaching effectiveness of all their professors. Since that time, Omega professors have begun to assign higher grades in their classes, and overall student grade averages at Omega have risen by 30 percent. Potential employers, looking at this dramatic rise in grades, believe that grades at Omega are inflated and do not accurately reflect student achievement; as a result, Omega graduates have not been as successful at getting jobs as have graduates from nearby Alpha University. To enable its graduates to secure better jobs, Omega University should terminate student evaluation of professors.

### **Answer :**

In this article the author suggests that Omega university has to eliminate student evaluation of professors. He/she also mentions that employers are in fear that these higher grades don not reflect student achievement. To support this projection, the author renders the fact that grades have been increased recently due to professors effectiveness evaluation.

Regarding the first evidence, the author seems to assume that evaluation of professors is responsible for higher grades in classes. However, he/she ignores other possible causes of higher grades; for example, better students have been admitted to the university or better teaching methods have been used. The author has to consider explanations like these. He/she cannot make conclusions considering just one thing – professors effectiveness evaluation. His/her point of view is narrow, he/she should expand it and consider all possible factors.

The author also forgets one very important thing. He/she compares Omega university with Alpha university suggesting that Alpha's students are more successful at getting good jobs. But he/she does not consider economical factor. It is very important to know studying surroundings. Maybe Alpha university students are more successful because of better laboratory equipment or better opportunities at university. Maybe Alpha university spends more money for student's practices. Maybe they are hiring better professors and also they may have modern approach and work program. All of these things does not necessarily mean that Omega students would be more successful if they have other professors or program, but that should be considered. Also, Omega university should investigate what the Alpha university offers that is attractive to employers that it does not.

The author assumes that implementing new procedure 15 years ago motivated professors to assign better grades. It is reasonable to assume that students studies harder now than then and that it is the reason of better grades assigned to them.

In sum, this article relies on doubtful assumptions. The author should consider all the aspects of Omega university students worse results on job interviews. He/she should also consider Alpha university work. He/she should compare important things between these universities such as professional staff, work program, equipment etc. After that, the author can have some better picture of these universities and can propose the reasons of more success of Alpha university students.