

COMPARISON OF TWO EDUCATIONAL APPROACHES

<p>The Workbook Approach</p> <p><i>Conditioned Learning</i> <i>Consumer-Oriented</i> RESULT: <i>Dependent Character</i></p>	<p>The Notebook Approach</p> <p><i>Reflective Learning</i> <i>Producer-Oriented</i> RESULT: <i>Independent Character</i></p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Curriculum is structured by the pursuit of information and its regurgitation. Glorifies man and his knowledge! 2. Discourages original thinking through true-false, fill-in-the-blank, one-word responses. 3. Produces no record of learning—papers discarded, workbooks destroyed. Student has no sense of “value” for the effort. Parents not certain what is being taught. 4. Subject is not the internal property of the student. Information quickly forgotten! Language must be “dumbed down” for understanding. Communication is vague. Student often unable to give meaningful answers. 5. Produces the ability to take short answer tests with a “recognition” mentality. Students parrot back the “right” answers for the “A” on the test. 6. Has no standard of Christian scholarship or work ethic—no accountability for learning! 7. Discourages a lifetime enjoyment of learning. 8. The burden of learning rests on the teachers! 9. Teachers are tied to teacher manuals and canned curriculum content—someone else’s ideas and lesson plans. 10. Fosters opportunities of irresponsibility, ignorance, illiteracy, inertia—a slavish, dependent mentality and character—a liberal, socialistic, secular world and life view! 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Curriculum is structured by Biblical <i>principles</i> and <i>leading ideas</i>. Glorifies God as the author of the subject! 2. Encourages <i>mastery</i> of subjects. Students research. Required to <i>write</i> complete thoughts, sentences, paragraphs, essays. 3. Produces a <i>permanent record</i> of learning. Student values his labor and is able to refer back to his study. Parents see exactly what is being taught and required daily, as well as the child’s progress. 4. Student takes command of the subject and it becomes his personal property. Must be able to reason and think critically; acquires the ability to articulate with <i>perspicuity</i>—speak and write with the mastery and authority of God’s Word. 5. Produces <i>reflective</i> understanding. Essay tests require an understanding of principles and concepts. Students reason for themselves, solve problems. 6. Holds student to the standard of <i>excellence</i> in Christ. He practices Christian scholarship. 7. Produces “philomaths”—those who love learning and pursue a lifetime of study. 8. The burden of learning rests on the student! 9. Teacher becomes the <i>lively textbook</i>, the living epistle in the classroom, by researching and developing his own curriculum and lesson plans. 10. Fosters opportunities for individuality, industry, productivity, accountability, reasoning, mastery of knowledge—a <i>self-governing, independent</i> mentality and character—a conservative, Biblical, Christian world and life view!

