

Synopsis

<http://parentsbell.weebly.com/index.html>

The Parents' guide to the 10 + 2 Science

-

Know before it happens

This book illustrates how parents can guide the students by following a systematic approach for preparation of 10 + 2 science and engineering \ medical entrance examinations and know in advance what may happen and correct it.

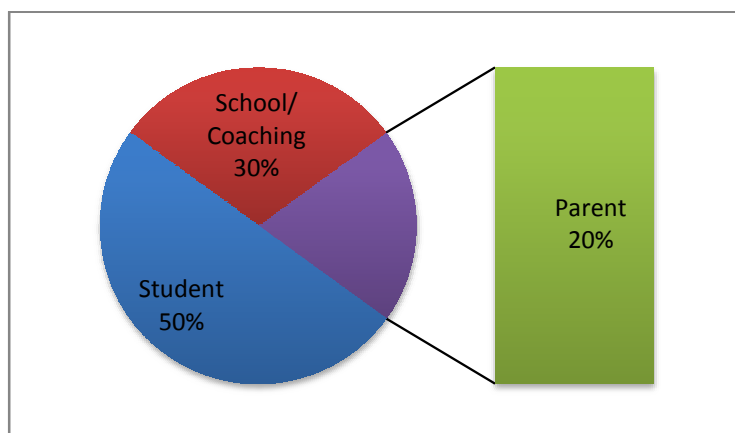


Table of Contents

Preface

1.0 Introduction

2.0 Monthly Calendar for Parents

3.0 Parents can be the best guide

4.0 An early bird catches the worm

5.0 Parent Student study relation

6.0 Selection of Education Institutions & Study Material

7.0 The two year journey begins

8.0 How to plan study in class XI/XII

9.0 Taking the Mock tests

10.0 Developing Strategy for examinations

11.0 Case study of a class 11 student

12.0 Improving the performance

13.0 Case study of a class 12 student

14.0 Mistake corrections and understanding patterns

15.0 January, February class 12

16.0 Examination and Results

17.0 A note for the parents with non-science backgrounds

18.0 Conclusions

Acknowledgements

To my parents, my family, plus two students, parents and teachers

Preface

I was standing in front of a school on a hot summer day as my son was appearing for a national level engineering examination. The examination was to continue throughout the day in two separate three hours sitting, with a two hours lunch break in between. There was a huge field outside the school where scores of parents were sitting and talking to each other. I was amazed to see the knowledge level of some guardians regarding the examinations.

1.0 Introduction

When a student goes from class ten to eleven, there is a quantum jump in syllabus. The student has to not only prepare for the intermediate examinations but also has to cope with the vast syllabus for competitive examination in these two years. It is obvious that time is at a premium and a student has to be properly guided so that he achieves the results to the best of his ability. A common pitfall is unnecessary wastage of time due to wrong method of study and overemphasis on some chapters/subjects at the cost of others and awaking after much time has been lost. This is where the role of a parent comes in, as parent can be the best advisor for student.

2.0 Monthly Calendar for Parents

The making of a monthly calendar for parents for two years period is described and the terminology used in the calendar is explained in various chapters of the book. The calendar can be followed as per parent's convenience.

3.0 Parents can be the best guide

A parent can be the best guide to the student. A parent can suitably judge the child using his emotional intelligence and intuition. This view is acknowledged by most in academic fraternity but generally parents are afraid that they may misguide the student as their student life has long been over or they are out of touch with the current academic scenario. It may be noted that science subjects have not changed for the last fifty years and the fundamentals are still the same. Generally the parents have studied science subjects till class 10 if not higher. But when it comes to guiding their own child, they think they are outdated, but it is not so, as they realize this fact much to their dismay in the later months of class 12.

4.0 An early bird catches the worm

It is truly said that an early bird catches the worm. So, the preparation for the competitive examination post class twelve should start a bit early but not very early otherwise it may lead to fatigue and burn out.

5.0 Parent Student study relation

A certain chemistry is required to be developed between them so that the study becomes an entertaining quiz for both of them and not seem like a challenge posed by parent to student. As a matter of fact, a student's routine in the plus two period is power packed as

the student has to go to school in morning followed by some coaching classes in the evening. A student is hardly ever home in his waking hours. Moreover, for whatever time he is at home, he has to devote it for self study and school work. The parent may erroneously think that all is well as student is devoting full time to studies.

6.0 Selection of Education Institutions & Study Material

Can someone write an essay without knowing the alphabet of a language? The answer is obviously no. So, the schools/coaching institutes to be so chosen where the basic textbooks are taught and not where the advanced topics are started without touching the basics. Generally the text books become the first casualty in this age as they seem to be too innocuous compared to the high standard of questions in the competitive examinations but one must not forget that the textbooks are the alphabet for writing the essay.

7.0 The two year journey begins

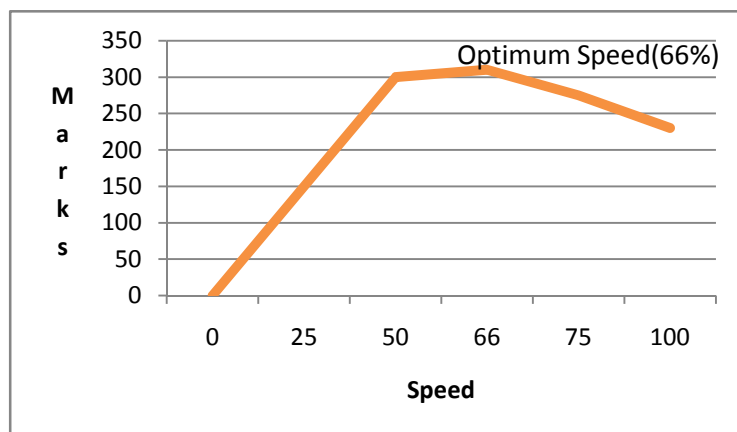
After completion of class X exams, the parent should make a study schedule with chapter wise list for each subject. A typical schedule for class 11 is described.

8.0 How to plan study in class XI/XII

The syllabus of class 11 & 12 is considered and a bar chart of whole syllabus with monthly time schedule (April class 11 to March class11, April class 12 to March class12) is prepared. The idea behind making a bar chart is to see the whole picture at one place for each of the three subjects which are further illustrated.

9.0 Taking the Mock tests

Taking the Chapter test – learning from mistakes: Once the student sets into the self study routine, he should start taking the one hour chapter tests and learn from the mistakes. The scores of the chapter test and mistakes to be analyzed by the parent and chapter to be again revisited by the student. The figure below shows determination of optimum speed of student.



10.0 Developing Strategy for examinations

Some students are God-gifted and grasp the concepts very fast and have a head start in their studies. These students are visible from their high school days as they gather laurels frequently like national scholarship, science Olympiads etc. It is true that gifted students are superior to average ones but everybody selected in competitive examinations are not God-gifted. One can also achieve success by developing suitable strategy for the examination. Some of the strategies are described in book.

11.0 Case study of a class 11 student

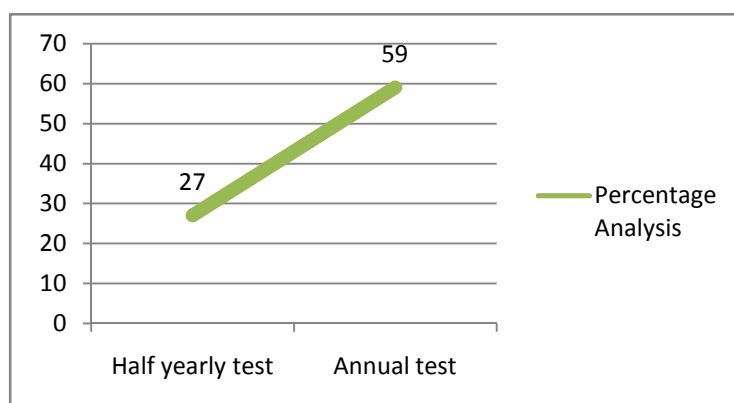
Based on the tips mentioned in previous chapters, let us analyze the performance of a student "Azad" who has scored 90% in the class 10 examinations. Azad has joined a regular plus 2 school and a coaching class. He has also enrolled in a DLP course having online chapter test with post test analytics. Azad's father has a busy professional life but he has decided to give at least some time to Azad's study on a daily basis. So, Azad has made a study plan and recording his progress in the logbook with the help of his father.

12.0 Improving the performance

The student has followed a good self study routine, maintained a logbook & adhered to chapter wise study schedule and given the chapter/terminal/full tests for a year in class 11. The results achieved are moderate say 40% and have become flat. What more a student requires to do is now to be thought off by the parent.

13.0 Case study of a class 12 student

Azad's overall improvement in class 11 due to systematic study is given below.



Though the above graph looks ideal as it is going upwards, but one should never forget that education is a process and, therefore, as in any process there will ups and down in spite of following a systematic study procedure but ultimately the curve will move upwards provided the process is right. Armed with this wisdom, now let us proceed to the state of affairs about to happen in class 12.

14.0 Mistake corrections and understanding patterns

The entrance examinations have questions on a variety of pattern and a student has to answer the same. The parent has to carefully look up the performance and see a pattern of the mistakes, so that further improvement can be done. Lets us analyze some questions where the student has committed the mistakes and understand the reason for it.

15.0 January, February class 12

The January, February and March of class 12 is quite hectic for students. The school and coaching has ended and this is the time to study for competitions as well as class 12 board examinations. There is a curfew at home. TV watching and long telephonic conversations by parents are also curtailed as this disturbs the student. The other end callers will also not fail to remind that this is a crucial period and all this leads to tension in a parent's mind leading to sometimes sleepless nights. As a parent one should absorb the tension and try to make the atmosphere in household tension free and jovial. These months should be treated as much as possible as class 11 months by the parents.

16.0 Examination and Results

The much anticipated D-Day finally arrives in March of class 12, the month in which the board exams are usually scheduled. It is but natural for the parents to be tense and think of the worst during the period, but all efforts to be made to not pass this tension to student and parental behaviour is to be kept calm and quiet as far as possible. All options are to be kept open in terms of career choices. There are plenty of options after 10 + 2 science be it engineering, medical or pursuing pure sciences and systematic study done in the last two years will come to rescue in whichever field the student decides to pursue his graduation studies. There are major exams like entrance exams for IIT and NIT's, NEET for medical, IISER for pure science studies etc.

17.0 A note for the parents with non-science backgrounds

Parents reading this book may be sometimes wondering that this book is only meant for parents having a science background and rightly so as Azad's father has a science background. They may erroneously think that a parent having arts, humanities or commerce background will not be able to contribute much in the student studies as it will be all Greek to him. However, this is not so because this book advocates only a method of systematic study and analysis of test results.

18.0 Conclusions

The aim of the book is to devise a systematic study plan for two years. Systematic plans are like bank's recurring deposit plans which demand small monthly contribution but give huge returns at the end of the stipulated period. The two year study period is a rally and not a race where an optimum pace has to be maintained which should be neither too slow nor too fast as there are penalties in case of any of the eventualities. A great deal of emphasis has been put on the analysis of data pertaining to student's performance, as data enable to know the event before it happens and take corrective measures.