

DEJ #1

Meiland, Jack. "The Difference Between High School and College." *Writing and Reading for ACP Composition*. Compilers, Thomas E. Leahey and Christine R. Farris. New York: Pearson Custom Publishing, 2009. 8 —18. Print.

<u>RECORD</u>	<u>ANALYZE</u>
DIRECT QUOTE "College is taken to be different from high school <i>only</i> in being more difficult" (8).	Students think that difficulty increases as they move along the educational continuum. While that is true to an extent, some people fail to see the expectations regarding intellectual growth are very different.
GENERAL IMPRESSION Intellectual work should be based on investigation.	This is what Meiland believes should be the difference between high school and college.
TERMS Descriptive Statement	how something is given the current state
Normative Statement	How something should be regardless of the current state
DIRECT QUOTE "... the whole project of the modern mind is to base belief only on good reasons" (13)	Teachers must teach students to examine the beliefs they hold or those that others present to them as undeniable truths. Instead, high schools should show students how to answer these questions: Why do we hold a belief? How did we arrive at this conclusion? Asking these questions should lead to independent thinkers and ultimately a better informed society.

Summary of Article

Jack Meiland, former professor of philosophy at the University of Michigan, directs his essay "The Difference Between High School and College" towards high school students planning on attending college. While he believes learning occurs at both levels, Meiland asserts the main difference is that high schools teach students how to understand material while colleges illustrate the importance of questioning beliefs and evidence to determine if they are just. Meiland believes high school students see information presented by an authority as inherently true, so there is no need to question it. In contrast, colleges do not treat information as unchanging facts but rather as conclusions reached on the basis of investigations. The author then presents three types of reasoning : beliefs based on sound reasoning, which are likely to be true; beliefs based on lack of reasoning, which could be problematic; and beliefs based on good reasoning, which is considered democratic. However, the most useful type is a justified belief because it is rooted in examination.

This summary should be 6—8 sentences and begin with the author's name, title of the article, and a 1-2 sentence restatement of the main idea. Next, provide a brief summary of the main reasons that capture the overall organization of the essay as well as the author's purpose.