

# Why Perfect Grades Don't Matter

## VOCABULARY

- \***SAT** – (*Scholastic Aptitude Test*) an examination which is often taken by students who wish to enter a college or university
- \***GPA** – (*Grade Point Average*) a measure of a student's academic achievement, based on an average of all the grades they receive
- \***CT** – (*College Test*) a college entrance exam
- \***Visionary** – someone who has strong, original ideas about how things might be different in the future, especially about things that might be improved
- \***Trailblazer** – a person who is the leader in a particular field, especially who does a particular thing before anyone else does

## COMPREHENSION

1. According to a 2002 study, what percentage of students based their self-worth on their grades?
2. Based on a national survey of 24,000 students, what percentage of this number cheated on a test?
3. Researchers found high school students with lower grades and higher test scores performed worse in college. Why?
4. What could contribute to Finland being ranked higher than the U.S. in academic achievement?

## LET'S TALK

1. Do you think a student that strives to get A's will retain the material beyond the test?
2. Why do you think valedictorians were not categorized as "visionaries or trail blazers" in the real world?