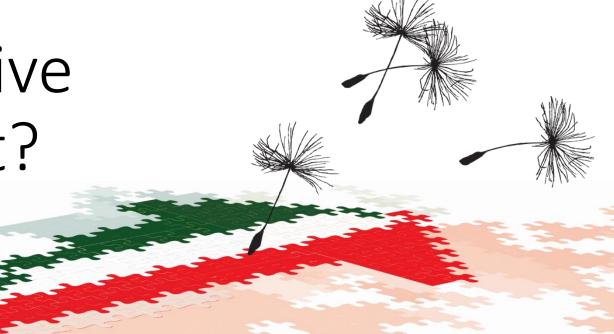
Tyndale Education

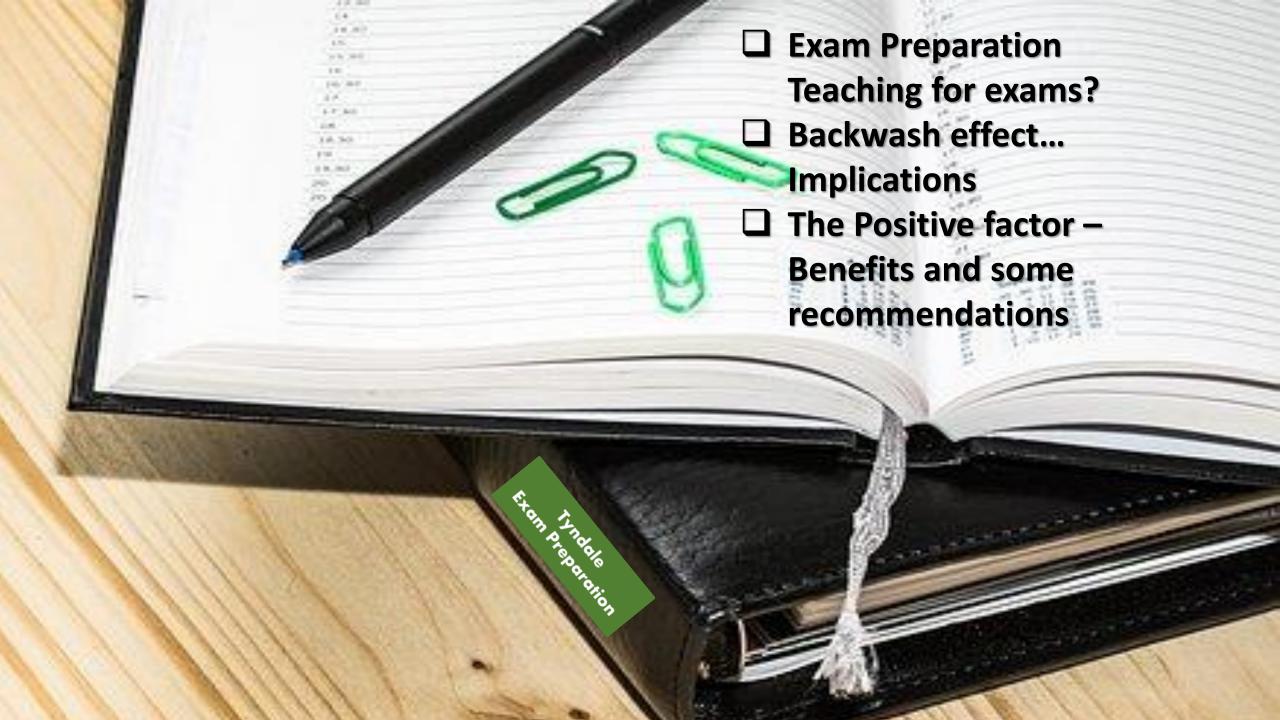
Exam Preparation

Positive or negative backwash effect?



Presents







Exam preparation Teaching for exams?

In Mexico

Most schools in the private and public sectors are interested in external benchmark.

Some language proficiency tests are compulsory requirement to further career opportunities.





What do these statements may imply? Talk to your partner

Secundaria con TOEFL

PREPARATORIA con FIRST

Nuestros alumnos están certificados

CURSO DE PREPARACIÓN ¡Resultado garantizado!



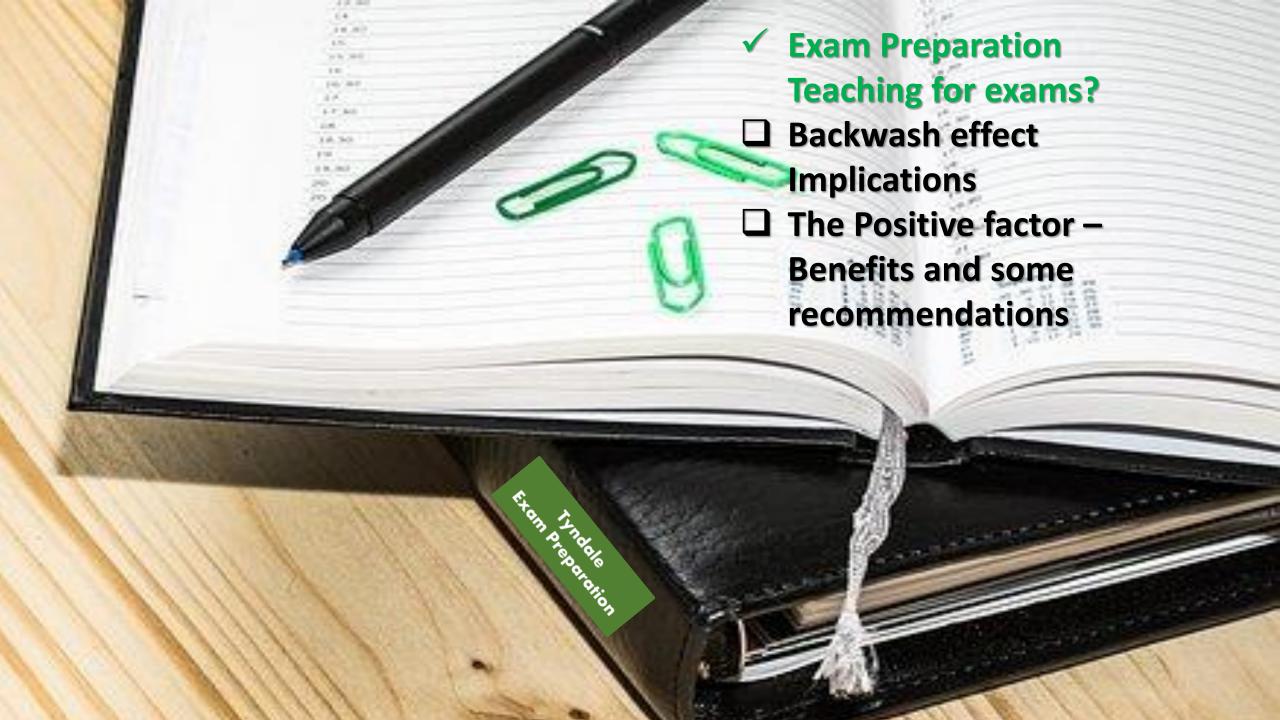
Teachers





How about students?





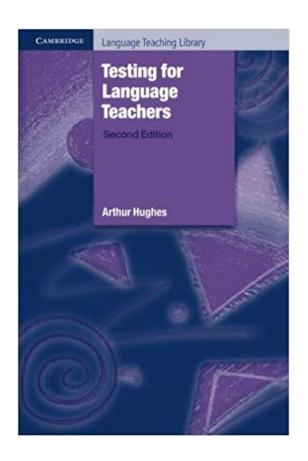
Backwash effect or Washback?

Implications

What is backwash?

Arthur Hughes, 1989

'The effect of tests on teaching and learning'



'Backwash can be **harmful** or **beneficial**' How do I know?

Only practice tests

Curriculum oriented towards specific exams

NEGATIVE

No more feedback – just ítems to review

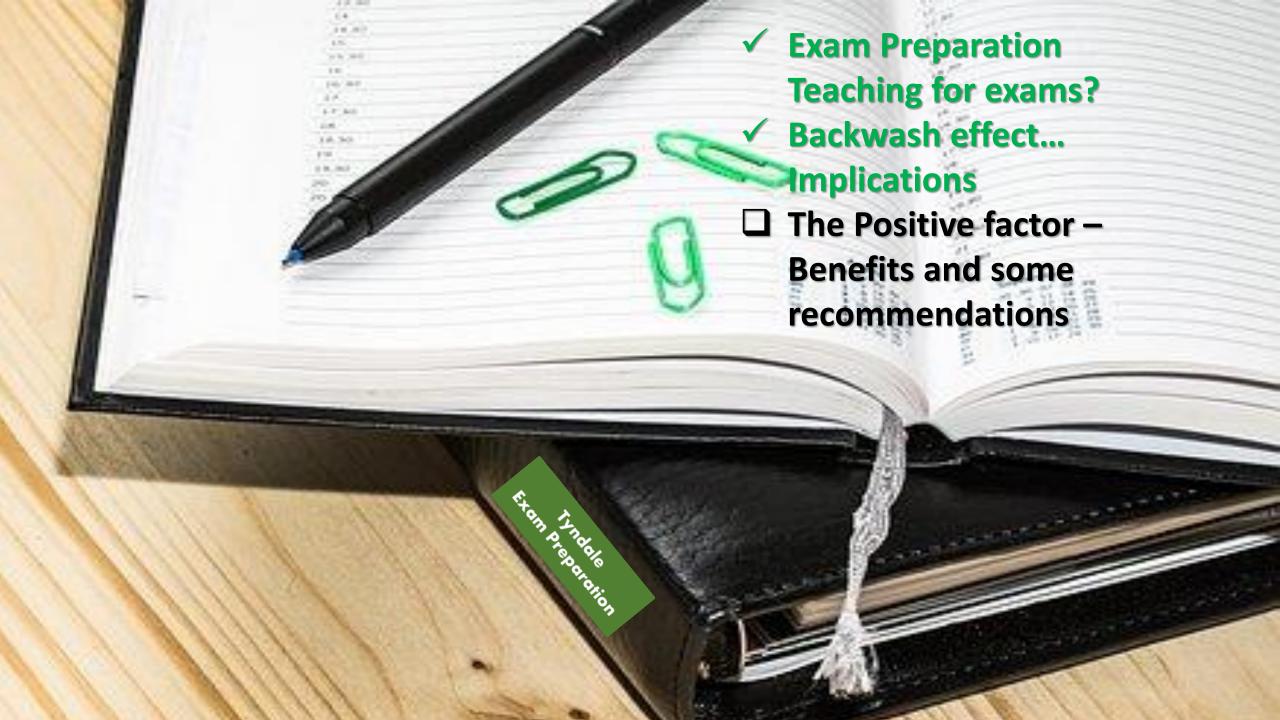
Item analytics



Test informs on areas of opportunity

POSITIVE

Integrated skills



The positive factor

Benefits and some recommendations

A case study

- 25 schools
- Located in Northern region in Mexico
- 5 states
- 2 years
- 225 teachers



Tyndale Exam Preparation

A case study

- CYLE
- FIRST, PRELIMINARY and KEY for Schools



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Methodology

- Classroom observations (30 min. long)
- Individual feedback
- Action plan
- TEST TEACH



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Outcome

- Better engagement with integrated skills.
- Teachers become 'champions' on their exams.
- Students do not feel threatened.
- Exam informs, it is not the target.

New technology – better analysis









FASTER TESTS

HIGHER MOTIVATION INCREASED SECURITY

MORE ACCURATE



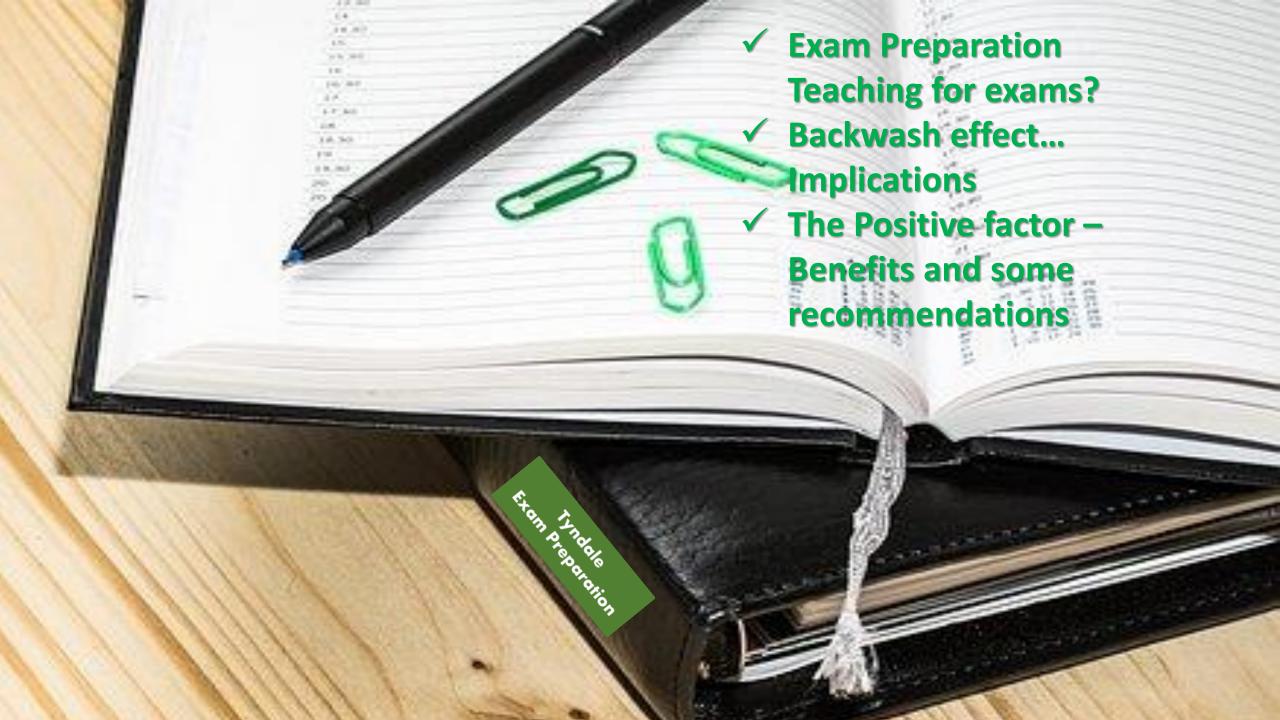
Some recommendations

Empower your learners (future exam candidates)

Allow them to explore the exam and collect as much information as they can prior to any input you provide.

- TEST TEACH TEST. But really concentrate on TEACHING integrated skills
- Different learners different skills. Differentiate your teaching therefore exam practice. Technology can be very helpful!





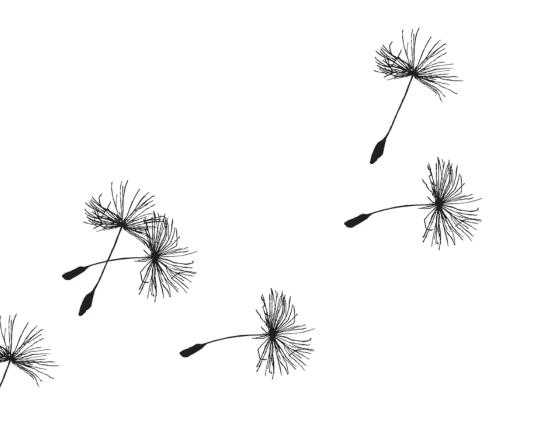
Preliminary conclusions

- Tests are not the destiny, they are just signposts on the road.
 Some can be warning, some are merely informative and entertaining.
- Concentrate on integrated skills, privilege higher-order thinking skills.
- Look at the indicators, but help learners to prioritize on their own interests and competencies. –
 'Symptoms are not the enemy to be destroyed'



QUESTIONS?

Thank you!



Mister Pi

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