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### **Prospectus**

Socioeconomic status is something that not only can define how others think of someone but also can define the education they receive and how successful they are in that education. Whether the person is rich, poor, middle class, or somewhere in between, this defining quality will greatly affect their future success. Because social class is such a big factor in education, some of the assumptions based on social class have also been worked in to standardized testing tools and things like social media. A good example of this is the ACT-Engage survey that measures a student's future success. In the survey, almost all of the criteria are asking about personal attributes such as drive and motivation in that person's studies. Basically, it is saying that the more motivated the student, the more successful they will be. Now this while this sounds correct, this survey only considers internal aspects of a person. Drive and motivation most definitely can lead to success, but not in every situation. In a survey created by Macomb Community College students, many of the categories include things like the student's job, transportation to and from school, educational history, and their upbringing. These factors consider life circumstances rather than just internal motivation to measure success. If a person doesn't have their physical and emotional needs met, their chance for success is very low, even if that person is very intelligent.

While both of these surveys could accurately measure success, they both assume something about the students they are given to. The ACT-Engage survey is most likely for students who have nothing interfering with their studies and don't have to worry about things like transportation or paying for school. These usually include middle to upper class students. On the other hand, the Macomb Student survey probably assumes the person doesn't necessarily have all of these needs met and could be juggling several things along with school such as a job, taking care of children, and getting to and from classes. The main problem with these surveys is that they both have important things that determine success, but they aren't made for everyone. Criteria on both surveys is really needed to evaluate the average student and their future success. If student success for all kinds of people was the main priority of these surveys, then even the people who don't have a chance to show their true potential could be given that chance.