



TRANSCRIPTS/GPA LESSON INSTRUCTIONS

1. Spend 5 minutes talking about your college experience:

-Which college you attended, your major, entrance requirements, why you chose the college, biggest challenges, etc.)

2. Review the power point: [Transcripts/ GPA](#)

-take time to review the information on the transcript slides
-when discussing GPA review the example with the students

3. Play the GPA game:

- To familiarize yourself with the game and how it works, please use the following video as an example:

<https://youtu.be/PSLfE6ld5dU>

-Get 8 volunteers

-Provide each volunteer a GPA card and have them line up in GPA order (highest to lowest- Audience view: Left to right)

-Have students hold their card in front of them with the GPA side facing the audience

-Use the following script to facilitate instructions:

GPA GAME

-“There are several factors other than students’ GPA that are considered in the admission process for getting into college. Students at the front of the line will have a better chance of getting into college than the students at the end of the line. Notice how these “students” move closer toward admission or denial.”

-“Students, please listen to the following situations and see if they apply to you. When I tell you to move up, you will move to your right, and when I tell you to move down, move to your left the specified number of places.”

-“Any questions?”

1. If you take the courses in the college prep curriculum, MOVE UP TWO SPACES. (3.7; 3.1)

2. If you begin talking about college with your parents in middle school, MOVE UP ONE SPACE. (2.9)

3. If you took a foreign language or Math 1 in the 8th grade, MOVE UP TWO SPACES. (3.3)

4. If you decide not take any honors course, AP or IB classes to protect your GPA, **MOVE DOWN ONE SPACE.** (3.3)
5. If you take 2 years of a foreign language during high school, **MOVE UP ONE SPACE.** (3.5)
6. If you do not get to know any of your teachers, they will not know you well enough to write a great college recommendation. The recommendations may be required for college admission and scholarships, **MOVE DOWN ONE SPACE.** (2.9)
7. If you think you want to be a neurosurgeon but make poor grades in science, **MOVE DOWN THREE SPACES.** (4.1)
8. If you develop good communication skills, are organized, and a leader among your peers, **MOVE UP TWO SPACES.** (2.8)
9. If you had the opportunity to go on a college visit, but did not take advantage of the field trip, **MOVE DOWN ONE SPACE.** (2.8)
10. If you are on track to be #1 in the class but you blow off the spring semester of your senior year because you were accepted in the fall. **MOVE DOWN ONE SPACE.** (3.7)
11. If you took ACT prep one Saturday morning your freshman or sophomore year in high school, **MOVE UP TWO SPACES.** (3.1)
12. If The admission team looks up your history on social media and finds multiple inappropriate posts relating to violence, drugs, bullying, and pornography. **SIT DOWN! YOU ARE OUT OF THE COMPETITION ENTIRELY.** (3.3)
13. If you will be the first in the family to attend college, **MOVE UP TWO SPACES.** (3.5)
14. If you attended an enriching summer program between your sophomore and junior years, **MOVE UP TWO SPACES.** (3.1)
15. If you participate in no school-related activities, **MOVE DOWN TWO SPACES.** (3.7)
16. If you have participated in a significant community service project, **MOVE UP ONE SPACE.** (4.1)
17. If you are an Eagle Scout, **MOVE UP TWO SPACES.** (3.7)
18. If you are a varsity athlete and All-Region in that sport, **MOVE UP ONE SPACE.** (4.0)
19. If you got a D in an academic course at the end of your sophomore year, **MOVE DOWN THREE SPACES.** (3.1)
20. If you wrote a letter to the college admission officer and explained the extenuating circumstances surrounding a grade of "D," **MOVE UP ONE SPACE.** (3.1)

21. If you play around your freshman year and end up with below a 2.5 GPA, MOVE DOWN TWO SPACES. (4.0)

22. If, the college library is named after your grandparents and it is not a coincidence. MOVE ALL THE WAY TO THE FRONT OF THE LINE AND STAY THERE. (2.8)

-At the end of the game, take observations from students and reflect on what they learned 😊

Talking Points/Questions:

- Colleges are not looking for any one type of student. They look for accomplished students who bring a lot to the admission's table. You can see that decisions are made by a combination of objective and subjective factors, and these factors often differ in importance from one college to the next.

- What were the factors considered during the game? (Courses taken, grades received, essays, communication, recommendations, involvement on campus and in the community, etc.)
- Does the highest GPA always determine college admission at a selective college?
- Does having a mediocre record in high school mean you will never get into your "dream" college?
- What other factors besides the ones covered in the game can determine where you go to college? (Money, proximity to home, diversity, unusual life experiences, etc.)