

The Big Test: The Secret History of the American Meritocracy By Nicholas Lemann **Book the big truth** To provide the highway for this advancement of talent.

## The big test lemann

This is an excellent history of the creation of the SAT and its forerunners examining the theories of general intelligence testing the social purposes of creating the exam and the growing political power of the Educational Testing Service. **The Big Test kindle direct** But I'm glad I read it for two reasons -- 1) I was interested to learn how we as a nation talked ourselves into using the SATs and ACTs as the primary determining factor on where (and which) people went to college. **My big yellow book test prep** Interesting and thought provoking; however the author's style and his flexing of his vocabulary- especially in first half of book- made reading the book like walking through a muddy field in loose wellies. **My big yellow book test prep** 0374527512 What do we know about the history origin design and purpose of the SAT? Who invented it and why? How did it acquire such a prominent and lasting position in American education? The Big Test reveals the ideas people and politics behind a fifty-year-old utopian social experiment that changed this country. **The Big Test kindle direct** Drawing on unprecedented access to the Educational Testing Service's archives Lemann maintains that America's meritocracy is neither natural nor inevitable and that it does not apportion opportunity equally or fairly. **The big 5 personality test pdf** His important study not only asks profound moral and political questions about the past and future of our society but also carries implications for current social and educational policy. **Kindle The Big testnav** As Brent Staples noted in his New York Times editorial column: Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts announced that prospective students would no longer be required to submit SAT scores with their applications. **Book the big truth** But of course the danger of AA is in putting some ahead of others simply by reason of ethnicity in the hope that this injustice on an individual basis will make it unnecessary to have it continued in the future. **The Big Test epub** The issues that come up in societies will always launch certain individuals on remarkable careers and The Big Test provides many examples of this particularly in the life of Henry Chauncey who rode the wave of testing to the top of the Educational Testing Service. **EBook The Big test my** There is the remarkable account of the MAT (Measure of Academic Talent) test that was developed by ETS that took into account the differences in background of test-takers and was able to isolate those who were likely to excel in higher education regardless of background. **Book the big truth** 0374527512 Most nonfiction books are alike in that they present their compelling arguments in the first chapter their conclusions and recommendations in the final chapter and everything in-between can be skimmed to get a sense of the evidence used to get from point A to point B. **The Big Test epub** Lemann is quite possibly the most engaging nonfiction writer I've read weaving a compelling and increasingly complex narrative that begins in the hallowed halls of the turn-of-the-century academic elite and ends up encompassing issues of K12 and higher education desegregation women's rights affirmative action and the entire class structure of the USA. **Kindle The Big testnav** His argument furthermore is really interesting essentially about how small groups of people with a certain set of ideals set in motion the entire structure of the meritocratic idea we take for granted in America today. **The big test lemann** Before the 1940s though he argues college was just a hangout for the wealthy aristocracy bound for national leadership and intelligence was seen as counterproductive for such a task (hmm looking at George W maybe not much has changed). **The Big Test kindle store** But thanks to a cabal of folks who wanted to make universities into the weeding ground to cull the best and brightest to be our leaders we got the SAT and a whole change in the idea of admissions. **The Big Test epub reader** But the meritocratic elite went on to eschew public service and go for moneymaking and the markers of success and therefore college became not about grooming for leadership as much as deciding who gets what slices of the economic goodies America has to offer. **Book the biggest bear** - DN 0374527512 In his very well-written book Nicholas Lemann examines the creation of the Scholastic Aptitude Test and the generation that got into Ivy League colleges due to their SAT

results. **Book the big truth** Before the rich were accepted thanks to their parents' money and their place on the social ladder; after they were accepted due to their parents' ability to pay for test preps. **The Big Test epub** Lemann explores the history of the SAT moving from its origins in the military during WWI to its use as a scholarship tool by the Ivy Leagues to the founding of ETS to its dominance of the national collegiate admissions landscape. **Book the big truth** Fascinating little tidbits - like the story of Stanley Kaplan the Jewish tutor who inadvertently started the test prep craze - kept the first third afloat but unfortunately I felt that Lemann lost his cogency with the rest of the book. **The big test lemann** I understood what he was trying to do create an overarching story of how the SAT and new meritocracy was carried forward through key individuals but his refusal to outline where he was going particularly with the endless narratives about certain peoples' families going back generations was frustrating. **EBook The Big test my** I would have preferred he either write an entire book about the SAT and its history or an entire book about affirmative action or if he had more continuously woven the pieces together throughout one single narrative. **Book the big thirst** Lemann also seemed to have a habit of making assertions without citing where his ideas or facts came from something that normally I wouldn't have noticed but as I'm looking for other sources supporting or not supporting the ethnic and socioeconomic biases of standardized testing I was perturbed. **The gre big book - 27 old gre tests** So reading The Big Test is rather a personal thing for me--- learning the history of the SAT and ETS and America's fascination with standardised tests as gatekeepers for social mobility. **Book the big truth** His account of how the SAT and its midwestern ACT cousin changed the way American universities selected students is fascinating--- as is the framing account of how American universities re-visioned themselves after WW-2. **EBook The Big test my** Lemann makes a serious point in The Big Exam--- every society selects elites but out of all the ways of doing that America has chosen the strange route of using standardised university admissions exams as the route to societal success. **Book the big truth** Merit is always a justification though societies have defined merit by bloodline or character--- America has chosen to define merit as a very narrow kind of academic potential one that can be quantified and presented as scientific. **The big 5 personality test pdf** All in all--- a book worth reading if you're interested in how America chooses its elites and defines merit and a nice introduction as well to the ways the American conception of the university has changed since 1945 from being a finishing school for pre-determined elites to being a trade school for those who can be defined as having score-defined merit:

## **The Big Test kindle direct**

The makers of the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) it provides an account of the experience of well meaning people in politics: **The Big Test kindle store** The Big Test takes us from the time when the elite of the Episcopacy presided over America from the East Coast: **The Big Test kindle store** College was for the few and the rich who spent their time on campus having fun and making social connections rather than achieving much in academics, **My big yellow book test prep** Getting rich was hardly a goal for a collegian because they he or she was already rich, **Book the big truth** Then a move came to create a meritocracy - where the elite would achieve their position through study and hard intellectual work: **Book the big truth** As a result the country would be lead by those who had earned their place at the top. **Book the big thirst** Anyone who had the intelligence and drive could get on track to move up, **Book the big truth** 0374527512 Some really interesting stories but ultimately I don't think Lemann pulls all the narrative strands together like he did in PROMISED LAND. **The big test lemann** 2) Amazingly a wealth of information in these pages on my favorite current business leader Charlie Munger of Pasadaena. **EBook The Big test my** Plus some good material on the development of California's state run three tiered higher education system and the man who essentially created it Clark Kerr, **The Big Test epub reader** Wish there was more in THE BIG TEST on how Reagan hustled him out of his job so quickly though, **EBook The Big testnav** 0374527512 The Big Test is one of those books everyone should read. **The Big Test kindle direct**

It takes a seemingly small thing: the history of standardized admissions tests and makes it about nearly everything that matters: **The Big Test epub reader** Nicholas Lemann is a terrific writer and one of the book's great strengths is the way he weaves together different people's stories to craft a broad and meaningful history. **Kindle The Big testnav** Not only is The Big Test a great piece of writing it raises important issues. **The Big Test kindle direct** How much of our success is truly earned? Does the American Dream really happen? For whom? The answers Lemann suggests are sometimes uncomfortable and always thought-provoking: **Big five personality test questionnaire pdf** 0374527512 A book every educator should read - actually ever legislation should have this on his or her required reading list as well. **EBook The Big testnav** 0374527512 Forget where I heard about this book probably NPR, **The Big Test epub reader** Combining vibrant storytelling vivid portraiture and thematic analysis Lemann shows why this experiment did not turn out as planned, **The Big Test epubs** It did create a new elite but it also generated conflict and tension—and America's best educated most privileged people are now leaders without followers. **EBook The Big testnav** Holyoke's president Joanne Creighton was personally convinced by reading Nicholas Lemann's book The Big Test which documents how the SAT became a tool for class segregation, **Kindle The Big testosterone** history—especially those focused on testing theories of learning social stratification or policymaking—will find this book fascinating and alarming. **The big 5 personality test pdf** The Big Test: The Secret History of the American MeritocracyI enjoyed this book for the history of the Educational Testing Service testing stepped up and took over, **Book the big truth** But the author believes that we've only traded one elite for another. **Book the big truth** Now the rich provide their young with tutoring and test prep and we end up with the rich passing their young through the colleges generation after generation as before, **Book the big truth** Bush would be a perfect example of this in fact a throwback to the old elite shown by his admission to a carefree life at Yale with mediocre grades. **Book the big truth** Nicholas Lemann would like to see higher education be full and not simply a ticket to big bucks and career security, **The big test tester** He longs to see education be broad and wide in a way that would make of colleges something more than occupational way-points issuers of professional credentials, **The Big Test epubs** The most engaging sub-topic covered in The Big Test is affirmative action. **The big 5 personality test pdf** AA contradicts the whole purpose of testing to bring out the best and brightest: **The Big Test kindle direct** It does so in order to provide an alternate path for those who are not college ready simply by being exposed to a rich intellectual environment from the moment of birth. **Book the big truth** It is an admission that a rather narrow range of abilities are promoted by testing and that some accommodation must be made to create equal opportunity: **EBook The Big test my AA** creates a perilous political situation and The Big Test follows the course of Proposition 219 (to kill AA) in California: **My big yellow book test prep** We get a quite detailed look at ETS a non-profit that takes in money from every SAT test. **The Big Test epub reader** ETS claims that it is impossible to study for the SAT though the Kaplan test tutoring company has proven this false, **The Big Test epub reader** It was killed (by ETS) because it would have brought down the scores of the current high scoring pupils relative to others, **Book the big truth** Leavened with clever humor The Big Test is must reading for those who like me want to know why America is the way it is: **Book the big truth** Things don't simply happen - people make them happen and often because they are obsessed: **The big test tester** Personalities always play a large part; the best of intentions can be thwarted by foibles over which an individual has little control, **Book the big truth** Not only must the time be ripe for an idea the person presenting the idea must know how to do so effectively. **The Big Test kindle store** Investigating how something comes to be a book like this shows all the angles on a topic and can help one define one's own position or change it: **The Big Test kindle direct** This book puts the educational testing idea out on a big plate for us to examine in delicious detail, **Book the big truth** At first such reformers are portrayed as underdogs fighting the system, **Book the big truth** As the decades pass the system THEY create spirals out of control: **The big test tester** (Which in itself might not even be so bad if our education system was fair, **The big test book** Yet attempts to try and make it fairer via policies like affirmative action are violently opposed),

**The Big Test kindle direct** Somewhere along the line the idea of school's purpose being to educate all students never gets much traction: **The Big Test kindle direct** As an educator and someone interested in politics and history this book was the perfect storm: **Book the big truth** As ambivalent as Lemann is about the new educated Mandarin class he certainly revels in being one of its members. **Book the big splat** Yet the highbrow style does not come at the expense of readability and yes even humor albeit the dry ironic kind. **The big test lemann** A must-read for wonks teachers wonkish teachers and especially for students applying to college. **The Big Test epub** Although the idea to abandon episcopacy for meritocracy seemed noble and reasonable Lemann argues that the SAT creators simply exchanged one elite for another: **The big test lemann** The universities didn't get who they wished to get - a smart ambitious student body ready to be the next leader of the country, **Book the big truth** As Lemann proves the result of the experiment couldn't get further for Thomas Jefferson's ideas about a real "intellectual elite": **Big five personality test questionnaire pdf** 0374527512 If I could I would probably rate this one at 3: **EBook The Big test my** I picked up The Big Test hoping to use it for my literature review for my thesis and thus found the first third of this book absolutely compelling: **My big yellow book test prep** The focus on affirmative action and its place in the 1996 election was interesting but I felt that Lemann moved away from what he claimed the point of his book was, **Book the big truth** If you want to know the (shocking) history of the SAT and how it became one of the most important determinants of your life I recommend the first third of this book: **EBook The Big test my** Better options may have been written in the past 13 years though: **Book the big truth** 0374527512 I've always been good at standardised tests--- ACT SAT GRE LSAT, **Book the big truth** Standardised tests have been good to me too--- they got me into an Ivy got me into grad school got me into law school, **Book the big truth** despite the four post-grad degrees I still make less than the receptionists at major firms: **Big five personality test questionnaire pdf** and I'm not teaching at a good university in NYC or working for a major NGO, **EBook The Big test my** So maybe all the ETS standardised tests didn't predict my level of success or social value after all, **Book the big truth** Lemann's account of the growth of the testing industry is well-written often witty and well-researched: **Big five personality test questionnaire pdf** Lemann discusses the ways that admissions exams have both protected race and class inequities and tried to overcome them (i: **Big five personality test questionnaire pdf** by not allowing a candidate's background to be seen in a face-to-face admissions process), **Book the big truth** The first more historical half of the book is better than the second where Lemann looks at the American version of Examintion Hell for various high school kids. A completely unexpected bonus. In all a very enjoyable book. It proves how wonderful narrative nonfiction can be. . All students of education sociology and recent U.S. Though not mentioned I think George W. Yet as some are elevated others are frustrated. We meet every variety in this book. Winners like to keep on winning. This is education at its best. BUT NOT SO THIS BOOK. specifically the idea that a good college education = success. Sure colleges weeded and selected.\*I\* had to look up some of the words he used.5 stars. Of course. HmMMM.and the larger issue of how merit is defined in America.e. 0374527512

