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Test Time: Overview of China's College Entrance Exam (CEE)

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**Comments:**  
The CORE ASIA project brought together the students in five sections of CORE China, India, and Japan to compare and contrast the three societies through a research poster salon. The students learned that, although each society has a unique trajectory and story, different communities face similar challenges and opportunities. In many cases, they encounter the same global historical events. Each poster examines one nation's struggle with
1. What is the CEE?
A multi-day test covering several subjects and administered only once a year. The CEE, commonly known as the gaokao, is a high-stakes examination that impacts the rest of the student’s life. Unlike the SAT in the United States, it is the single most important factor in college admission, and thus is the focus of secondary school education.

2. What function(s) does the CEE serve?
   a) It’s a way to measure educational results.
   b) It promotes a culture of extreme interest in school and studying.
   c) It is a means of acquiring social status as measured by test grades.
   d) All of the above.

3. Despite ostensibly making higher education accessible to all, in what way(s) does the CEE promote inequity?
   a) Rural-urban disparity in access to education makes it difficult for rural students to attend top universities.
   b) Preferential policies were adopted to remedy the educational disadvantages faced by ethnic minority students.
   c) The province-based quota system used in college admissions allows students from certain areas to be admitted with lower scores.
   d) All of the above.

4. True or False? Teachers in secondary schools are stratified based on the perceived importance of the subject they teach and their ability to teach to the test.
Answer: True

5. True or False? The CEE promotes intense psychological pressure and fierce competition among students, parents, and teachers.
Answer: True