Characteristics of Montessori Education

1. **Active Individualized Learning** through multi-sensory teaching materials.
2. **Ungraded Class** is a natural social environment that includes a wide range of ages and fosters self-motivation. Students enjoy working for their own sense of accomplishment.
3. **Freedom of Choice** involves decision-making. Student selects work according to individual interest.
4. **Working at One’s Own Pace** enables students to work for long periods without interruption. Each individual works at his potential, independent of the class.
5. **Integral Education** balances academic work with freedom of movement and harmony is created between physical, social, and mental activities. There is an interrelationship between subjects.
6. **Independence** is fostered by a classroom that is specifically designed to encourage maximum learning.
7. **Self-Evaluation** occurs as students learn to evaluate their work objectively through the use of self-correcting teaching materials and individual work with the teacher.
8. **Reality Oriented Education** maintains concrete; first-hand experience is the basis for abstraction.
9. **Close Student-Teacher Interaction** enables complete and precise evaluation of student’s progress both academically and psychologically.

Characteristics of Traditional Education

1. **Passive Class Learning** through teacher stimulating, centered class lessons and paper work.
2. **Chronological Grouping** necessitates external rewards such as grades, competition, and social

conformity.

1. **Class Curriculum** demands that the students cover the same work at the same time, at the same pace with no regard to individual interests.
2. **Group Learning** involves each academic

subject being scheduled for a limited period. Each student is directly affected by the progress of the whole class.

1. **Fragmented Education** provides academic

subjects that are not interrelated. Periods of

intense mental effort are alternated with periods of vigorous physical activity to release tension.

1. **Dependency** is promoted since the activities

are teacher initiated.

1. **Class Comparison** occurs as work is evaluated graded by the teacher. Students evaluate themselves against the group as best and worse in the class.
2. **Abstract Education** has students learning

through mechanical memorization.

1. **Class Oriented Teaching** prevents close

between individual students and progress, teacher. Standardized tests are necessary.