

backgrounds due to barriers to learning do however not determine the rate at which pupils can learn to read and write and reading achievement does not depend on the background of the child.

Thus to argue that the children of parents of low social status are less able to learn to read and write is to assume that the parents' social class is the cause of the poor performance of their children.

But this is not so.

It is the lack of motivation to learn to read and write that is the cause of the poor performance of the children of parents of low social status.

Thus if we want to improve the performance of children of parents of low social status we must first find ways of improving their motivation to learn to read and write.

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### The Social Continuum and the Educational System

145 The quality of education that is received by a child depends on his background.

### Economic Status

146 The economic status of a family determines the quality of education that it receives.

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### The Model of School and Education

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### Quality of Education

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