The topic of student engagement and how it should be handled in educational institutions is a contentious one. There are two main schools of thought on this issue. Some educators believe that student engagement should be monitored regularly, while others argue that students should be given the freedom to develop their self-discipline and willingness to learn without constant supervision.

On one hand, proponents of regular monitoring argue that it is an effective way of ensuring that students are actively participating in their learning process. By monitoring attendance and using pop-quizzes, teachers can keep track of the students' progress and identify any potential issues early on. For instance, if a student is consistently absent or performs poorly in quizzes, it may be an indication that they are struggling with the course material. In such cases, the teacher can provide additional support to help the student improve. Furthermore, regular monitoring can also motivate students to stay engaged, as they know that their attendance and performance are being evaluated.

On the other hand, critics of regular monitoring believe that it can stifle students' independence and creativity. They argue that constant scrutiny can lead to a culture of compliance, where students are more focused on meeting the teachers' expectations than on developing their own understanding of the subject matter. These critics advocate for a more hands-off approach, where students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning. They believe that by fostering self-discipline and a willingness to learn, students will be more motivated and engaged in their studies. For example, a student who is genuinely interested in a subject is likely to study it diligently, even without constant supervision.

Both of these perspectives have merit, and the best approach may depend on the individual student. Some students may thrive under regular monitoring, while others may benefit from a more independent learning environment. It is therefore important for educators to be flexible and adapt their teaching strategies to meet the needs of their students.

In conclusion, while there are valid arguments on both sides, the key is to strike a balance between monitoring student engagement and fostering self-discipline and a willingness to learn. By doing so, educators can create a learning environment that encourages students to take an active role in their education, while also providing the necessary support to ensure their success.