

**TABLE 19.1****A Comparison of Higher and Lower Track Experiences****HIGHER TRACK EXPERIENCE**

- Experienced teachers
- Challenging curricula
- Faster pace of instruction
- More effort by students
- Discussion and interactive teaching methods
- Demanding and longer reading assignments
- Use of independent projects and writing assignments to evaluate students
- Completion of more advanced courses

**LOWER TRACK EXPERIENCE**

- Novice teachers
- Lack of stimulating content
- Slower pace of instruction
- Less effort by students
- Worksheets and rote instruction
- Fewer writing assignments
- Greater use of tests to evaluate students
- Election to take fewer English, math, and science courses

SOURCES: Applebee, Langer, Nystrand, & Gamoran, 2003; Banks, 2006; Carbonaro, 2005; Darling-Hammond, 1995; Gamoran, 2010; Loveless, 1999; Oakes, 1992, 2005; Watanabe, 2008.