**17) Formal education tends to restrain our minds and spirits rather than set them free.**

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position.

正规教育：有固定的校舍，有稳定的教育周期，有统一的学制和人才培养目标，有固定的教师和学生。包括：学前教育、中小学教育和高等教育。

1. 正规教育存在一些缺陷(defects)：基本特点是以知识的传授为中心，过分强调了教师的作用，扼制了学生的个性和创造性，忽视了学生的主动性与潜能的发挥。老师在讲台 (podium)上讲课 ，学生在下面听，十 分被动，没有学生主动探究的过程，限制人的个性发展，阻碍想象力（举例，随着科技进步，学生可以通过远程教育进行交互、开发式学习，比如在mooc上一个人提问，同时有千万个不同地区的人可以为你解答）
2. 教育的目标是学会学习的方法，正规教育教给学生原理，原理是共性的东西。教会学生事件背后的原理不光能够让他们具备 深入分析事实的能力，还可以帮助他们在未来碰到他们从未遇到的问题时，能够使用学到的基本原理进行解决。举个例子，我本科学计算机没学过python（一种计算机语言），但是学了其他的语言（java c），在实习过程中，公司需要用python开发，我只能在一周内学会python。由于在本科学习时，老师教会了我如何学习，我能更快速的理解python语言的特点，找到它和其他我学过的语言的区别，并掌握其基本的使用方法。没有以前的知识作为基础，没有明白计算机语言的基本原理，我也做不到一周学会以前花一学期学会的知识。
3. 正规教育的核心是老师，当学生在学习中出现问题或发生矛盾时，教师能进行有效的控制，启发学生朝着正确的方向努力，而避免了走弯路。再则教师在上课时语言、形体动作、手势、板书、示范等等影响着学生的成长。就是说教师的一举一动、一言一行都可能成为学生模仿的对象。学生可以“亲其师重其道”，教师的治学态度方法、才能、人品、世界观等均对学生产生着潜移默化的影响。教师主导作用的发挥，师生之间的情感交流和情感因素在学习过程中都有着重要作用，这些都是任何先进的教育方法都不能替代的。

Formal education, running from primary school through the university, include a variety of specialized programmers and institutions for full-time technical and professional training. However, informal education which is more and more prevalent is the truly lifelong process whereby every individual acquires skills and knowledge from daily experience and the educative influences and resources in his or her environment – from family and neighbors, from work and play, from the library and the mass media. Some people, as the ‘informal education’ supporters, assert formal education tends to dampen students’ integrated development, since teachers need to meet educational standards and stick to a specified curriculum, which can make it difficult for them to incorporate nontraditional content. Meanwhile, Others, as the ‘formal education’ believers, insist that if deficient in fundamental knowledge, absolute free mind will lead to total simplicity and naivety. Both side justify themselves with sound reasons. From my perspective, in most cases, I would suggest formal education should not be blamed for inhabiting our development.

The ‘informal education’ supporters might argue that there’re some serious drawbacks in the formal education. As passing on knowledge is the ultimate and sole goal of formal education, it overstates the importance of teachers. Teachers are talking at the podium while students just listen. This pattern lacks student initiative and curb students’ personality and creativity. With the development of technology, there are many novel ways to impart knowledge effectively, namely, online education. For students to access online education, all they need is a personal computer with internet access with which he or she can find the desired courses online and enroll. When they come a question, there are millions of people from different distracts could help them out. In sum, comparing to the online education, the formal education is too outdated.

Nevertheless, the ‘formal education’ believers could also cite some advantages. Formal education teaches us the method of study. Those essential principles could help us understand solve problems they might never meet before. A good case in hand is my intern experience at IBM. During the internship, I had to learn a new computer language, Python, within a week. I never touched Python before, but I learned other computer languages like Java and C. Thanks to my professors who not only told me a computer language but also taught me how to learn, I exerted the same method to understand the features of Python, compare the discrepancy between Python and Java, and finally master a new language that I might use a semester to understand if I didn’t learn the method of study. In short, basic knowledge, which can only be attained through formal education, is the prerequisite for freeing people’s mind and spirit.

Furthermore, formal education is not all about studying but also about following a particular routine on a daily basis which enables students to complete their academic activities within the specified deadlines. It creates a disciplined mindset among students as to follow the activities following a particular pattern. Moreover, Formal education allows healthy competition among students. The desire to get ahead and do the best in terms of various academic activities among individual students enable them to compete in a healthy way. In conclude, formal education provides a structured life to individual students preparing them for the future.

Considering these factors formal education indeed paves ways for many students.

**68) Some people believe that the purpose of education is to free the mind and the spirit. Others believe that formal education tends to restrain our minds and spirits rather than set them free.**

Write a response in which you discuss which view more closely aligns with your own position and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should address both of the views presented.