**[16] The surest indicator of a great nation is represented not by the achievements of its rulers, artists, or scientists, but by the general welfare of its people.**

**Whether** the surest indicator of a great nation is represented by the general welfare of its people **depends primarily on the specific conditions. In many cases**, the achievements of different occupations do not thoroughly represent a great country. **With some qualifications, I basically agree with the author.**

The statement requires revisions in two respects. **First**, sometimes it seems to be futile if the social welfare cannot assist people who really need it. By contrast, if a nation can really take care of every citizen that ,the condition itself ~~is(~~will be) not too strict to exclude underprivileged groups. **Secondly, the statement fails to consider** other indicators to evaluate a great nation. Not only does welfare is (is welfare) important to the public, some policies concerning education and public health services (public health也是welfare?) are also essential in terms of the development of an advanced country. In short, ~~the~~ general welfare is an important yardstick to evaluate a country, but we cannot deny other essential factors either.

**Despite the generalizations**, general welfare is an obvious indicator to examine a country. For instance, Sweden is famous for its social welfare in holidays for parents to take care of their infants, the funds for the unemployed and the fee for education. Students from elementary schools to universities can even be guaranteed ~~for~~ free tuition~~s~~ / free by means of the great policies of the Sweden government, many students have already possessed competitive abilities for searching (to search) for their ideal jobs. While people in Sweden have heavy income tax, they are satisfied with their policies in that the government utilizes the tax judiciously. On the contrary, North Korea, known as the autocratic regime, is also famous (notorious) for the famine in this nation. Although the supreme leader, Kim Jong-Un, is a paramount leader that can build (undertake) many reconstructions during his administration, also, is seen as a paradigm to people in North Korea, the quality of life in this nation (is) still in abeyance. Therefore, the achievements of a leader cannot always represent (be represented) as an indicator of a great country.

In sum, **aside from the sweeping generalization that** the most convincing indicator of a great country is the welfare of its people, **I fundamentally agree that** welfare can lead the country to improve (progress) since people can get an adequate education and health care through the effective strategies of social welfare.

artist scientist?