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TPO1

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

At universities and colleges, sports and social activities are just as important as classes and libraries and should receive equal financial support.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

Some people claim that universities and colleges should not spend a great deal of money on sports and social activities, as their budgets should prioritize classes and libraries. However, as educational institutions, universities and colleges have an obligation to provide a wide range of knowledge to their students to help them develop academically and socially.

More and more businesses require people who are not only specialists in their fields, but also skilled in social interaction. In the rapidly changing environments of science and the economy, no task can be done by a single person. Given the need for collaboration, social skills and team spirit are necessary qualities for any successful person. Clearly, sports and social activities in universities and colleges provide students with the

perfect settings to practice their social skills. By playing football on a team or joining in a protest, for instance, students can develop a sense of belonging and experience team spirit, both of which may prove very important in building a career.

Aside from fostering social skills and team spirit, sports and social activities can greatly improve students' efficiency. Students need not play sports or participate in social activities at the expense of their academic study. Indeed, for some students, playing sports and joining in social activities are good stress reducers. Even the most enthusiastic people feel tired if they concentrate on one thing for too long. Frustrated and tired people can do nothing well if they do not recover from their bad situations. Students who have been frustrated in their academic work would be well-advised to play some sports or join in social activities.

Academic education will always be at the heart of a university. In universities, sports and social activities should by no means take the place of a focus on academic study. What I believe is that universities and colleges should spend adequate money on academics as well as sports and social activities. For instance, in the United States, almost all famous universities have plenty of sports teams and social groups, and universities provide adequate financial support with these events. None of these universities have weakened their academic standards because of social movements or sports.

For these reasons, I maintain that universities and colleges should spend enough money on academic education and social movements to prepare students for their future development.

TPO2

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Always telling the truth is the most important consideration in any relationship between people.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

There are certain considerations or factors that everyone takes into account in a relationship. People may look for honesty, altruism, understanding, loyalty, being thoughtful etc.! Everyone would more or less wish that the person she/he is dealing with, has some of these virtues above. Putting them in an order according to their importance, however can be very subjective and relative.

When someone asks him/herself the question “What do I consider to be the most important thing in my relationship?” the answer depends on a lot of factors such as how his/her earlier relationships were.

After stating that everyone's opinion can be different about this, for me honesty, in other words, always telling the truth is the most important consideration in a relationship. Opposite of this is inarguably lying and if someone needs to lie, either she/he is hiding something or is afraid of telling me something.

In any relationship of mine, I would wish that first of all, the person I'm dealing with is honest. Even though she/he thinks that she/he did something wrong that I wouldn't like, she/he'd better tell me the truth and not lie about it. Later on if I find out about a lie or hear the truth from someone else, that'd be much more unpleasant. In that case how can I ever believe or trust that person again? How can I ever believe that this person has enough confidence in me to forgive him/her and carry on with the relationship from there. So if I cannot trust a person anymore, if the person doesn't think I can handle the truth, there's no point to continuing that relationship.

Although I would like to see altruistic, understanding, thoughtful and loyal behavior from people, an instance of the opposite of these behaviors would not upset me as much as dishonesty would.

Among all the possible behaviors, dishonesty is the only one for me that terminates how I feel about a person's reliability. Therefore honesty would be my first concern and the most important consideration in a relationship.

TPO3

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

It is more important to keep your old friends than it is to make new friends.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

According to an Internet survey, almost 70% of people think that it is more important to keep old friends than it is to make new friends. I totally disagree with this idea. In my view, the importance of keeping old friends is equal to the importance of making new friends. I have several reasons for this opinion.

The importance of old friends in reducing stress cannot be exaggerated. Older friends have longer relationships with us; therefore, they know us better than new friends. When we encounter obstacles, it is our long-term friends—our old friends—who give us the best suggestions and help us get through our problems. Our new friends sometimes cannot give adequate advice to us because they do not know our situations well enough. We need time to get to know our friends. Last week, I faced the dilemma of whether to accept a promising job offer that would take me to

another city. All of my new friends in my current company encouraged me to take the offer because they thought the job had strong future prospects. However, one of my older friends discouraged me from accepting it, as he knew that my mother's health condition was poor and that she needed someone to take care of her. I think his suggestion was the best suited to me.

In other situations, old friends simply cannot help, and we need new friends to lend a hand. New friends can mean a lot in emergencies. In an accident, for instance, an old friend who is far away from you cannot offer any help. In such situations, new friends often play a crucial role in helping us overcome difficulties. After my cousin was in a car accident, his friends at his new company gave him a lot of help. Without the help of his new friends, I doubt that he would have recovered as well as he did.

I often wonder why some people emphasize the importance of having one kind friend, especially an old friend. Maybe these people are satisfied with the idea that old friends are more important. Ultimately, I think we should develop all kinds of friendships in order to assure that we can get help whenever we have trouble.

TPO4

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

In twenty years there will be fewer cars in use than there are today.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

At first I would say I disagree with the statement according to which the use of cars would decrease in the following twenty years. Indeed, the world's population is expected to grow drastically in the next decades. Population in Western countries is likely to grow at the same pace it is growing today, but the most important contribution to the global population growth will certainly come from developing countries. And to my opinion, a growth in the use of cars will accompany this growth in population.

People in developed countries are largely accustomed to using cars; therefore a great change in habits would be needed to curb the growth in cars' use. Moreover, studies show that people live further and further from their work place, and therefore have to use their car more often. As for developing countries, a rapid economic growth is expected to go along with population growth in a good deal of countries. These countries

are likely to reach the development level of Western countries within the next couple of decades. Unless these countries can develop their own pattern, which I doubt, they will use more and more cars.

Nevertheless, some hope remains that the growth in the use of cars can be slowed in the future. People and governments are becoming more and more aware of environmental issues linked to the use of cars, and some experiments aiming at reducing it have been conducted in some places (e.g. the toll in the London downtown, or the alternate circulation in Paris on high pollution rate days).

Although these measures certainly have a positive effect on pollution and traffic. I don't think they're viable in the long run. To curb environmental problems linked to cars, the only solution is to develop new clean technologies. This way pollution rates would drop, but we would still use more and more cars. So as for traffic in big cities in twenty years, I'm very pessimistic!

TPO5

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

People today spend too much time on personal enjoyment-doing things they like to do rather than doing things they should do.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

The above statement poses a hot topic on contradiction of people's personal enjoyments and responsibilities. And the speaker tends to think people now are dedicating more on personal likeness than on what they should do. I strongly disagree with this opinion because I think that to pursue one's individual enjoyment does not contradict to assume the responsibility.

Admittedly, people nowadays increasingly enjoy freedom to pursue personal enjoyment than before. As the development of democracy, the ideas and behaviors of individual are respected and encouraged to some extent. For instance, students can choose any major which they favor mostly; graduates can participate in whatever professions they are interested in; citizens possess absolute freedom on free press and behaviors they like. Briefly, people have much time and freedom to do their favorite things.

However, spending much time on personal enjoyment does not indicate that people ignore their accountability which should be taken. Let's take a college student in art for example. Generally, students in art major should spend much time on reading and appreciating art history, biography of artists and art works. Yet, the student favors more on economics. He

probably continues to earn his degree on art with great interest in economic as well. Or he may pursue a second degree on economics. No matter what his decision is, he takes his responsibility to become a worthy student of his major.

In addition, to pursue one's personal enjoyment help to assume the responsibility. People should not be blamed for their time spent on things they like. Obviously, people lived in an time teemed with tense competition and they are often under a huge pressure. After a whole day job or a period of work, you probably make yourself drunk, or go for shopping crazily, or bury yourself in a series of insane music, or whatsoever you prefer. Of course you are most likely to become relaxed and inspired through these favorite experience. Eventually, the great physical and mental recreation is conducive to a better performance in your profession the next day.

To sum up, it is unreasonable to separate apart what people like to do and what they should do. The pursuit on personal enjoyment and assumption on accountability are interwoven. They do not contradict to each other. The effort and time on personal enjoyment does not equal to the ignorance on people's responsibility because of the objective requirement from each identity. Moreover, personal hobbies are good catalyst for improvement on the original professions.

TPO6

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Life today is easier and more comfortable than it was when your grandparents were children.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

Life is always difficult and the hardship appears in different aspects under different backgrounds. For our grandparents, people had to strive for raising several children with thin income. Nowadays, we have to keep track with the high pace of the society.

In the past year, the food was inadequate and the salary was low. In order to cultivate several children, adults had to find additional work to make up thin payment. The huge pressure from living drove them to eat and wear simply. I was often told that my grandparents merely had rice for dinner without any vegetables, let alone meat. To reduce the burden of their families, our grandparents went to work earlier; some of them were even immature. When they received money, they did nothing but to make an informed arrangement on how to spend it. For example, the daily necessities, the electronic bill, phone bill and the tuition of younger kids

were all needed to be taken into account. That's why they seldom bought themselves new clothes and had some entertainment. Furthermore, in most families, the younger children had to wear the clothes from their brothers and sisters only because they could not afford the new ones. At that time, grandparents had no choices but to squeeze the expense every day for the preparation for the New Year. It was their effort that resulted in our relative happier life today.

However, nowadays we also have to face infinite stress from the highly developed society. Admittedly, we are not that poor as our grandparents, yet the difficulties of our age never fade next to theirs. Actually, the fierce competition provides us with narrow chance to escape but to work hard, even harder than our grandparents. In spite of the pressure physically, we are confronted with the mental problems. Children have to bear the constant expectation from their parents and school and they need to find an efficient way to release their emotions. Otherwise, they will crash in the end. Parents' life is also not easy. To earn a better living, they have to keep energetic both in workplace and at home. Besides, it is essential for them to grasp more skills and take in more information for the sake of good relationship and opportunities of promotion. Sometimes, they will find it hard to keep a balance between family and work and it usually results in incongruous and annoying quarrels.

Consequently, their exhausted mind and body break them down, making

them look elder than the real age. Form the material aspect, people today enjoys a more colorful world. There is no point in worrying the food and clothes, but more challenging problems emerge and they can easily destroy us, even stronger than the starvation because they are both mentally and physically. In sum, life is not fair, get used to it. If we persist, we can still light our day.

TPO7

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

It is more important for students to understand ideas and concepts than it is for them to learn facts.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

Ideas or concepts or facts, which help students more; which have a significant influence to students to adapt the amazing developed society? Facts are results of observation, are something cannot changed but can utilize follow the direction of ideas and concepts. However, on the other hand, ideas and concepts, which cannot see directly, are the creation of mind. In my opinion, with the development of the technology and society,

ideas and concepts are more important for students due to most of the problems can be solved by using ideas and concepts. The following details can account for my point of view.

With the development of the fast-paced society, those who have new ideas and use concepts correctly can stand out from the crowd. Only when individuals bear concepts and ideas in mind can they achieve what they want. On the contrary, just remembering facts are unable to solve problems directly and efficiently. Take working out maths examination questions for an example: One cannot remember all details of the questions due to the fact that there are countless questions in maths. In order to work out the question efficiently, the only way is to keep the maths concepts in mind, utilize them when encounter difficult questions. If students just remember the facts, they cannot understand and do not know how to do the relative subjects.

Furthermore, with the technology improve to a higher level, what the society need is a great deal of people who bear innovation in mind. That is to say, creativities are becoming increasingly important to us. In addition, high technology makes machine more and more intelligent. And database can hold large numbers of information for us, so we do not have to remember so many facts. Whereas, elites nowadays are those who have lots of new and advance ideas in mind, creating and inventing things that benefits our daily life. Thus, ideas play a more important role in students'

character.

Facts are tools, while ideas and concepts are essence of creativeness, which make human different from machines and the wisdom stand out of the common. Thus, it is more important for students to understand ideas and conception instead of just wasting their brain to record facts.

TPO8

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Television advertising directed towards young children (aged two to five) should not be allowed.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

Coincident with most people's notion is my heartfelt belief that television advertising directed toward young children should not be allowed. Since the advent of television, advertising has permeated every corner and every minute of our life. It is not uncommon to observe the large amounts of television advertising aiming at innocent young children. My reasons for opposing advertising directed toward young children are as follows.

In the first place, advertising may waste money and cause emotional

torture of parents when they fail to fulfill their children's unreasonable demands. However, nowadays, regardless of what children's true need, most of advertising are promoting a large number of products that is useless or unsuitable to children. For example, when a family is having a pleasant dinner together on Christmas Eve, a cartoon figure ---- lion king would appear on screen and hold a tub of popcorn to attract children's attention. It is a typical advertising strategy----host sale. By combining popular cartoon figures and products, advertising could draw children's attention and achieve a better sale. However, it may cause some problems; first, some children may be easy to be drawn into the content in the advertising; second, if children are attracted by it and they insist on purchasing it while parents consider the products as a piece of meaningless junk, cry and screams could drive their parents crazy.

Therefore, advertising could cause problems not only for children to understand but also may bother and upset their parents.

Furthermore, advertising could mislead children for major goal of most of advertisings is to make profits whereas children between age two to five lack ability of understanding and judgment. Children are easily influenced by outside world, and admittedly television advertising play a negative role in this aspect for they tend to exaggerate the advantage of their products. For example, my two-year old younger brother is attracted to Transformer, Spiderman and Superman models. In his mind, these toys

are magic, fantastic and powerful as imparted by advertising. In fact, they are just normal toys; they cannot fly, climb mountains or save people's life. Some two year old boys even are just babbling instead of speaking clearly, not to mention identifying misleading messages conveyed in the advertisings. Thus, these advertising has misled and distorted children's' vision toward reality.

All in all, though there are some undeniable benefits of advertising for children; for example, advertising could open an amazing world of imagination and innovation for children by informing them what a fabulous Barbie or a magnificent castle is. However, these advantages could be ignored when its disadvantages are taken into consideration. It would mislead the children, distort their vision toward reality and even cause quarrels and financial burdens for parents.

TPO9

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Technology has made children less creative than they were in the past.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

Are our kids becoming lazier and less creative, less imaginable than before as a consequence of highly advanced technology? My answer is no, and just the opposite, technology has apparently assisted our kids to become more creative.

First and foremost, technology has provided children with easy access to scientific and liberal art resources which is their best source of inspiration. For example, children could now easily gain access to academic databases through iPad screen, read classical works on Kindle, or watch historic documents on Internet. These great works are essentially helpful to arousing their curiosity and prepares them with key knowledge necessary for any creation. However, these wonderful equipments and facilities are never as handy in the past, when kids could only reach limited resources in public libraries or schools. In this sense, technology has provided the possibility for children to be more creative.

Second, technology has equipped children with professional apparatus which could finally realize their imagination. This takes form particularly as computer softwares and applications, such as Photoshop for creative graphic design, Overture for easily composing a piece of music, 3DMax for building up a virtual world, etc. All the softwares were never as handy as they are at present, and this would absolutely provide our children an

effective tool for realizing their creativity.

Third, technology itself is a market place where creative ideas are economically encouraged. Steve Jobs earned millions of dollars a year for his unparalleled creation, and Mark Zuckerberg gained his reputation for the genius social network. Therefore, technology has provided children the internal motive to develop their creativity.

However, it is undeniable that technology might make children become lazier and be comfortable with what is already available because everything is so convenient nowadays and there seems to be no way to improve them. Children lost in pc games or blindly pursuing every single piece of tech apparatus is a relevant example. Thus, it is always necessary to keep children's mind active in the marvelous world of technology.

In a nutshell, I still regard children as becoming increasingly creative in technology development, although it might bring minor side effect. As long as we keep a balanced mood on children enjoying the fruit of technology, they are sure to contribute more to innovation than in the past.

TPO10

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Playing computer games is a waste of time. Children should not be allowed to play them.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

Nowadays more and more families have personal computers at home, and children are more likely to expose to the computers at a very young age. As a result, many computer games are available for children in recent years. Many people are concerned about this fact and they believe playing computer games is a waste of time. However, I couldn't disagree with this view of point more since I believe playing computer games could somehow benefit children.

First off, playing computer games offers children another way to meet more people and gain communication ability. Nowadays many computer games, such as World of War craft, need cooperation among lots of people. Children who involved in such kind of games have extra access to gaining social abilities. They can learn how to communicate efficiently with each other while playing.

Furthermore, playing computer games could help to improve children's intelligence. This means that children who play games may be cleverer than their peers and can learn more things without suffer. Many games available today, such as Angry Birds, really need some knowledge and

deep thought so that you could complete the tasks. Under this circumstance, children can be better at solving problems and smarter in the future.

What's more, computer games can be a very good way for relaxation. Children in modern society usually have more pressure and are more burdensome. By playing computer games, they can forget their worries and relax themselves. Their mind will be refreshed and they may be better at their work. However, I have to admit that some children are just addicted to computer games and they waste their entire time sitting in front of the computers. In addition, there are many computer games which contain lots of violent scene which is harmful to children. Anyway, these problems can be solved by letting parents to supervise their children about what is the proper game to play.

All in all, I draw the conclusion that computer games can benefit children by offering opportunities to gain social abilities, improving intelligence and relaxing. Computer games are good things to enrich a child's life rather than ruin it.

TPO11

Question:

Some people say that the Internet provides people with a lot of valuable

information. Others think access to much information creates problems.

Which view do you agree with?

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

Internet must be one of the greatest inventions during the 20th century. It shortens the distance between people all over the world by providing various kinds and large amounts of information. In my point of view, I agree that Internet can provide a lot of valuable information, which would benefit us in the long run without troubling at all.

By surfing through the Internet, we can get large quantities of useful skills, which can benefit ourselves, from the information that is available on the Internet. Learning these skills can help us keep healthy, gain more money or even improve our living standard. In my country, there used to be some isolated villages, where books and knowledge are hard to spread. People living in these villages lack the basic skills to have a good harvest and they live in the really poor condition. Meanwhile, our government has helped them to have access to the Internet recently and the villagers can get the information they want without any difficulties. By using this information, they improved their living conditions. Therefore, information getting from the Internet can benefit our lives.

Another important aspect is the current affairs. Internet could offer us a

lot of information about things happened all over the world without peopling travelling around the world. From the new scientific discovery to the war in the Middle East, from the economic crisis happened in Europe to the World Cup held in South Africa, things happened in every corner of the world can be known worldwide in no minute through the Internet. Under this circumstance, people can have their own opinions on these affairs, or they can give their hands to the ones who need help. Internet gives us a chance to learn more about the whole world by proving us information.

Admittedly, there is some unreal information on the Internet. On the contrary, I do not think it as a trouble at all. The existence of unreal information forces us to be critical thinking and have the ability to tell the truth. In addition, it is the person who creates unreal news rather than the Internet to be blamed.

All in all, the Internet is a great tool to offer us tremendous amount of information. Surrounded by large amount of information can broad our sight and make us more intelligent rather than trap us into troubles.

TPO12

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

It is better to have broad knowledge of many academic subjects than to specialize in one specific subject.

Sample:

There are so many people doubting on whether a broad knowledge of many academic subjects take the advantage of specializing in one specific subject.

We have to realize the fact that the method of learning is more essential rather than the knowledge itself. As we are in the century full of knowledge and information, just absorbing knowledge is not as important as before. However, to learn the way of study requires some training in the subject and of course those who have broad knowledge of many academic aspects can learn more about different ways of learning in different subjects. When given a new task, they can easily solve it by using various methods he has learned, who takes a lot advantage from the learning experience.

Moreover, the distinction among subjects becomes less clear. In fact, to solve the problem in a certain aspect may use knowledge in other aspects. Thus it leads us to cover more knowledge instead of just specializing in one specific subject. For instance, the subject of biochemistry requires the knowledge of chemistry as well as biology. The one having the background of the two subjects can absorb more and discovery more in

doing researches, and have more chances of success.

In fact, to see the famous scientists in the past, we'll find that most of them specialized in more than one subject. Aristotle, one of the most famous philosophies in ancient Greek, knew a lot about the knowledge in science and did researches on such things. As for Franklin, he discovered the electricity when having storm, and he also did well in his political career. From their experience we will learn that it's not the knowledge of a certain subject contributes to their success, instead, it's their way of thinking and the good personality traits lead to their achievement.

As the saying goes that knowledge is power, we can draw the conclusion that more knowledge, more power. Anyway, there is nothing wrong in learning new knowledge and perhaps one day it can be used in researches or inventions.

TPO13

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

The extended family (grandparents, cousins, aunts, and uncles) is less important now than it was in the past.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

The extended family was of great importance in the good old days, but is it still of great importance in our modern society? In my point of view, though the extended family is still important, it is really less important than it was before because of the development of the new society.

One of the important uses of the extended family is to help with family affairs and housework. Meanwhile, nowadays people tend to turn to the community service to help with housework. Under this circumstance, we can hire someone else, who doesn't belong to our whole family, to help us with family work. For instance, my mom was brought up with the help of her grandparents. But I was taken care of by the baby-sitter, whom my parents hired from the community service center. The community service center provides good service with a reasonable price.

Another important thing that extended family can do is to provide information to and educate family members. However, in the modern society, we have schools to get our education. We have several methods, such as Television and Internet, to get information. These are resources which can be easily had access to. We do not depend on our family members to get knowledge of the world we live in any longer.

In addition, nowadays people tend to live alone with their small core family rather than live with many family members within a big family.

Therefore, we have our own circle of communication and we have less in common between different families. Taking my own family as an example, my family and my uncles are living in the different cities. We usually get together only on spring festival. We have different friends and interest, so sometimes we just find it hard to have something in common. Thus, if we really have something in trouble, we can hardly turn to them for help.

All in all, though extended family is still essential to us to some extent, it is less useful with the development of the modern society. The importance of extended family is now fading.

TPO14

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

People benefit more from traveling in their own country than from traveling to foreign countries.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

Travelling can expand one's outlook, amplify one's experience and make many new friends. It could be a superb lesson in one's life. If I

have/possess adequate time and money to plan my tour, i would prefer to tour foreign countries. Foreign life can serve various life experiences and lifestyles which are hardly acquired in domestic life. In the identical social and environmental circumstances, people generally have relatively familiar and similar views and experiences. The distinction is, if any, slight. If people do not go abroad, they can rarely obtain refreshing ideas. For example, some people who come from highly industrialized countries with high welfare, tend to take the free healthcare and education for granted, but if they have a foreign tour in impoverished countries or regions where the food is almost far from enough, not to mention schooling, they can be taught a precious lesson: Cherish one's own life and help someone who needs help.

Oversea travelling can offer broader choices. As far as I know, some countries are as small as one common city of the United States. In such countries, if people refuse to journey abroad then they have to repeat his footprints time and time again. On the other hand, some countries are located on some lonely islands without forests and all the fish comes from the sea, if these residents want to ride a horse in the plain or taste freshwater fish, they have to travel abroad.

Besides, the exotic landscapes and customs are more curious and attractive than familiar ones.

Generally speaking, people are curious; they prefer to acquire purely

refreshing experiences, rather than relatively familiar or even well-known ones. The foreign lifestyle, food and scenery are always far different from one's own domestic experiences, which is the key factor IN satisfying people's curiosity more deeply.

In conclusion, foreign tour can afford more various life experiences, more options, and satisfy people's curiosity. These advantages appeal to us. Needless to say, these are the contributing factors that attract more and more people to travel abroad.

TPO15

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

In order to become financially responsible adults, children should learn to manage their own money at young age.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

Sometime some parents just think that it is unnecessary to let their young children learn how to manage money. Nevertheless I cannot disagree with this statement more. As far as I'm concern, it is crucial for children to learn how to manage their money, though maybe only small amount of, in

order to be a financially responsible adult.

On one hand, learning to manage money makes a child know how precious the money is. Therefore, they won't exploit their money on things of no use when they grow up. Taking myself as an example, when I was young I used to waste money on snacks and toys which is of no use. Then one day, my mother gave me 10 dollars and told me that this was all the money available in this month. I reluctantly managed my money and felt that it was really hard to get enough money. Therefore I never waste money any longer as I grow up.

On the other hand, learning to manage money teaches children how to increase their fortune. As I have said in the last statement, money is precious and it is hard to get enough money to use. Therefore, the best way to get adequate money is to increase our fortune by ourselves. We manage our budget and put our money into things that can increase our fortune – for instance, a child may use a part of his pocket money to buy some cards and sell the cards to his friends to gain some extra money. Children who are familiar with how to increase their fortune by managing their money are more likely to gain financial success in the future.

In addition, learning how to manage money can also help children to manage other aspects of their daily life. As a child is used to managing his pocket money, he tends to put this practice into managing other aspects in life, such as time. People who do good time management

usually have a balanced life. They work and study happily and enjoy their life.

To conclude, I strongly recommend children be taught how to manage their money when they are young. This practice can provide them with a greater likelihood to succeed and a well-balanced life when they become adults. It will benefit not only themselves but also their whole life.

TPO16

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

The best way to travel is in a group led by a tour guide.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

Actually there are two main ways of travelling – travelling on your own and being led by a tour guide in group. Sometimes when we plan for a trip, it is always hard for us to choose between these two methods. Meanwhile, I would prefer be led by a tour guide while I am travelling around. There are several benefits of being led by someone who is acquainted with the place you go and of being in a group.

Being led by a tour guide in group can offer us convenience during our

vacation. Usually we are not familiar with the landscape, the direction and the customs of our destination. Sometimes if we travel abroad, we may even know nothing about the language and thus cannot turn to anyone for help. I still remember when I travelled to Italy; I knew no Italian at all and found it hard to stay in this foreign country, let alone enjoy myself! Finally I found a travel agency and then followed the group. The tour guide offered me a lot of convenience during my stay in Italy and finally I went back home safe and sound.

In addition, following a group also guarantee a deeper understanding of the culture in your destination. Almost all the tour guides have received formal training in the local history and culture. Actually every time we stay in a group with a tour guide, he will always tell you the customs and the detailed history of a site of interests. Therefore, by staying with the group and listening to the tour guide, we will learn more about our destination without much effort.

Moreover, being in a group with a tour guide will make you safe during the whole vacation. Actually this point of view is the most important in my point of view. The tour guide is familiar with the country or the city we visit and thus we can hardly get lost. Staying in group makes us less likely to be focused by some bad people. All of us want a safe tour. As a result, the best way to guarantee safety is to stay in group with a tour guide.

All in all, though we might lose some freedom by staying in a group with a tour guide, this way of travelling still can be well-rounded because it offers us convenience, deeper understanding and safety. Under this circumstance, I want to state that the best way of travelling is to be with a group and to be guided by a person who is familiar with our

TPO17

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Most advertisements make products seem much better than they really are.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

Advertising is one of the most useful ways for enterprise to convince their customers of the products. In fact, advertisements should be honest that it contains real information of the product. Meanwhile nowadays advertisement appears to be more misleading and make products better from the appearance.

Advertisement seems to make us hard to tell the reality from the fantasy. There is a specific example. When targeted to the young children,

enterprises tend to use fantasy themes and characters from fantasy movies to help show off their product. Since young children tend not to tell the reality to the fantasy, they will be misled and believe that the product appearing in the advertisement is worth buying. But in fact, the quality of the product will disappoint its buyers.

Moreover, nowadays manufacturers tend to ask celebrities to advertise their products. This will also be misleading, too. The celebrities who advertise the product may not use the product at all and he knows nothing about the product. But the audiences tend to believe him since they think the celebrity is always responsible for what he said in a public situation. The celebrity makes this product worth buying, but in fact, it is not as good as the thing appears on the television.

Sometimes manufacturers just do not ask any celebrities to help them with advertising. What they do is just to find someone acting as the users of the product. This will be even more misleading since they better convince the audience that the product is of great use, since the audience tends to believe people who have something in common with themselves. On the contrary, the product is not usually so valuable that the audience is cheated by merchants.

Under these circumstances, advertisements seem misleading and make people feel better about the product. Although there is possibility that some advertisements are worth believing, at most time advertisement

seems to guide us to a wrong direction.

TPO18

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Students are more influenced by their teachers than by their friends.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

All of us are surrounded by different kinds of people every day. For students, when they are at school, they are mainly surrounded by teachers and their friends. Both of these two kinds of people have great influence on students. However, I still believe that friends have greater influence on students than teachers do.

Usually a student and his friends are almost at the same age, or at least they have similar ages. Therefore, they will have a lot of in common, such as hobbies. As a consequence, they can talk to each other and imitate each other's behavior easily. My little brother and his friends are both interested in soccer games and they spent almost all their spare time talking about soccer games worldwide and great football players. What's more, my brother's friend is a good soccer player and my brother tends to

imitate his behavior. As a result, my chubby brother becomes better at doing sports, especially playing soccer. Meanwhile, a teacher won't have such great influence on a student since teachers have less in common with students.

Moreover, in most schools in my country, the teachers just appear in front of the students when there is a class and they will leave the classroom as soon as the class is over. Thus, the students actually have limited time to communicate with their teachers. Even if they do have some time to discuss with their teachers, the topic of the discussion is usually the subject in class. However, a student could have hundreds of different topics, ranging from daily lives or school subjects, to talk with their friends. They have more time communicating and therefore, they know and understand each other better than their teachers. As for me, I can spend a whole day talking to my best friends but only an hour talking with my teachers.

In addition, an everlasting friend may have greater influence in the long run than a teacher. Some of our friends at school may become friends forever. This kind of friend will influence us even when we graduate. However, teachers, on the contrary seldom become everlasting during our lives. They won't have as great influence in the long run as our friends do.

All in all, though I have to admit that teachers and friends both have great

influence on students, I still believe that students are more affected by their friends. The more people have in common with you, the greater influence they will have on you. Therefore, a friend, who is the most similar to students, is the greatest influence during a student's life.

TPO19

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

In order to be well-informed, a person must get information from many different news resources.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

In modern society, media was almost everywhere. At the beginning of one day, I read a newspaper when eating breakfast. On the mass transportation to office, I listen to radio programs until the subway arrive my destination. A high school boy next to me is playing an I-phone, and people on the bus read books, journals, and magazines. I usually skim newspapers and magazines when passing by a convenient store. Actually, there are too many sources providing information. I take advantage of them every day, but I still do not feel well-informed, because there is too

much information filling into my thinking. So that is the reason why I disagree with the statement that a person must get information from various news sources to be well-informed.

First of all, there are too many sources, and most of them give segment information. The segment information might be misleading our judgment. For example, the weather reports on channels always have different opinions. Sometimes a programs says there would be rain tomorrow with 30 percentage raining rate, the other provided that it would be cloudy tomorrow and possible a sunny day. Their forecasts are different and might be true. Unfortunately, people are more likely to get all of them, which made us harder to make a decision for tomorrow's plan. Hence, people get information from different sources might mislead their judgment and be more difficult to be well-informed.

Second, if the people have many sources for information, they will have no time to be well-informed, because they must spend more time integrating them. For example, when I was in the university, I did a study on earth quake and tsunami. I gathered the information from textbooks, national geographic magazines, and discovery channel, as well as the internet. I spent many time organizing these information, and got different knowledge from different media. From the textbook, I knew causes of earth quake and its relationship with tsunami. Then, from the discovery channel, I learned the nascent point of view from well-known

researchers. I also had the various theories on the internet and finally found they were partially obsolete. After I gathered all the information, I found that to integrate them into a study was really a task, since there was too much information. As a result, I needed more time to be well-informed, and I would rather to take a geological class about the topic.

In sum, there are too many sources providing information. We could spend a lot of time to absorb it all, but the information might be different from different sources. This might make us misleading and lose our judgment. In addition, information from different sources might be too diverged to merge. With that, we have to spend more time on organization. Therefore, many different news sources are appropriate for a person who wants to be well-informed.

TPO20

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Successful people try new things and take risks rather than only doing what they know how to do well.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

We are all interested to find out how successful people gain success. A majority of people claim that successful people tend to take risks and avoid only doing what they have already know. This statement is somewhat reliable since successful people indeed do something unusual. However, their unusual behavior is based on things that have been known for a long time.

Let's take Albert Einstein as the first example. As we all know, he invented the theory of Quantum Mechanics, which is so different from what we have already known in physics. This theory led to his personal success in the field of theoretical physics. However, almost all of us ignore the fact that he also did really well in traditional physics. He made his discovery based on his research on traditional physics. A more recent example is Steve Jobs, who is the chief executive officer of Apple. We usually oversee his achievement in the innovative Apple system and applications. In fact, without deep knowledge of basic computer system or electronic devices, he cannot put his innovation into use. Actually, successful people do take risks after they have done what they have known for sure. Basic things can provide proof for innovative actions. Before taking risks, we just need to evaluate the risks and its proof. Anything in the world should have solid proof, or it can never become

reality. To become successful, we just need to learn better about basic things, or things we have already known well, in the first place. Just as Steve and Albert, suppose they have no background knowledge at all, how can they take risks challenging?

Another importance of things we know is that they can provide some enlightens. By the time we do things that are quite familiar well, we can easily find out their limitations and come out with some methods of improvement. Einstein first did his research on lights, which is so familiar with people at time, and find out some limitations of the characters of lights. Without background information, we just cannot see the little faults, let alone take risks doing something unusual.

All in all, people who get final success actually do try things and take risks, but actually their risky behavior is based on what they have already know well. So the basic step for their success is to do familiar things well. This must be the philosophy of any successful people, and, is should also be the philosophy of all of us as well.

TPO21

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

For success in a future job, the ability to relate well to people is more

important than studying hard in school.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

Everyone in the society is seeking for success in career, but what is the key factor of becoming successful? There are two choices – good networking and hardworking. Although someone tend to choose the first aspect, I definitely agree that hardworking at school should be a key factor of success. Without hardworking at school, success in the future cannot be guaranteed.

To gain success in our future career, we must have solid knowledge of the field we choose. Under this circumstance, doing hard at school is the best way to quip ourselves with background knowledge. Although sometimes we may find things we have studied at school sort of unpractical, it is basic to handle real problems at work. Take myself as an example; I am now a senior major in journalism. I studied how to interview, how to write summaries and journals and how to make comments on subjects at school. I worked very hard and in the third year, I got a chance to be an intern in China Economic Daily. During this time, I totally put my knowledge into use and handle the real journalism with only a few problems. If I did not study hard and had no knowledge of journalism, how could I handle this internship?

Another thing we can get from our hard work is the way of solving problems. During the time we studied at school, methods of learning and solving problems are also of great importance. These methods can be put into use even when we graduate, since we all have update our knowledge and solve problems when we are at work. Again take myself as an example, when I did my internship, I had to write down a lot of details of a certain event in just a few minutes. It was really difficult, but since I had found out a method of writing fast at school, I could put down things on paper really efficiently. This method provided a lot of help.

While some one may claim that we cannot ignore the importance of networking since a good networking may offer you greater chances to gain success. Anyway, I admit that we cannot get rid of a good networking. However, if we are not studying hard and have no abilities to do things well, how can people pay attention on us or even provide us good opportunities? Hardworking is basic.

All in all, hardworking should be the key factor of becoming successful. It provides foundations of our success in the future.

TPO22

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Teachers should not make their social or political views known to students in the classroom.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

It is indisputable that teachers play a pivotal role in teaching and guidance students in classes. They provide students a lot of precious knowledge which is very necessary for them in the future. However, should teacher show their social or political viewpoints to students? Each person has their own opinion toward this question. Some people approve it but others have the opposite one. In my opinion, I strongly agree with the latter that teachers should not make their social or political point of views in classes because it can reduce studying efficacy and influence viewpoints of students

First and foremost, those teachers express their social or political opinions on the classes could reduce students' studying efficiencies. In the classes, it is better for both teachers and students to focus on lectures and related problems. Teachers should discuss with students about the lectures, share their researching or working experiences instead of talking about their political viewpoints. It definitely will increase the studying efficacy in the classes. Moreover, it also provides students a lot of real and valuable experiences. They could use these if they face difficulties

when they work in the real environment. Indeed, when teachers show their point of views on the classes, it should be considered to waste time of students

Last but not least, when teachers make their social or political viewpoints known to students, they may influence students' viewpoints. As a matter of fact, students usually do not have definite social or political standpoints. They are quite naive because they pay all their attention on studying and academic issues. Therefore, when teachers like showing their viewpoints, they may discuss or talk continuously about that issues. This really has an influence on the opinions of students, especially when their teachers' opinions are biased. Additionally, this also prevents the free development of students. For instance, when my teacher usually expresses his disapproval about government, he makes us have the same opinions with him. Hence, most students of our class consider the policies or agreements of government are wrong or unsuitable without having any understanding about it. Obviously, the viewpoints of teachers have the potential to change the viewpoints of students

All in all, because when teachers manifest their social or political viewpoint on classes, it influences the studying effectiveness and students' positions, I personally consider this is not a necessary work. I strongly recommend teachers concentrate on teaching and discussing academic-related issues on classes.

TPO23

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

In today's world, it is more important to work quickly and risk making mistakes than to work slowly and make sure that everything is correct.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

Modern technological development has made our lives faster than ever before. Under this circumstance, people nowadays tend to live with a faster pace, and people are now concern more about efficiency. As a result, doing things slowly and making almost everything correctly seems to be sort of out of date. In a modern society, people should, I believe, work at a higher speed and risk taking mistakes.

As I've mentioned in the first paragraph, the development of modern technology has made our life faster than ever before. With the assistance of modern techniques, we consequently should work faster than ever before. For instance, in the old days people made their own clothes by hand. But now, machines in the factories have made sewing and weaving at a great speed and of great quality. We do not have to waste any time doing cumbersome works because of modern technology. Therefore, why

should we insist to work at a slow pace instead of enjoying the convenience that is brought by technology?

Another important aspect is, now we are living in a society which develops rapidly. To meet the rapid change and improvement, all of us need to improve our own efficiency. As we can see, almost every factory wants to increase its productivity and almost all the employer wants employees to generate greater value within the time limitation. Nobody wants to be a loser in the society, so the only way to keep pace with the whole society is to accelerate, which is, working faster.

By then, some people may counters that people may face greater risks of making mistakes. Admittedly, it is highly possible for us to make mistakes when working at a high speed. But in fact, we human beings always make mistakes, so even if we work as slowly and carefully as possible, we still risk making errors. However, by taking the advantage of modern technology and high self-efficiency, we can do our work more precisely than ever before.

All in all, in today's world, people should work at a higher speed. It is so important that everyone in a modern society should be like that. It is a general tendency of our world.

TPO24**Question:**

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

One of the best ways that parents can help their teenage children prepare for adult life is to encourage them to take a part-time job.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

According to a recent statistic on the internet, the number of single-child families occupies 75 percent of Chinese families, and undoubtedly have a tendency of increasing. It follows that parents or other adult relatives may likely pay more attention to their children, for the reason that the energy of parents has been saved a lot compared to those who own several children. They insist that teenage children should not take a part-time job, considering that they are too young to adjust themselves to complicated society and taking a job may disturb their study which is most important in this stage of life. However, others believe that encouraging teenage children to take a part-time job is one of the best ways that parents help them to prepare for adult life. From my part of view, I completely agree with the latter idea.

To begin with, the significance of taking a part-time job to developing

independent personality and sense of responsibility can never be exaggerated. My friend, Tom, was a spoiled boy a few years ago. His parents did everything for him: cleaning his room, making his bed, and rescuing him from troubles. After Tom graduate from high school, his parents encouraged him to take a part-time job in summer holiday. It was so boring for him to stay at home all day, so he took the advice and worked as a waiter in a restaurant. At first, he could not adapt himself to the work he is doing and always got scolded by the boss. But he worked hard and learned quickly. After one month, he could deal with all the problems during work and he changed greatly, being responsible for his action and doing his work independently without others' demands, and these are absolutely the prerequisites for adult life. What happened to Tom struck me tremendously and made me realize that how important taking a part-time job is for teenagers.

In addition, taking a part-time job can offer teenagers an opportunity to make friends with different people outside school and to widen their horizon. Teenage children spend most of their time studying and hardly have time to keep abreast of what's going on in the world. To some extent, it is very bad to teenagers' development if too much stress is laid on school work, for they have to put the theory into practice when they grow up to be an adult. Consequently, if you want your children to prepare for future career, please encourage them to take a part-time job, and there

they can meet interesting people and learn something new, in the belief that they may one day need just those people or things.

Finally, it is easier to find a satisfactory job for the college graduates with part-time job experience. It is known to everyone that graduates face with a brutal competition in job marketing. Only ones who are more competent can won a great job and a brilliant future. And a background with doing a part-time job in the past can give you a license of becoming one of promising candidates for the job that numerous applicants are desiring.

In a word, there is no better way to help teenage children to get ready for adult life than encourage them to take a part-time job. It has always been a mystery to me why some parents, who desperately want their children to be responsible, independent and successful, obstinately maintain that teenagers should not take a part-time job.

TPO25

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Young people nowadays do not give enough time to helping their communities.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

Since the end of last century, a lot of criticism of the young generation has diffused throughout the world. Till now those young people have been yet labeled as “selfish”, “apathetic” and “lazy”. Particularly, someone point out that, the youth are tepid in their participant in community activities. However, such a presumptuous judgment neglects the simultaneous change of human society, and deliberately covers the contributions made by the young.

Decades ago, frequent exchanges within one community were significantly in need as to ensure the quality of people’s daily life. The youth regarded as the most energetic group, therefore, should take more responsibilities to contribute to the whole community. Whereas, time has changed, with the boom of service industry and the great development of artificial intelligence, people became more autonomic—we are not like people before need much physical help from our neighbors. For example, before, the old in one community might need young people to take care of their daily life. But recently, we have more service agencies to look after the old. Staffs there are well educated and have rich professional knowledge about how to take account of the aged. Moreover, people are liberated from tedious housework—we have cleaners to sweep the floor and dishwasher to wash the dirty plates, and, those artificial machines are

also easy-use for the old. In this sense, people now are more independent than ever before, and need less help from the outside. Hence, it could be understandable that the youth reduce their work time in the communities. Although the development of technology and a finer division of labor free us from some bland work in a community, young people attempt to contribute more to the community and do what they could do as they are. If we look around, we could find those cherubic teenagers active in kindergarten, nursing home and orphanage—playing with kids, accompanying the lonely old and brining their own books and clothes to those orphans. For instance, several friends of mine, even though they are quite busy with their academic study, they still keep going to a nursing home every weekend to cook with those old, and have lunch together. Also, they go to a local kindergarten each month to play with those kids: teach them drawing and recognizing the national flags. The youth are doing more than we expect, and they do care about the others, especially those who are vulnerable. Therefore, it would be prejudicial and unfair if we yet claim that the young people nowadays have not put in the time to their communities, and ignoring effort they made.

Society should be more lenient to the youth, at least, not harsh. On one hand, we should understand the change of the world, and the potential influence such a change might bring to our life. We could not falsely conclude the

development of our human society into complain about the teenagers. On the other hand, we should notice and admit every attempt made by the young people—they are doing their best.

TPO26

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

It is better for children to choose jobs that are similar to their parents' jobs than to choose jobs that are very different from their parents' jobs.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

When choosing a life career, the advice of a parent can be quite decisive. Many parents encourage their children to live the life they themselves have only dreamed of, and try a very different job from their own. Nevertheless, in most cases, I believe it would be more beneficial for the child, the parent and the society alike if children followed in the footsteps of their parents when choosing a job.

One of the most obvious reasons is that it paves a more convenient way to success for the children. Children who share similar occupations with

their parents can at least inherit the experiences of the parent, which would save them much time and energy along the way. The parents, who have already had decades of trial and failure in the field, would have a clear idea of what kind of knowledge and quality is required for the job. In that case, they would be able to better prepare the children for the job, and give them helpful suggestions along their career development. Moreover, experience is not the only thing children can inherit from their parents. A businessman can provide his son a shortcut to success by leaving him an already well-run company, and a politician can leave his children the connections they would need in order to win sufficient support.

Another thing is that a similar career is likely to strengthen the parent-child bond. In such a fast-paced modernized world, parents often complain that they are losing their child to busy schedules and a digital social world they feel distant from. But generation gaps are easily bridged when parents can often exchange career ideas with their children. However different the lifestyles of two generations may be, the questions they have to face in a similar job can always be a good topic of conversation. Personally, I feel closest to my grandfather when he shares with me his frustrations and wisdoms of reporting for a national newspaper before he retired, because I may come across similar challenges in my pursuit of a degree in journalism. He is the first person I

turn to whenever I need professional guidance, and I feel like I can always trust him and count on him. It should work the same for most parent-and-child relationships. As a career mentor, a parent can bond with the child in more profound ways.

Last but not least, to choose a similar job as the parent is actually a conservation of social resources. As the parent can act as a career mentor for the child, the time and energy spent preparing the novice outside the home can be spared. People would go into the workforce with a rather comprehensive idea of what to expect, and start putting their knowledge and talent into rightful use as soon as possible.

Given the three reasons I just illustrated, it can be a smart decision if children choose similar jobs as their parents. It would benefit their personal success, their family relationships, as well as the efficacy of the society.

TPO27

Question:

If people have the opportunity to get a secure job, they should take it right away rather than wait for a job that may be more satisfying.

Sample:

Whether a person should take a job offer immediately or wait for a better option largely depends on his/her position in the job market. While those who practice occupations needed urgently by the market can wait for their dream job, on balance, people who don't have the similar advantages should not take the risks.

First, for job seekers who get high market value, they can afford to wait for better opportunities. People who are highly skilled or experienced in certain fields are exactly what the markets needs nowadays. They get what it takes to generate wealth for their employers. Therefore, they should not get low balled in the hiring process, even in a tough economy. For those elites, they never have to compromise with the second best. If they and an employer have wildly different ideas about what their background is worth, they can keep waiting for the perfection. Because they never have to worry about remaining unemployed for too long. If one cannot know it from concrete examples, one can deduce it from general principles. We rarely see the most valuable NBA player of the year have to make do with the offer he doesn't favor in the first place.

Next, for the job seekers who have relatively low market value, they had better take a secure job offer as soon as they have the chance. When I pursued my master degree, I had to juggle between two temp jobs to

cover my living expense. Majoring in communication and technology, I am a multimedia wizard with a certificate on video producing. There were always lots of hiring ads calling for video photographer on Craigslist, so I could be particular about the shooting location and the payment before I decided to take the tasks. Meanwhile I also worked as a server on night shift in some sushi bar. However, as an inexperienced waitress, frankly speaking, I did not have lots of options. Servers live on tips, and an inexperienced waitress can be seen as the pain in the neck in a restaurant. At the time my wage was always the lowest, but I could not afford to stay in my apartment earning nothing at all. People should be flexible enough to adapt to the changes in the job market. Only when one becomes strong enough, he/she will have the leverage to negotiate with potential employers.

For new college graduates, despite the shining diploma they have printed on their CVs, they may not have the specific kinds experience and skills the market requires. However, those graduates should thinking thoroughly before they take a job offer. For them, we are not only talking about one, two, three years or longer of those graduates lives. We're talking about the launch of their career. A sound decision will make that launch a successful one, while a poor one could lead long time, if it's not lifelong, disappointment.

In sum, whether to take a less-than-perfect job offer or wait for a job that

they might like better is not an easy question to answer, because the right decision depends entirely on one's situation. While people who have the leverage such as experience and unique skills can afford to take the risk, people who have relatively low market value should take what they can have as soon as possible.

TPO28

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Parents today are more involved in their children's education than parents were in the past.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

The involvement of parents in their children's education has been acknowledged to include not only the exact knowledge and values they would tell their children but also the attention they would pay to their children's educational process as well as the role they would play during the decision-making process. From my perspective, modern parents are more related to their children's educational aspects than parents are in the past.

It could not be denied that parents in the modern society would bear much more responsibilities and burdens as well than those in the past such as the financial pressure to support the family, due to the increasing desire of individuals and the economic reality in the present society. That means modern parents would spend plenty of time on earning money and have less time to be with their children or to actually teach them. However, the real situation regarding the children education is that parents in the present are more likely to emphasize the education of their children in various respects such as arranging the detailed study plan for their children.

Moreover, the emphasis children would receive on their education from the parents has been increased significantly in the contemporary society, because of the fact that individuals now have generally believed in the essential influence of the education on people especially the younger generation. That significance could be realized by the modern parents during their working and social experiences, and it to a great extent could be comprehended due to the reality that the well-educated person has been demanded in relatively every area of the current society. Therefore, in order to help their children to become successful and qualified, parents in the present have been inclined to check or help with their school projects, to have them acquire multiple skills, and to expect them to receive the best education at a higher level, which would not be the focus

of the parents in the past who even did not care about the educational situation of their children and merely held the expectation that the children could help to support the family in terms of the finance as soon as possible.

Furthermore, it has been proposed that current parents have been more active during the process of making decisions related to their children's educational choices than the past. That could suggest that to some extent they would like to exert an influence on the children and their educational affairs rather than be willing to let their children to have the independent decision-making process as they did in the past, which might be due to the possibility that the present parents might place more emphasis on their children's education and not want them to make any mistakes. However, this situation could probably be interpreted that the modern parents could be considered to be the better educated people themselves and could assist their children to choose wisely and appropriately by offering the relevant information and reasonable advice in the course of educational matters such as how to plan their time arrangements, what major they would study in, and whether they should have a gap year before entering the university.

In conclusion, although modern parents might have less time with their children than those in the past during their educational period, they definitely could be regarded as more active in the participation in their

children's educational activities in terms of the attention they might pay and the positive effort they might provide to help their children to make educational decisions due to the fact that they perceive the importance.

TPO29

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

To improve the quality of education, universities should spend more money on salaries for university professors.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

With the rapid development of society, more and more elites are required for advance science and technology. So how to improve the quality of higher education becomes an emergency problem for universities. Improve the facilities and equipments, design attracting courses, introducing famous professors, elevate salaries for professors or provide more resources for students like holding international communicating meetings, all these strategies will solve the problem. So I think universities should prefer to taking multiple methods to improve the quality of education rather than just spending money on professors.

As a boast enrollment in universities nowadays, there are so many students attend college that will require more funding and resource .Universities should employ more faculties, purchase more facilities to cope with the increase population in campus. Only that happens that every student will get equal chance to gain knowledge and share the colorful campus life. For instance, when I was a fresh student in my college, owing to so many students want to study in library that I need get up early and rush the way to get a seat. Limited seats in the library influences students' study passion which leads to the decline of the quality of education in the end. So I think the most important thing to improve quality of education is to make the facilities prefect.

What's more, universities should hold some international communicating meetings and introduce professors who are talented, knowledgeable and prestigious. So students can have more opportunities to share the advanced achievements directly and communicate with the professors who are famous in their interested field. I think that will inspire students' creativity, intelligence and imagination which need in the college study, then they will contribute more to the university and the society.

Admittedly, universities should increase the salaries for professors. A college teacher is more responsible for the quality of education because college life maybe the last stage of students' study period before taking a job. What can a student do depend on what knowledge and skills they

gained from school and from professors. So professors will be more dedicated to their work with high pay which lead to more useful people graduate from school.

All in all, if universities have enough money they should take variety ways to improve the quality of education, especially what I mentioned above.

TPO30

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

It is more enjoyable to have a job where you work only three days a week for long hours than to

have a job where you work five days a week for shorter hours.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

The average American works five days a week. We are long used to the social norm “eight hours labor, eight hours recreation, eight hours rest.”

However, it has little to do with efficiency or productivity. Personally speaking, I prefer working long hours instead of spending time traveling to work on daily basis.

First, working long hours means one can have more time for vacation. For one thing, time professionals spent commuting everyday can be spent with their families, doing exercise routine, or taking care of diet. In this way, when they come back to work, employers will have energetic workers with clear mind, thus boosting their output and profit as a result. If it's not enough, people who have long time to relax have been proved to be more creative and productive. When Henry Ford in 1914 famously took the radical step of doubling his workers' pay, and cut shifts in Ford plants from nine hours to eight, he got bitterly criticized by the association of manufacturers. However, when his competitors saw Ford's business boomed in the next few years, they adopted the same hourly rate. Especially in innovative industries, employees with more spare time always tend to be more creative, for they have more time to reflect on their current works and breed new ideas.

Second, working long hours also means achieve consistency. People cannot guarantee that all ones' works can be finished within eight hours. Here comes the dilemma. One can either working late to finish it, or restart the work next day. Anyone who has been in this situation knows the latter one means spending more time on it and low efficiency, while the first one means, willingly or not, one has to work in unpaid overtime. In this respect, allowing people to arrange their time flexibly is a way to fix this problem. If employees choose to work long hours to finish their

work within a day, they should get paid and be allowed to rest in the following day to compensate “off-the-clock” hours.

Admittedly, working long hours can increase health risks and generate more stress. But we are not talking about it as daily routine. We are talking about having this schedule less than half of a week. So by allocating time wisely, in most cases one can avoid those negative impacts and enjoy their lives more.

People take for granted of the eight hour workday, rarely raising questions about the efficiency and the effectiveness as consequences. If professionals are given other options, I believe they will appreciate the shorter week more, and so as for employers.

TPO31

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Because the world is changing so quickly, people now are less happy or less satisfied with their lives than people were in the past.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

In modern society, there is no denying that our paces speed up. A small

proportion of people who cannot keep up with this trend or resist the world for the fittest, may hold a viewpoint that a mutable society leads people to less satisfaction and mitigation of sense of happiness since such a world might cause the alienation between good fellows and contamination of our environment; however, in my view, it is not the case. As a matter of fact, in a world changing more rapidly, people tend to become satisfied much more easily.

First illustration which can demonstrate my opinion can be the trail of technological development. In the past five decades, millions of new inventions had appeared, entering our daily life, making it much more convenient. To name a good example, in 1896, Benz assembled the first three-wheel car in the world. Though it brought accidents and mortality to the world, we cannot deny the enjoyment of ferocious speed brought by cars, which made our jaunt convenient. We can simply drop by a old friend 100 miles, a distance taking at least half day before, away in one hour. Another good instance is the invention of smart phone. in 1972, Martin, the chief engineer in Moto devised the first portable telephone. Then, this innovation revolutionized our life. Just simply imagine what our life looked like without cell phones: people could not keep contact with their friends and exigent messages might be blocked. Then in 2007, Steve Jobs brought iPhone with Facetime to the world. The most significant aspect of Facetime is that this app allows us to communicate

with actual image, not just voices. Then, how can we state that modern society steals the sense of fraternity among people?

Second demonstration which can help me develop my view that a rapidly changing society makes people more satisfied is the use of new energy resources. We may still remember the Great Smog, one of the gravest air pollution accidents in our history due to the heavily gathered inversion layer of sulfur dioxide originated with burning of coal in 1950s, London. People died of respiratory diseases after inhalation of poisonous air. How can they live happily in a world brimmed with pollutions? But nowadays, we have developed new energy resources to tackle this problem such as hydropower and wind power. To name an example, in 2007, nuclear power plants generate 14% of the total electricity of the US, thus saving tons of coals and reducing the level of inhalable particles. Recently, governments and organizations have taken measures to support researches of renewable resources and to find substitutes for fossil fuels. Natural reserves and sanctuaries are established, places of interest and spots are refurbished, and factories and manufacturers with pestilent exhaust are shut down. People therefore are provided with much more opportunities to relax by enjoying the beauty of nature.

To draw a conclusion, in a world that is rapidly changing, we are offered a variety of brand-new experiences and highly evolved products, which make life much easier than before. We are in a world filled with

convenience brought by high technologies that develop so fast. Then, how can we blame on the changing world while enjoying happiness and satisfactions originated from them?

TPO32

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Young people today have no influence on the important decisions that determine the future of society as a whole.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

With the development of society, people nowadays are living in a relatively complete mechanism, yet some tiny but important aspects, which may be overlooked, need to be ameliorated by discussion. Some people may argue that youth seems to have on influence on current society, however, in my opinion, youth should still be taken into consideration when determining the future of the society in the long time run.

Firstly, young people play a major role in improving the development of

current society. For one thing, there are some special tasks, which are not only inevitable in its area but also needs high requirements of physical condition and cannot be accomplished by old people. For instance, when enrolling pilots, no matter for military affairs or civil aviation, it is strict with requirements of physical condition like eyesight and height, which old people may not satisfy. For another, young people also promote economic increase to some degree. Many enterprises aim at expanding the market of youth by developing more products, which largely increase the purchasing power of youth. And this method achieves big success especially in the electronic market.

Additionally, young people directly guide future direction of our society. As youth possess creativity coming up with ideas, which sometimes seem to be ridiculous, it's entirely possible that one of those "wired idea" become breakthrough in a specific area. For instance, Steve Jobs, who has been described as the "Father of the Digital Revolution", once said he would like to invent a smartphone containing only one key. It was such a brave and creative idea and cannot be realized at that time. However, after continuously research, iphone, which guide a new period of communication, came out.

Admittedly, despite older people are more experienced than youth, and

are more possible to come up with more feasible and reasonable ideas when confronting difficulties, yet youth represent creativity, bravery and confidence, which are all inevitable during the process of the development of the society. Moreover, experience is based on accumulation of time and lessons, as older people also have no experience when they were young. Hence, blindly overlooking the important influence of youth, will finally lead to unexpected negative consequences.

Overall, youth represent the future of the society, and have potential influence to the society from the aspect of future development.

TPO33

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

When teachers assign projects on which students must work together, the students learn much more effectively than when they are asked to work alone on projects.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sample:

Working on projects is not strange to students, which indeed enhance their ability to practice. When it comes to the way how students cope with this kind of task, there are usually two approaches: to work together with others and to work on their own. Personally, I am a big fan of “team working” and I am totally in agreement with students' participation in a team when engaging in projects. There are some reasons that illustrate my point of view.

First of all, working together is conducive for students to learn from each other, which enables them to be more all-rounded. It is because when students set out to do something, they do not have a choice but to face unexpected problems, and working in a team allows them to watch and learn others' strategies in coping with various problems, which will develop their problem solving skills and boost their ability to learn. Therefore, working as a part of a team provides students with more opportunities to learn from other people's experience and finally promotes their talents.

Besides, team working can generate new ideas to a particular subject, which will help improve work efficiency. As is known to all, the advantage of working together lies in more chances for direct interaction between students. During the brainstorm or other kinds of communication,

students can each express their opinions and come up with new ways to address the same issue and this can never be possible for those who merely depend on themselves when carrying out projects. For these concerns, it's a sensible strategy for students to focus on teamwork.

Admittedly, working together can have one or two downsides. For instance, due to lack of unanimous understanding about some problems, students usually do not come up with brilliant ideas at the very beginning and there could be a big waste of time and energy. However, this can be another way to success, because they are more likely to find the best solution by trials and errors.

In conclusion, my preference for working together is clearly justified through above-mentioned reasons. As an old saying goes, “A single thread cannot make a cord, nor single tree a forest”, if you do not want to be shut away in an alien world, then go to join a team, because in there, you will harvest unexpected treasures.

TPO34

Question:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Educating children is a more difficult task today than it was in the past because they spend so much time on cell phone, online games, and social networking Web site.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.