

Group : Gist Group Leader: Feng Zhenhua (冯振华)

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Discussion leader: 冯振华

1. What is the point of humanities?

(1) They can help us to create a more civil public discourse ,a more adaptable and creative workforce,and a more secure nation.

(2) They give you uncertainty,doubt and skepticism which help us to answer some questions the science can not resolve.

(3) When science is becoming increasingly dogmatic and arrogant in our era ,humanities foster a healthy anti-dogmatism."

2. Why more and more student do not like to study humanities?

(1) It hardly helps students get a better job.

(2) The power of science makes the humanities look less and less useful.

3. Why does the author want his students to question authority?

The purpose of learning is to gain wisdom and pursue happiness ,not just to put information in our head .So the author hope his students could not being trapped by their own desire for certainty.

Summarizer: 刘婉莹

this essay is mainly about the reasons of study humanities and what I say to engineering freshmen. Firstly, the author gives some examples to bring out the importance of humanities. And he gives his opinions: it is obviously that science is so powerful that we need the humanities now more than ever; humans are more about questions than answers and so on.

Secondly, the author proposes many questions and in 12th paragraph he gives the answer of the point of humanities which is proposed in 1th paragraph: they keep us from being trapped by our own desire for certainty.

Finally, the author gives the postscript to express his as the science is becoming dogmatic and arrogant, so we should need the humanities to encourage a healthy anti-dogmatism.

Connector: 陈洁妮

This article talks about the importance of humanities subjects and why they need to be studied. The author draws on his own teaching experience to show that university students are often reluctant to study the humanities and to explain the importance of the humanities. The author points out that while science can give us answers, the humanities provide the uncertainty, scepticism and criticality that are so important to our understanding of the complexity of human beings and society. Moreover, the humanities remind us not to be bound by our own desire for certainty.

This essay addresses the role and value of the humanities in today's society through observations of university students and my own teaching experience. While science and technology occupy an important place in modern society, the humanities are still essential because they offer a different way of thinking. This essay conveys to the reader the idea that the humanities not only enable people to better understand themselves and the world, but also foster critical thinking and humanistic literacy.

Word Master: 刘新宇

Grandiose:adj.

中文翻译: 宏伟的; 浮夸的; 壮阔; 沾沾自喜

英文翻译:

1.

impressive because of unnecessary largeness or grandeur, used to show disapproval

2.

affectedly genteel; synonym: hifalutin; highfalutin;

语法: -ose 表形容词, “多…的, 有…性质的, 如…的”

bellicose adj. 好战的

bellic (= bell 战斗) + ose 多…的, 有…性质的, 如…的 → 好战的

flexuose adj. 弯弯曲曲的

flexu (= flex 弯曲) + ose 多…的, 有…性质的, 如…的 → 弯弯曲曲的

foliose adj. 叶状的; 多叶的

foli 树叶 + ose 多…的, 有…性质的, 如…的 → 叶状的; 多叶的

grandiose adj. 浮夸的; 雄伟的

grandi (= grand 宏大的) + ose 多…的, 有…性质的, 如…的 → 浮夸的; 雄伟的

operose adj. 费力的

oper 工作 + ose 多…的, 有…性质的, 如…的 → 费力的

例句:

1.

Not one of Kim's grandiose plans has even begun.

2.

We must do away with the grandiose style of work.

Consequential: adj.

中文翻译:

1.

随之而来的; 相应发生的; 作为结果的

2.

重要的; 将产生重大结果的

英语翻译:

1.

happening as a result or an effect of sth

2.

important; that will have important results

语法: consequence 名词 结果, 重要性, 推论

例句:

1.

In the eyes of science historians, Darwin's most consequential claim was that the discontinuous face of life as a whole was an illusion.

2.

It is possible that some of the views that were offered by likely nominee Mitt Romney could be consequential.

Enormous: adj.

中文翻译: 巨大的; 极大的

英文翻译:

1.

extraordinarily large in size or extent or amount or power or degree, that a whole civilization should be dependent on technology

语法: norm= rule 规则, 准则

abnormal adj. 异常的; 不正常的

ab 相反 + norm 规则, 准则 + al ... 的, 具有...性质的 → 异常的; 不正常的

enormous adj. 巨大的

e 出 + norm 规则, 准则 + ous ... 的 → 超出规则的 → 巨大的

enormity n. 巨大; 穷凶极恶

e 出 + norm 规则, 准则 + ity 具备某种性质, 状况 → 巨大; 穷凶极恶

norm n. 规范, 行为准则

normal adj. 正常的

norm 规则, 准则 + al ... 的 → 符合规则的 → 正常的

例句:

1.

The project implies an enormous investment in training.

2.

Enormous rural population and high recessive rural unemployment rate are a major impediment to national economic growth and the process of industrialization.

Reliable: adj.

中文翻译:

adj.

可信赖的, 可依靠的; (信息) 真实可信的, 确凿的; (经反复试验) 可得出相同结果的; 可靠度高的

n.

可靠的人 (或物)

adj

1.

worthy of reliance or trust

a reliable source of information

synonym: dependable;

2.

conforming to fact and therefore worthy of belief

an authentic account by an eyewitness

synonym: authentic;

3.

worthy of being depended on

a dependable worker

synonym: dependable; honest; true

语法:

1、rely 形容词----reliable 可靠的

2、rely 副词-----reliably 可靠

3、rely 名词-----reliability/reliableness 可靠性/可靠

4、rely 第三人称单数: relies 过去分词: relied 现在进行时: relying 过去式: relied。

例句:

1. But there will also be a need for a reliable power generation that works even when the sun does not shine and the wind does not blow.

2. Papers on the management of substation data security, reliable, efficient and easy-to-network intelligent management of consider revising。

Smirking:

中文翻译:

1. v 自鸣得意的笑；傻笑；假笑的说
2. n 傻笑；假笑

英文翻译：

v.

1. to smile in an unpleasant way because something bad has happened to someone else, or because you think you have achieved an advantage over them.

语法：

形容词: smirky | 副词: smirkingly | 名词: smirker | 动词过去式: smirked | 动词过去分词: smirked | 动词现在分词: smirking | 动词第三人称单数: smirks

例句：

1.

Major Pendennis, fresh and smirking, came out of his bedroom to his sitting-room

2.

The artisan was smug in his knowledge, flaunting it, secretly smirking every time he saw this information appearing in plain sight.

Passage Person: 曹雪婷

PART 1

The first part is paragraph 1-2, which deals with the declining enrolment and support for the humanities. The Commission on the Humanities and Social Sciences has produced a report called "The Heart of the Matter", which points out that as our society progresses, the humanities are very important to social progress, so the humanities need our strong support.

PART 2

The second part is paragraph 3-6, the author first tells the story of his teaching experience in the university. He finds that students don't like to take the humanities courses, and then asks the reasons why the students don't like to take the humanities courses. The students think that the humanities courses have nothing to do with their future career, and they don't really understand the significance of taking the humanities courses.

PART 3

The third part is paragraph 7-12. First of all, the author explains the significance of science to our human society. Science enables us to have a clearer understanding of the world and learn more about ourselves. We study science, math related courses will help us get a good job in the future, but because science is so powerful, we need to study the humanities. Because science teaches us facts, knowledge, truth, answers, gives us something certain. The humanities, on the other hand, are subversive, they can make us doubt authority, give us uncertainty and doubt, let us not blindly believe what is certain, let us have doubt.

PART 4

The fourth part is paragraph 13-14, the author shares a story about a colleague who questioned him. The author's colleague argued that the humanities were not a necessary way to learn skepticism, because he believed that science had an important place in human history because it was anti-dogma. In response to his colleagues' doubts, the author also gives his own opinion, arguing that science should indeed include skepticism, but our science is increasingly impetuous and dogmatic, and we should use the humanities to cultivate a healthy anti-dogmatism.