Multimedia University (MMU) Cyberjaya

"The effect of the lack of creativity among college students"

Group No. 4

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Outline:

Body Paragraph

1.Reduced academic and career opportunities (Isac)

1.1 Lower capabilities in terms of skill

1.2 Struggles to provide original ideas or meaningful input

1.3 Difficulty in looking for opportunities (jobs, positions, sponsors)

2.Lower motivation and engagement (Jia Xian)

2.1 Unable to finish tasks in time

2.2 Limited social circle due to low engagement

2.3 Decrease self-esteem

3. Limited problem-solving skills (Shah Zufar)

3.1 Lack of innovations and new inventions

3.2 Inability to adapt to newer environments

3.3 Indecisive decision making (essential during and after college)

Academic Essay:

The lack of creativity is becoming a recurring difficulty among university students at present. Creativity is often described as the cornerstone of human progress, enabling individuals to think innovatively, solve problems effectively, and thrive in both personal and professional settings. Creative thinking gives anyone but not only students the ability and confidence to come up with new ideas and encourages productivity. The ability to generate new ideas and being productivity is ideal for a human being that wants to succeed in their lives. The lack of creativity among university students often results in lack of professional opportunities, reduced motivation and engagement, and caps their problem-solving skills.

Creativity is fundamental to achieving success in both academic and professional domains, as it improves an individual's capacity to address issues, adjust to obstacles, and capitalize on emerging opportunities. In educational environments, students exhibiting creative intelligence frequently excel beyond their counterparts due to their capacity to produce innovative concepts and devise solutions to novel challenges. This skill proves especially advantageous in university courses, even in those that might not seem to require a significant degree of creativity. On the other hand, a dearth of creativity can hamper students' performance. Students with low levels of creativity, when presented with challenging tasks, will turn to external sources of help—most prominently artificial intelligence—to assist them in writing, problem-solving, or even doing assignments. Although these tools are useful, their overuse stunts critical and independent thinking. This can lead to academic misconduct, such as plagiarism, and the spread of misinformation, as students can use AI-generated content without necessarily understanding or verifying it. The greater ramifications of suppressed creativity reach beyond the educational setting. The contention

by G. Michael Hopf that "Weak men create hard times" indicates that intellectual stagnation can lead to long-term effects. If students continue to find creative thinking in computers, they may graduate without the crucial skills of innovation, curiosity, and flexibility—traits more and more vital in the fast-changing global setting. Creativity is not confined to the arts; it is a core component in problem-solving, critical thinking, and individual growth. For example, in seeking work, a creative person might consider alternative careers, design their resume to meet the needs of different jobs, or network in nontraditional ways, thereby multiplying their prospects for success. Conversely, the uncreative person might only use conventional means and be unable to keep pace with the requirements of an ever-evolving labor market. In brief, creativity should not be an option but a necessity. It drives intellectual growth, fosters resilience, and opens up new gateways of opportunity that others may fail to see. Without it, students risk falling below their potential both in the classroom and in the professional world.

Other than reducing opportunities, lack of creativity among college students can also lead to low motivation and engagement. When a student is lack of motivation, in other words, they don't feel like to do anything without getting motivated, they might face some challenges when completing a certain course task in a limited period. For instance, projects and assignments. By that, there is a high chance that they might be punished by course lecturers because they did not hand in their coursework in time. You should never normalize handing in coursework late, because lecturer has the right to bar you from taking any exams! Besides that, the social circle of a student is limited if they barely engage themselves in different groups of people. A wise man once said, "if you only live in your own world, you will never know what's happening outside". Many of you might prefer to walk by your own, eat by your own because it gives you peace, and that's totally fine! However, if you're doing this for a long term, you will start to envy others for having a group

of friends to play and have fun with. Moreover, when you're assigned in a group discussion, you might find it difficult to communicate with others, even being joked about by others. University is said to be one of the most important parts in your entire life, so make friends and have fun with while you still able to. In addition, a student's self-esteem will decrease because of low motivation and engagement. When a student finds it hard to complete a simple task, they will feel useless, and this can contribute to negative emotions like anxiety and frustration. This will not only lead to serious mental health but even lead to distorted thoughts. This can also lead to feelings of detachment and disconnection from school and learning, resulting in skipping classes, thus they will neglect their studies. In summary, low motivation and engagement can create a cycle of negative outcomes that affect students' academic and mental health.

Lastly, a large detriment to college students is that they will develop very limited problem-solving skills. It is very clear that problem solving is essential in the workforce, more now than ever before, and why is that? One of the biggest benefits to developing problem solving skills is the ability to make decisions. Hindering the development of problem-solving skills hinders the ability to decide, and the ability to decide is not only recommended, but crucial when starting out college or entering the workforce. In 2021, a recent study in Malaysia conducted by the National Library of Medicine shows that 99% of students suffer from indecisiveness, this shows that we have already been trailing down the path from creative thinking which is a large concern of which should be taken action of. Another major consequence to a lack of creativity is the inability to adapt, and change to newer environments, and new or unexpected challenges. In the modern era, within both the academic and real-world setting, change is constant, more now than ever before. The world is forever changing, and we must adapt to newer environments. In many cases, students who struggle creatively often find themselves rigid with how they think, unable to think outside

the box. Creativity fosters cognitive ability, it allows people to view problems in different angles, and a differing view allows problems to be solved in many different ways—more often than not, in much more efficient methods too, this stems to adaptability in such a way that we are able to adapt to new environments. New environments require new ideas, and new ideas only bear fruit from different ways problems are tackled, this further points out a strong importance to creative thinking among college students. Creative thinking brings out the most in inventions and innovations. Planty of inventors, new and old have resorted to some method of thinking creatively to solve problems never before tackled. Samuel Morse, inventor of the well-known morse code figured out a way to send messages to and from far away locations while at the same time being encrypted during the war. This wasn't done by anyone else before or during his time and leans back to how thinking creatively (how the cipher works) could produce a new invention (morse code), or innovate newer and better solutions to preexisting problems. The very inability to invent and innovate calls upon a great stalling to humanity's advancements, and we would only stagnate, or worse, reverse the effects of human's achievements. Without creative thinking, we wouldn't have found newer, and better solutions to solve problems by nurturing problem solving skills.

In summary, university students' lack of creativity has significant ramifications that go beyond their academic careers. Because individuals could find it difficult to innovate or adjust to new problems, their professional options are limited when they have less access to creative thinking. Mental health problems and disengagement from education are only two of the detrimental effects that can result from low motivation and participation. Furthermore, their inability to solve problems effectively impairs their capacity for decision-making and adaptability in changing circumstances. A lack of creative strength might result in an educational system that is full of mechanical repetition and superficial comprehension, as the proverb goes: "Weak men

create hard times." It is our duty to foster creativity so that graduates have the abilities necessary to create, adjust, and prosper in a world that is constantly changing.