

NUMBER 1

People attend college or university for many different reasons (for example, new experiences, career preparation, increased knowledge).

Why do **you** think people attend college or university? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

College is a place that the students can learn more and new knowledge and experience in it. Of course, different people have different reasons to study in college. For example, some people want to be to go on a further study after they graduate from college; some people hope to find a good job after studying in college and also some people wish to exchange their present situation through studying in the college. In my opinion, no matter what reason people study in the college for, studying in the college is just a preparation for their future life.

First of all, students can gather new knowledge and experiences from studying in the college. There are many teachers, professors with abundant teaching experience who teach students lots of new things and help them to solve the problems in their studies. With their help, student can learn a lot of useful basic and professional knowledge which is very helpful for their future' work and study. After they finish their study in the college, students go to work in industry and society and contribute to the different fields.

Secondly, students can learn how to arrange their own time reasonably. Before their studying in college, their life often arranged by their parents and their study often arranged by their teachers. It is very different for them to live and study in college, because students studying in college have to arrange their lives and study by themselves. They have right to arrange their part time, such as when to get up, when is the sport-time, when to finish the assignment etc. This is very important experience for students' work and life in the future.

Secondly, studying in the college make students having opportunity to live with other student and learn how to cooperate with other people. Usually, people often have uncomfortable feeling to live with a stranger, because they do not know each other and perhaps their habit and personality are different. But for the long run, it is good for them. They have to cooperate with each other and solve a lot of problems they will face together. Gradually, they can learn how to care and understand other people. It is a preparation for students to go to cooperate with other people in the society.

All in all, students not only can learn lots of new knowledge from the books but also can learn much more necessary experience such as how to arrange time and how to cooperate with other people. It is very important for their future work and life.

NUMBER 2

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Parents are

the best teachers. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Obviously, the first teachers we have in our lives in most cases are our parents. They teach us to walk, to speak, and to have good manners before we reach "the real world." More than even the professional teachers that we have in school, parents are generally the most involved in the development and education of children.

Almost for sure our parents are the best teachers at the beginning of our lives, which actually corresponds to the parents' role in nature. Parents are most committed and involved in teaching their children; they have a kind of instinct to sacrifice a part of themselves for the betterment of their children. They love us and have great patience while passing down their knowledge to us. They wish us a success and thus will not teach us bad things. And of course, implicit learning occurs when children unconsciously copy some of their parents' habits and styles of behavior.

During the second stage of child development, adolescence, parents can still be in the best position to offer advice even though the children might not accept it. In this case, perhaps the child's friends would be the best teachers. Adolescents are notoriously rebellious in many cultures and may automatically reject any advice from their parents. My first marriage for instance, was solely a matter of doing the opposite when my parents tried to intrude in offering their advice. So in such matters, parents should be much more flexible and be rather the partners with their children. So we can see that being a teacher of growing child become more and more complicated case as the time passes and many parents are simply not able to meet the increased demands.

On the other hand, I would say that parents are not professional teachers and they tend to be very biased by their love of their children. So wishing good things and an easy life may prevent children from maturation. In any case, parents usually can present only one viewpoint of the world, while good teaching should be based on different attitudes. Thus, when children go to school and have a great diversity of teachers, they learn much more than their parents could probably give them. Furthermore, once our parents get older, they become more conservative and cannot always be objective in regard to modern trends and fashions. Thus we need to take their advice with caution during that period. However, some kind of intuition, which I believe, shared between relatives about what everybody needs and great love, which exists in families, still makes our parents very good teachers and advisers at any time.

In conclusion, while parents are not the ideal teachers, and well-rounded children will generally need a great diversity of teachers in their lives in order to have a more accurate view of the world, parents are generally the most committed of all teachers and have the greatest emotional investment in their children and their future.

NUMBER 3

Nowadays, food has become easier to prepare. Has this change improved the way people live? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Man, through the ages, has undergone many changes, from a period when he hunted for his food to the present era when man is dependent on preprocessed foods. During this period not only has man changed his mode of eating but his whole lifestyle as well. In pursuit of more in this competitive world, man no longer has time as he once had. He is caught in a race against the clock. A person who finishes more in lesser time is considered more efficient. This pressure to do more in less time has affected his eating habits as well and, as a result, man no longer has time to cook food. Early man's only objective was to seek food to sustain him and his family. Nowadays finding food has taken a back seat to other priorities, such as career and education.

Food is no longer of that importance. This is not an encouraging trend. People are too dependent on preprocessed or precooked food, which no longer has the freshness it once had. Such foods lose their mineral and vitamin content and are not as healthy as fresh food. That is why the number of diseases is also rising. People have also shifted to high calorie content food like French fries, pizzas, and ice cream, etc., which is causing obesity, fatigue, etc. As man is becoming busy and too involved in his busy schedule, he has no time even to take care of his own personal needs.

Furthermore, cooking is an art, which is dying out. People once enjoyed cooking. It was a means of eliminating stress and tension. People were once able to relax during this time and reflect on their lives.

People may tend to argue that by using precooked and preprocessed food they are efficiently using time and can use this precious time saved for other purposes. But is it really worth it? This is a question whose answer can invite much speculation about whether by saving this little time we are inviting lots of other problems, which could easily be avoided. It is actually making our lives not simpler but more complicated. We have lost many of the simpler things in our lives, like the simple acts of selecting our evening meal, preparing it, and enjoying it with our loved ones, and we are worse off for it.

NUMBER 4

It has been said, "Not everything that is learned is contained in books." Compare and contrast knowledge gained from experience with knowledge gained from books. In your opinion, which source is more important? Why?

People always are learning and practicing through their whole lives. From reading words in text book such as toy, car, train etc., people have the concept and ideas. They further understand the actual meaning of these words by playing toys and riding or driving cars, trains etc.

Education (books) and experience are the main two channels for People to gain their knowledge. Each play different roles for people. In my opinion, knowledge from experience is more important than that from books.

Experience first can prove if the knowledge from books are true or false. Textbooks are very wonderful in teaching people essential principles, how is the world looks like? what is the basic law of change of people and things? We can learn a lot through primary school, secondary school until university. However, people can only understand the really meaning of those from books and

justify them if they are right through practices. A few hundred years ago, people learnt from text book that the earth was flat. However scientists found that was wrong through observations and measurement.

The knowledge from experience can improve and advance the world and our society. As books have limitation, they only teach us the what people found in the past. The knowledge from the books are constrained to the certain conditions and environment. For example, mould and tools design for plastics industry, the university course only taught me very simple cases, most knowledge are obtained from various different and complicated cases in my career.

There are a lot new inventions and new products which could not be found from textbooks. Our society and world are developed through continuous practices, those knowledge, never found in books, such as internet, e-business etc. are all developed through new practices.

"The truth comes from practices and experience", people are continually discovering new things and assessing the creditability of the knowledge written in books. The knowledge from experience help us much more than those from books.

NUMBER 5

A company has announced that it wishes to build a large factory near your community. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of this new influence on your community. Do you support or oppose the factory? Explain your position.

I am from Arroz e Feijao, a small town in the northeast of Brazil. Building a factory in there will bring a lot of advantages and disadvantages, but I believe that Arroz e Feijao will mostly benefit from the building of a new factory because it is largely populated by poor people and the factory would bring many benefits to this small town. However, of course, a factory has disadvantages as well.

As you know, factories usually bring pollution. If this factory is not managed very effectively and efficiently according to specific rules, it's prone to polluting the local air and water. What's more, factories usually make noise. Beside clean drinkable water and fresh air, an ideal community should be quiet. If the factory cannot maintain this situation to the community, it will not last long. A factory that is too noisy or pollutes too much will eventually be relocated to a new area.

On the other hand, a factory could bring a lot of benefits to the community. So I would support the plan to build a factory to my community for all the reasons I will describe below.

First of all, the factory's construction will surely improve the local infrastructure. To run smoothly, the factory will have to have a steady, reliable supply of water and electricity. Some old pipes will be changed, and some facilities will be renovated. The residents' living standard get improved as a result of these widespread changes, an important benefit in Arroz e Feijao, where many people do not have access to clean water.

Secondly, to make the employee commute more convenient, the local roads will have to be rebuilt and broadened, resulting in improved public transportation. The town's residents can take a public bus to go shopping or go to work. As a result, air pollution and fuel consumption might be reduced.

Most important, a factory's establishment will bring up a lot of employment opportunities for the community. A factory need experts from various fields. The residents can take just a few minutes to go to the factory to work. So, the local residents can get great benefits from this factory.

Generally speaking, I agree with the plan to build a factory near my community. If the factory can be managed successfully, the factory and local residents can have mutual benefit.

NUMBER 6

If you could change one important thing about your hometown, what would you change? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.

Everything in the universe is in constant change. And everything needs continual improvement if the ever changing and increasing demands of humankind are to be met. If I am ever given the chance to change one important thing about my home town, it would be internet service. Needless to say that nothing generally revolutionized the way we live as internet in the past decade. Thus, an improvement in this vital service would mean an even more, unheard betterment to the people in my home town.

It is said that information is power. True saying indeed! I can envision how everything in my home town could improve dramatically if the internet service in it were made free, fast and staying out there like electricity, telephone or water all the time. One thing, a fast free and reliable internet service could improve in my home town is the way people work. If there is a this said service people in my home town must not necessarily commute to a far place to do their job. This in turn would mean less traffic jams, spacious work place, more time for family and recreation and so on.

The way people learn would be another important thing that a fast, free and reliable internet service could better in my home town. People will have the chance to go through tremendous and different information resources in a very small amount of time. They, apparently will also take less time to share it. This assures a more fulfilled life for my home town people.

Since its advent, internet touched every part of our life. It in a dazzling way improved the way we do business, learn and communicate. A change in internet service implies good way of living for every one in my home town.

NUMBER 7

How do movies or television influence people's behavior? Use reasons

and specific examples to support your answer.

Hesitating I enter my house, the light outside is dimming and the shadows make everything appear unfamiliar. I know that my husband has not returned from work yet, simply because his car is not in the garage. I am alone. I carefully check all the rooms, almost expecting something to happen suddenly. I hold my bag in my hand as if it were a weapon. After the whole house has been declared “clear,” I start to breathe normally again and a smile appears on my face as I realize, once again, how a simple movie seen at the cinema a week earlier can modify my actions.

Sometimes I wonder if I should watch TV, with all its shows that make me wonder whether I exercise enough, whether I am slim enough, or whether I treat my pets with the care they deserve: am I really concerned about their mental health??? Not to mention the hundreds of commercials that try to make me believe I need a water purifier to remain alive since the water I am currently drinking is heavily polluted! And countless are the times when I have heard people talking by quotations learned from movies... We need to watch shows and films to know what to say, how to be, how to act. We are so addicted to all this that it almost seems like we cannot think on our own.

I cannot help thinking about what happened to me some days ago, an example that clearly shows what kind of power TV has over people. My husband and I were in a restaurant when I heard my young neighbor pronouncing violent words in a low angry voice. Surprised, I turned to better understand the situation and I saw that he was holding a fake military device and was acting as if he were filming a war movie. I am sure that if I had been a little more updated about this type of movie, I would have recognized what he was saying as a quotation. Now, I wonder if he uses such a language also with his friends and with his parents, if he is aggressive, and if so, whether his attitude has really nothing to do with what he watches on TV.

That same evening on the way home I saw two cars stopped one next to the other at a traffic light and as soon as the light turned green they started racing, in the middle of town. In this case not even a major knowledge of movies and TV programs would have helped me: there are just too many of them on the market showing the exact same thing: people racing with cars.

I am sure that everybody, if asked, could easily list many other examples of how TV and movies can modify our behavior and therefore our life but, I wonder, if we will always be able to draw the line between a TV show and real life, between what they make us think we want and what instead we really need and are and believe.

NUMBER 8

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Television has destroyed communication among friends and family. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Television is undoubtedly one of the most powerful means of communication in the history of humankind, rivaled only by such other forms of communication as the Internet, the telephone, movies, and, of course, simple, low-tech speech. Television, with its wide availability and rich media with image and sound, is difficult to ignore and even seductive in its appeal. Television is as much a part of our lives as are our meals, work, or school; studies consistently show that the average American child spends almost as much time watching television as she does in school. Furthermore, because television is so rich in its media, it often requires our full attention or is more attraction to us than are our daily lives. Naturally, the more time one spends watching television, the less time she has with her family and friends. Thus, we can clearly see why some have claimed that television has been harmful for communication among family and friends. However, I believe that, while television has been somewhat harmful in its effects, it has hardly "destroyed" communication among family and friends for most people, although for some, this may be true.

Most people much prefer spending time with their families and friends to spending time watching television. Television is of course an important part of many people's lives, but most people would gladly choose family and friends over television were they given the choice. Furthermore, most educated people are aware of the deleterious effects of too much television and either avoid excessive time watching television, or actually do not enjoy it. I, for example, after a long day at work, would much rather spend time talking with my wife and playing with my children than I would watching some unrealistic portrayal of life on television. For me and my family, our time together is precious and beautiful, and could never be replaced or hurt by television.

Furthermore, the effect of television is simply not so great that it could be said to have "destroyed" communication among family and friends. Granting that communication among family and friends in industrialized countries has decreased in recent years, it might be tempting to blame this problem on television since its rise roughly coincided with the decrease in time we spend with our families. However, I believe this situation is more likely due to increased pressures relating from work, school, and the economy. In my case, for example, I find that my pressures from work are so great that I must often sacrifice time at home so that I can meet the challenges of running my own business. Many of my friends are in similar situations--my best friend, for example, has just finished law school, which took about sixty hours a week of his time. In a word, people nowadays have very little time for anything, but television is not the cause--it is increased desire to succeed.

In some situations, however, television has surely contributed to a decrease in communication among family members. In my childhood in the countryside, I often saw parents and children watching television for hours on end, rarely speaking with one another. It seemed for them that television was a way to

escape from their sad, miserable existence. However, even in this case, I would say that television merely contributed to the bad situation, but did not cause it; were television not existent, surely these people would have found other escapes, alcohol or gambling, for example. In other words, people always find a way to do what they want to do.

In short, I do not believe that television has destroyed or even harmed interpersonal communication among most people. Most people realize that television is merely a temporary diversion and do not use it to replace interpersonal communication. I believe that the damage attributed to television is greatly exaggerated and that such damage is most likely attributable to other more powerful social factors.

NUMBER 9

Some people prefer to live in a small town. Others prefer to live in a big city. Which place would you prefer to live in? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

Where people live is an extremely important aspect of their lives. Some prefer the hustle and bustle of the city whereas many prefer the quiet life of a small town. I, for one, would much prefer to live in the city rather than the small town due to many essential features that cities have and towns do not.

Firstly, cities in my country have all the modern facilities that are needed to get along in this world. The health care systems in cities in my country are excellent but are absent in small towns. The city is the center for trade and thus, excellent shopping options are available in the city but are absent in towns where one has extremely limited options. Lastly, communications in the city are excellent. Internet, e-mail, international phone calls are available everywhere but in towns in my country, people have yet to hear of Internet and e-mail.

Secondly, the city has more energy than the town. I get galvanized into action by the bustle I see everywhere. Everyone seems to be busy and this inspires me to work even harder to achieve my goals. The immense industry that cities spawn are testament to the fact that they are economic hubs of the country.

Lastly, job and study opportunities are available in cities to a much larger extent than in towns. All the 'wanted' ads in national newspapers in my country seem to originate in the city. All the best colleges and universities in the country are in the cities. If one, like me, really wants to make his future bright, then there is no alternative to studying or working in the city.

Many people support living in towns due to the clean environment and the idyllic life. However, I feel that the idyllic life is not for me. I need to get out, to experience and to compete in order to realize my dreams. People also feel that cities are too polluted but in recent times we have seen that tough regulations have made the city much cleaner and so, this argument too can be thrown out of the window.

Thus, I hope that I have been able to convince you that the city is a better place to live in from my point of view. Due to all the above reasons, I would like to recommend to all progressive individuals like me that they live in the city and take advantage of all that the city has to offer.

NUMBER 10

“When people succeed, it is because of hard work. Luck has nothing to do with success.” Do you agree or disagree with the quotation above? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.

I fully agree with the claim that there is no correlation between success and luck. Moreover, I understand success to refer to one's ability to achieve the predominant part of his goals in his lifetime, which in turn leads to a correlation between success and income since the accomplishment of such a natural goal as to provide a good future for your loved ones demands the means. What is the simplest and most lawful way to earn enough to consider yourself a successful person? To receive a good education and to find a good job. Both receiving an education and making a career presuppose one's readiness to work hard, and success without hard work is simply not possible for the vast majority of the world's population. The reasons and examples listed below will strengthen my point of view.

First of all, considering an education and a career as key factors of success, one will choose to pursue a degree from a college or a university. One wishing to be admitted to the university will have to take several tests. It is doubtful that someone will be so lucky that knowing nothing, he could pass the test with a high score. A low score means failure, and that test taker will not likely be admitted. Therefore, in order to be successful, one should prepare for the tests and work hard, because a good education will provide him with a good job and an opportunity to accomplish some of his goals and dreams. In my lifetime, I have never met a person who could graduate from a college without working hard.

Secondly, it is impossible to make a career if one is indolent and lacking knowledge, at least in developed countries. Luck plays no role in achieving this success. Even if someone was unbelievably lucky enough to become a manager not being qualified enough, he will be asked to resign in the near future because of his inability due to lack of knowledge and experience to make right decisions. For instance, I used to work for a very small company owned by a friend. This company was later closed because of bankruptcy. The cause of bankruptcy was wrong strategies and decisions made by the owner. After the failure, he went to a university and worked for another company so that he could obtain experience and become a successful businessman. Nowadays, he considers himself a successful person because he had turned into reality his two biggest dreams of producing consumer goods of high quality and making charitable donations to needy people.

In sum, as long as someone understands success as an ability to turn into reality some of his dreams and goals, he will have to work hard because he will need money. And his chances to earn that money will remarkably increase if he could graduate from a college and make a career. All of these things are simply not possible without hard work. Luck has no place in such a scheme of events.

NUMBER 11

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Universities should give the same amount of money to their students' sports activities as they give to their university libraries. Use specific reasons and

examples to support your opinion.

Some people claim that universities should give the same sum of money to their students' sports activities as to their university libraries. They point out that universities should attract more students to exercise, because a healthy body can make a student bear the heavy studies. On the other hand, most people, like me, strongly disagree with it. In the following paragraphs, I will explain some main reasons.

In the first place, an obvious advantage to spend more money on libraries is that enormous libraries can help us save a huge amount of money, paper resource and the time to seek study materials from a far bookstore. As we all known, the prices of books are more expensive than before, while we have to read more books to catch up with the high-tech era. Moreover, now many students are still too poor to go to school, therefore libraries become the cheapest places to provide useful knowledge for them. Just imagine these poor persons can enjoy a varieties of books in a comfortable environment with enough light and a quiet study atmosphere. How happy they are!

Secondly, another reason why I disagree is that the chief goal of university education is to teach students working skills. Obviously, libraries provide more useful information to students than sports activities do. For example, more and more libraries are also equipped with computers which can encourage students to surf the Net to widen their horizons. Without the Internet, there will be less chances to make friend with the foreigners and catch the latest worldwide information. On the contrary, sports activities are just limited in a small area and a few of friends in some degree.

However, I don not deny that sports activities can provide chances to develop some good characteristics, such as cooperation. But frankly speaking, it is a bit wasteful to spend too much money on sports activities, when we can attain enough free exercises, such as running, which gain the same advantages as well. Furthermore, students are easily obsessed by the activities and overlook their studies. For instant, I once used so much study time to play basketball that I failed to go up to the next grade. Although I earned some awards of basketball matches at that time, I feel very regret. In fact, numerous students have the similar stories because of the attraction of the sports activities.

In conclusion, I firmly disagree with the idea that universities should give the same sum of money to their students' sports activities as they give to their university libraries. Nevertheless we are sure that both universities libraries and proper sports activities are valuable. Anyway, to avoid students playing overtime and ignoring their homework should be concerned. Is it wise to spend more money on universities libraries?

NUMBER 12

Many people visit museums when they travel to new places. Why do you think people visit museums? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Traveling to new places is a universal phenomenon. Museums are a most important part of the itinerary for the traveler who seeks valuable insights into the culture, heritage and history of the place that he has traveled to.

Museums are a convenient option for all tourists. Even tourists, who have come primarily for adventure sports, natural phenomenon and shopping, can make time to see museums rather than poring through books on the history, demographics, art and tradition of the place. A museum visit may be over in the matter of a couple of hours, but gaining information from other sources could involve a much longer time. So people go to museums because they want to take in some important facts as quickly as possible and then, maybe, reserve the rest of the time for leisure pursuits.

Museums contain many artifacts that have stood the test of time for centuries and millennia on end and thus, museums are the only place one can go to see such artifacts. One example I would like to present in this regard is that of the 'Victoria Memorial in my city- Calcutta (now *Kolkata*). This museum contains the very dress that Queen Victoria wore to her coronation. If one were genuinely interested in viewing rare and old artifacts like this, the option one has is to go to museums. So people also go to museums because they can see several old and valuable things.

Lastly, I believe that museums are the reflection of the culture, art, religion, tradition and heritage of an area. Thus, they provide a clear, unbiased and real picture of the culture of an area. This is probably the most common reason for people visiting museums while traveling. One example I would like to offer in this regard is that of the Nehru Museum in my city. It has several floors that are dedicated solely to Hindu Mythology and the great epic *Ramayan* is also enacted in a series of miniature exhibits. This is the best place for travelers to go if they would like to learn a little about our culture. So, the strongest reason for my belief is that museums are the true reflection of a place and this is the major reason that travelers flock to museums of areas that they visit.

Thus, for all the above reasons, I would like to reiterate my belief that museums enjoy patronage from travelers due to the fact that they have much to offer for the traveler.

NUMBER 13

Some people prefer to eat at food stands or restaurants. Other people prefer to prepare and eat food at home. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

People may have two choices to eat, either they go out to fast food stands or restaurants, or they prepare food at home, whatever is suitable to them. In my case I prefer to go out to eat, as it is easy to do, it saves my time, and I can try a variety of interesting foods from different countries.

Being a working person, with all day long office work and a long commute, it becomes difficult to do all preparation for making food. For me easy way to get

food is restaurant, where I can get prepared food at home or office by just ordering on phone, Along with that another comfort is, that when ever I have to eat together with my so many friends, I can always go to a restaurant, otherwise it's difficult to prepare food at home for so many people and don't get time to talk and having fun. So I always find it a easier way to eat out, apart from that It make my other outdoor activities possible because I don't have to bother about food wherever I go, to any fun place or theater or traveling, restaurants are always there throughout city and it becomes easy every time to get food whenever and whenever I need according to other activities.

Besides that, I can save a lot of time by getting food from restaurant. For example, I don't have to go out for vegetables and grocery shopping, I don't need to clean, cut and fry food and do a lot kitchen work, doing dishes etc., instead I can get fresh food delivered in minutes. Along with that when I eat at restaurant I have more time to do other things like reading, watching TV, and listening music, going out theatre, or having fun with friends, that don't make me tired or or feel bored and I feel refreshed for next day work, so by going to restaurant, I can manage a lot more activities instead preparing food.

In addition, in restaurant I get a variety of food choice, I can have taste of different regions, for example Indian restaurant I can get varied food from North Indian to South Indian Punjabi, Bengali, Madrasi, Maharashtrian, etc. at one place. Likewise, I can taste world wide food variety like pasta dishes in Italian restaurant , tortilla and barito dishes in Mexican, pizza, and burger items in American, noodles in Chinese, etc. and can enjoy various vegetarian, non vegetarian dishes which are specialty of different countries. Not only that, in restaurant the food is served with beautiful garnishing, that tempt for eating and is worth of paying. I find it very interesting to experience varied food in different restaurants. To conclude I am fond of going stands and restaurants for eating that is suitable for me because of convenient, quick and variety of tasty food, which I enjoy very much and make my routine easier and interesting.

NUMBER 14

Some people believe that university students should be required to attend classes. Others believe that going to classes should be optional for students. Which point of view do you agree with? Use specific reasons and details to explain your answer.

Optional attendance to classes at universities has been an increasingly popular way for students to study for several years in quite a few countries. However, it has not yet had its intended results as it had been hoped. In fact, today, this system seems to be one of the reasons for the corruption of

university education. In my opinion, compulsory attendance is better than having no requirement to attend all the lessons on-campus.

There are two points of view to this question. First, one side will say that university students are adults and should be able to manage their time as they see fit. This point of view says that sometimes, in today's busy world, people need flexibility to manage their lives. For example, many single parents who are trying to earn their college degrees will sometimes need to skip a class because of the demands of their other responsibilities. However, I believe that the great majority of college students are young and single, and have few responsibilities, and that they need the discipline and structure of a system that requires attendance. Young people who have just gone off to college are notorious for the excesses to which they enjoy their freedom.

There are many negative situations caused by the free-attendance system. The most harmful one is the economic waste for both universities and students. Many students who do not attend classes regularly are likely to suffer decreased performance on their exams and therefore waste their time in college. They, generally, do not feel panic because of the failures or restudying the same subjects for the second time. However, this sometimes costs a fortune to both parents and the government that have created tax-funded subsidies for education for each student every year. Not only are the university fees wasted, but also the money for accommodations and other spending are also wasted.

On the other hand, students who are required to attend classes regularly have no time to waste in pubs or clubs. Nor can they spend these young years, which are more valuable to them to learn and think than any other period in their lives, on gambling or drinking. I do not mean they are only to study without any break or entertainment. Their social life is as necessary as studying during the hard academic years, yet, the amount of each should be balanced well. More spare time than necessary encourages the young to ignore studying and classes. Thus, neither the universities nor the students do their best if the students have too much freedom not to study.

To sum up, many teenagers are not able to think sensibly to decide when to study and when to enjoy with friends. A scheduled chart of classes which have a huge number of options that are necessary to identify the best fitting one for each student, will help them to construct an ideal campus life including leisure activities. In addition, this will stop the waste of time and money and is likely to reevaluate the higher education system in several years. In short, I believe that the majority of college students are too young to manage their time responsibly and that universities should therefore impose strict rules on attendance.

NUMBER 15

Neighbors are the people who live near us. In your opinion, what are the qualities of a good neighbor? Use specific details and examples in your answer.

From the very beginning of the development of the society people live in small groups. This helps them to face any problem easier.

In my opinion a neighbor must be first and foremost a good friend, secondly a person with good manners and finally a sober-minded one. I will prove the importance of these qualities one by one so you could understand my position. The importance of a neighbor to be also a good friend can be proved by the following example. This week, one of my neighbors was hit by a car. When this happened I was staying at the balcony with my father, so we rushed out of the house and took our neighbor to the hospital. If we came ten minutes later she would have died. That's why I think a neighbor must be a good friend that would always help you.

If you have a neighbor with good manners, being neighbors becomes a pleasure for both of you. A day begins better if you get a "Good morning" from a smiling and nice person.

And finally, if your neighbor is a wise person you can always get a good advice from him; he can always help you with to solve some difficult problem.

In conclusion, a neighbor must be an example of a man from a developed society, because only then he can represent all the qualities mentioned above.

NUMBER 16

It has recently been announced that a new restaurant may be built in your neighborhood. Do you support or oppose this plan? Why? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

When thinking about a place where people can gather and talk, I feel it a great thing for the community. A restaurant, to me, is a great idea for my neighborhood. Not only it is a place that everyone can go to on special occasions, but also it is good that people around my neighborhood have new kind of food; since there is only one restaurant around my neighborhood. I really like this plan because it really gives people a different restaurant to go to and another place where new food can be found.

Around my neighborhood, there are only one Chinese restaurant for many years. I, myself, were tired of Chinese food and really wanted another menu. One of my friends said no to me immediately when I asked him to go to the Chinese restaurant. People around my neighborhood like changes. Last week, a new shopping mall was opened and on the newspaper survey of how people think about the new shopping place, everyone agreed that they liked it. A new restaurant, to me, will be welcomed by my community.

A place where people around neighborhood can go to socialize with good food is very important. The new ideas of the restaurant will give my neighbors another place to come for business, special occasion, and much more. As I mentioned earlier, the Chinese foods are very bland and almost everyone

hates it; the new restaurant may have a different menu that can give everyone a fresh taste.

The new restaurant is perfect for my neighborhood, which likes changes and loves to go to place to talk and to eat tasty food. This restaurant will take part to bring people together as a family and as a community. The more people go to the restaurant, the more exciting and fun the place will become. The restaurant may has many success and can leads to more commercial building to be built.

NUMBER 17

Some people think that they can learn better by themselves than with a teacher. Others think that it is always better to have a teacher. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons to develop your essay.

I support the view that teachers should be a part of the learning process. Below are several beneficial reasons for which I feel that teachers are needed in while learning. Below are also some of the the problems that come up without their presence.

Primarily teachers are there for guidance in a particular field or subject. They give you a systematic and better way to approach a subject. A teacher normally teaches a subject in which he or she has expertise in. Hence that person has made a study of the subject and can guide you in order to help you approach the subject in a better way. This guidance may be in the form of giving you names of reference books or giving you notes. Without a teacher it would be extremely cumbersome to go through large libraries for a certain topic. Besides this the teacher could provide you help with any sort of problem that you come across while studying. The teacher could provide you strategies that help you solve a problem. Without a teacher, this problem would take up a lot of your valuable time or remain unsolved. Teachers can also point out when you are going wrong. They point out our mistakes and suggest ways for us to correct them.

In the end it does depend on the individual person to finally getting down to learn a subject. The actual studying has to be done by the individual. But the learning process can be made much simpler with the proper and continuous guidance of teachers. Hence it better to learn with the help of a teacher rather than learning by yourself.

NUMBER 18

What are some important qualities of a good supervisor (boss)? Use specific details and examples to explain why these qualities are important.

It's surely not so easy to be a good supervisor because you have to manage so many things and to deal with a lot of people, including your employees. In my opinion, the most important qualities a good supervisor should have are discretion, finesse and impartiality.

Since a supervisor is usually responsible for a company, project, or business, etc., he will certainly meet many difficulties and problems and require him to make correct decisions. If a supervisor has not discretion and hesitate to solve the problems, he, of course, can't deal with them well, and he maybe lose some chances of business or cause greater damage because of his hesitation.

Besides discretion, I think a good supervisor should have finesse and impartiality. Usually a supervisor will supervise several employees. It is common there is some conflict of interest among the employees. How to make the employees get along with one another well is a task for a good supervisor. Generally speaking, if a supervisor treats his employees impartially, he can reduce or avoid the conflict of interest among the employees and make them work hard. Jinny was a supervisor in my company, when there was a chance of promotion in her department, she gave the chance to a employee who worked very hard, not to her relative who also worked in her department. All employees said nothing bad about the promotion but respected her.

As a supervisor, a person has to not only do his work well, but also manage his company or team well. In order to be a good supervisor, the most important qualities he should have are discretion, finesse and impartiality.

NUMBER 19

Should governments spend more money on improving roads and highways, or should governments spend more money on improving public transportation (buses, trains, subways)? Why? Use specific reasons and details to develop your essay.

All means of transportation should be kept in good conditions. However, I believe it would be most beneficial for a country or city, if its government spent more money on improving public transportation. This would result in substantial standard of living improvements.

The volume of cars and trucks hitting the highways is dramatically rising every year. As a result, the number of traffic jams, accidents and carbon monoxide emissions are doing too. All these factors have a detrimental effect on our quality of life. Expanding subway lines and railroads and developing an effective plan to combine buses and subways routes, would eventually lead to a reduction in pollution levels, less traffic jams and less stress for the people.

If subway lines reached every corner of a city, people would not need to use their cars to commute. Less cars on the road, means less carbon monoxide emissions into the atmosphere; therefore, the air we breathe would be more pure. Less cars also means less traffic jams, which translates into less stress for drivers and better living conditions.

Not every country has a well developed railroad system. Consequently, they have to rely on trucks and buses for ground transportation of passengers and freight. Expanding and upgrading railroad systems will result in fewer trucks and buses on the highways. Removing this kind of traffic from the highways and encouraging the use of trains, would be another way to reduce congestion on the freeways. The reduction of traffic, represents less maintenance costs for the government. This surplus of money could be used for other purposes. For example, a forest recovery program or a national campaign against pollution.

Highways, roads and public transportation all require maintenance funds, but I think it is more important to think about the future and how to make our countries or cities better places to live in. Improving public transportation, will help reduce traffic jams, accidents and air pollution. A safer, healthier and more enjoyable place to live awaits for us in the future.

NUMBER 20

It is better for children to grow up in the countryside than in a big city. Do you agree or disagree? Use specific reasons and examples to develop your essay.

Some people prefer living in a big city; others enjoy residing in a small town or in the countryside. Children usually do not have a choice and live where their parents choose to live. Both living in a big city and living in the countryside have some advantages and disadvantages for children's development. In my opinion, living in a big city is more beneficial for children because it offers more choices in education, services and fun activities.

Most of us agree that education is crucial for our children. Often, when a family reside in the countryside, there is only one neighbourhood school in the area. On the contrary, there are plenty of educational choices in a big city: French schools, private schools, Montessori centres, and, of course public school.

Another reason for me to believe that living in a big city is better for children is a higher level of availability of different services. From my personal experience of living in a small town in northern Ontario I can say that it was a problem to find a dentist or family physician in the area, so we had to travel up to fifty kilometres in order to get help.

Last, but not least is that living in a big city offers a variety of extracurricular activities: sports, arts, hobby clubs, dance schools, gyms, and many more. I strongly believe that those activities are very important for children's development.

In conclusion, no doubts that living in the countryside have some advantages; however, in my opinion, growing children are much more

benefited living in a big city. They have more opportunities to get good education, to receive services they need, and to have quality fun time.

NUMBER 21

In general, people are living longer now. Discuss the causes of this phenomenon. Use specific reasons and details to develop your essay.

A greater number of people are now hitting the eighty-year mark than ten years ago. In fact, the life expectancy of the average human has gone up considerably, and is rising still. This phenomenon is the result of several reasons. For one, continuing scientific and medical innovation ensure that more people receive the treatment they require. As our knowledge grows regarding various diseases, we become better equipped to tackle them. Consequently, we have managed to eradicate some diseases on a global scale, while controlling the other diseases, so that the rate of mortality does not reach an alarming height during the outbreak of a disease. The plagues of yore, as well as the more recent plague outbreaks are becoming few and far in between. Such control of diseases means that the general life expectancy has gone up.

Diseases such as cancer, which used to result almost inevitably in death, are now curable, provided they are diagnosed at a certain stage. Diseases such as tuberculosis and cholera now cause fewer deaths than they used to only a few decades ago.

Another reason for the greater life expectancy is the general betterment of the quality of life. What we call the 'global village' is fast becoming a city. And in this city, more and more people are being provided a better level of hygiene than ever before. A better and improving system of communication ensures that the latest medical discoveries in the United States and Europe are known all over the world in a space of a few days. Therefore, more and more people have access to better health care. Even people living in relatively remote areas have access to some kind of medical facilities. Though these facilities may be incapable of handling a crisis, they may help prevent death in cases that require antibiotics and antivenin, thereby preventing death by infection or poison.

The increase in awareness also means that people in general are becoming more aware of the risks of various diseases. For instance, more people now, than two decades ago, are aware of the scourge of cholesterol and the havoc it wreaks on an individual's circulatory system. Similarly people are becoming aware that prevention is, after all, better than cure and are taking the appropriate steps to prevent infection from diseases.

In general, though, the increased life expectancy owes much to the revolution in communication. It may be mentioned that even two hundred years ago, inventions and discoveries were being made. However, they did few people any good. It simply took too long to disseminate the information. The general

level of awareness regarding health was also low. However, it has been noticed that since the inception of communication through first print, and then radio and television, the level of awareness regarding health has generally risen. To illustrate, print facilitated the spread of knowledge through books. Radio helped bring that knowledge to many people. Television helped to further this knowledge and disseminate it amongst an even greater number of people. And finally, the Internet has removed the final barriers between intercultural and interracial communication. In the coming years, we may hope to see an even greater increase in life expectancy, even as communication techniques continue to improve.

NUMBER 22

We all work or will work in our jobs with many different kinds of people. In your opinion, what are some important characteristics of a co-worker (someone you work closely with)? Use reasons and specific examples to explain why these characteristics are important.

After finishing my studies, I will soon be entering a practical life I would have to work in an office with people of different nature. An ideal worker is defined as an intelligent individual who knows the work given to him, willing to learn more, doesn't mind extra work etc.

But, in real life such an exceptional individual is quite difficult to find. Therefore, in my mind, the image of a co-worker, I would like to work with, should have the following qualities.

The first and foremost characteristic I would expect in her is that she should be a hard worker. I have always worked hard myself and that's why I would prefer someone who loves to work hard too, in order to get the work done by mutual contribution.

Secondly, she should be fun loving. Dull and boring people are rarely competitive in my opinion. Jolly and friendly people are mostly liked by everyone.

Third characteristic I would love to see in my co-worker would be, she must respect others. When you respect others' ideas, people tend to respect your ideas too.

My co-worker should not be racist. In today's world, people have realized that skin and features have nothing to do with one's capabilities. So she should be kindhearted and positive minded, since the environment in most big companies is multi cultural.

She should also have the quality of taking the ownership of the relevant issues. She must know what she is doing and what can be the possible consequences. She should also know the solutions of the small problems appearing in the work.

Most of these qualities, I understand, can not be found in most people. As a matter of fact, I would probably have two or three of the listed

above. However, if you have the choice of co-workers that will work with you, it would be great for them to have the above qualities.

NUMBER 23

In some countries, teenagers have jobs while they are still students. Do you think this is a good idea? Support your opinion by using specific reasons and details.

Nowadays, a lot of teens work in jobs while they are studying. Some of them really need the money they earn to compensate for their school expenses whereas others use the money they earn as pocket money. Whatever the reason for the students to work in jobs is, in my opinion, working is a great experience to all. Having a job is an important opportunity to learn about responsibilities and also teaches the teenagers to cooperate with their co-workers and enable them to understand the value of money.

To start with, working in a job gives teenagers lots of situations in which they should act responsibly, otherwise they will lose their jobs. For example, one has to wake up early if his/her working hours start at 8:00 AM in the morning, no matter how late he/she stayed up last night. Otherwise, his/her supervisor will warn him/her or may eventually fire the individual.

A second reason why having jobs as students has positive effects on teenagers is that it teaches them how to cooperate and the importance of cooperation. In a work setting usually the employees have to depend on each other on numerous occasions. When a single employee loafs, others will have to compensate for his/her workload in addition to their own tasks. Students will learn from their working experience the importance of cooperation and why every individual should effectively carry out his/her own work.

Another point is, these working possibilities enable the students to understand the value of money and that "Money does not grow on trees". After the student sees how hard he/she has to work to earn money, he/she will also be more reasonable while spending it, thus, his/her purchasing behavior will be enhanced.

In conclusion, when one has a job as a student, he/she will benefit significantly from the experience. This way, students will be more responsible when they graduate. Furthermore, they will be more cooperative, thus will be more beneficial for the companies they will be working in once they will be graduated. Finally, since they'll know better how to spend their money, they won't get into trouble due to excessive spending. All in all, having jobs as students is a terrific idea and I think every student should have a working experience before graduating and starting their professional careers.

NUMBER 24

A person you know is planning to move to your town or city. What do you think this person would like and dislike about living in your

town or city? Why? Use specific reasons and details to develop your essay.

I live in the city of Kolkata- the city of joy. My city is one of the four metropolitan cities of my country-India. It is a big city with a huge population. Kolkata is the city of my birth and no doubt it is my favourite city. Kolkata, like many other metropolitan cities, have a number of features, some of which will really attract newcomers while others will keep them away.

Kolkata is a city- full of life. Here, unlike any other city, people are cooperative and one can enjoy one's joy and happiness in company of others. In Kolkata, help is always available, even if one does not ask for it. This is really a unique feature of Kolkata, which makes it a different city. One can enjoy the festivals to the full extent of one's desire. During the festivals people come closer even if they are not known to each other. It is the mood during the festivals, which brings all the Kolkatans together. Similarly, people are also available to share each other's sorrow and grief. Here, one will always find a company if he/she searches for solace and comfort. If someone is in distress people are always available to help him/her whatever may be the time of the day. Kolkata is a lively city. One will not feel the liveness of Kolkata unless he or she resides here.

However, inspite of the liveness of Kolkata, it has some features that may upset a newcomer. One of these is the crowd. The roads here are crowded enough and also the buses on the roads. Its really difficult for a newcomer to get adjusted to these crowded roads. To walk on these roads people have to jostle one another's arms and tramp each others feet. There is a great rush on the roads during the peak hours and a lot of traffic congestion. As a result people are always late in reaching their destinations. Here, the number of vehicles passing through the roads is greater in comparison to the number of roads available, which results in traffic congestion.

So, a person who is planning to move to my city will like all its advantages but dislike all its disadvantages. Though, Kolkata has a number of drawbacks and suffers from a lot of disadvantages, still it is my favourite city and will always be.

NUMBER 25

It has recently been announced that a large shopping center may be built in your neighborhood. Do you support or oppose this plan? Why? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

My hometown, Pantai Remis, is a small fishing village located in west Malaysia. You can hardly find a shopping center there in the neighborhood. I, together

with most of the residents in this town, would definitely most welcome the proposal of building a large shopping center in our neighborhood.

Nearly one half of the residents in my neighborhood have to seek for a job in big city like Kuala Lumpur or Singapore. This is because most of the youngsters in my village are reluctant to follow their ancestors' step to become a fisherman. They wish to pursue a better job in the city. By building a big shopping center, it will surely bring up a lot of working opportunities for the community. Some can work as executives while others can work as salesperson in the shopping center.

Other than that, the establishment of a large shopping center will provide the community a more comfortable and more convenient place to shop. As the weather in Malaysia is so hot, it will be an ideal spot to go shopping for its air-conditioning environment compared to the small stuffy grocery store down the town. On the other hand, it is much more convenient to shop in large shopping center where you can get nearly most of the goods here, from veggies to undergarments, just name it.

Furthermore, the shopping center will most probably benefit the community by offering goods in better price. The shopping center will eventually exist as a main competitor to the other grocery stores and sundry shops in town. Therefore, every store will try to win their customers by lowering the price and at the same time offering better services. And the customer will certainly be the winner in this 'pricing war'.

In a conclusion, I fully advocate the idea of building a big shopping center in my neighborhood, which will be beneficial to this small town.

NUMBER 26

It has recently been announced that a new movie theater may be built in your neighborhood. Do you support or oppose this plan? Why? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

Going to the movies is a pleasure for a lot of people and I'm one of those who are really fond of movies. When I heard that a new theater may be built in my neighborhood, I was first very excited about this idea. But after having had a good think about it, I wondered if it was really a good thing. First of all, I will focus on the reasons why I support this idea and secondly, I will move on to analyzing why I oppose this idea.

Over the past 10 years, it's abundantly clear that the seventh art has much changed. Indeed, from special effects to THX sound, we all could have seen the very progresses of the cinema. In spite of that, theaters remain the same and are getting older. As a matter of fact, it begins sometimes difficult for the

audience to appreciate a movie at its real value. I mean, not only does the screen is most of the time too small, but the sound is also bad in a lot of theaters. In the case in point, it is bad in the old theater in my neighborhood. Therefore, I would say that it is a pity to see a "modern" movie in such conditions.

However, we should not forget that a theater is a place full of remembrances. For instance, a place where year after year, a lot of people have laughed, or shrilled, or cried in front of hundreds of movies, all different. Sometimes, you can see fathers who take their children in the same theater where they used to go twenty years earlier! We should bear all this in mind. So, I am in disagreement with those who think that a theater is just a place made of a screen, walls, and chairs, because it is much more than that. I strongly believe that it is made of remembrances and magic moments too.

All in all, as far as I am concerned, I agree to say that it would be a good idea to build a new theater in order to benefit from more comfort and better conditions. In the meantime, I can't help thinking that what matters most is, above all, all the remembrances kept in old theaters. To put it in a nutshell, I would say that I favor building a new theater, but I will keep on going to the older one.

NUMBER 27

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? People should sometimes do things that they do **not** enjoy doing. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

I do agree with the statement that people should sometimes do things that they don't enjoy doing. And I would rather go as far as saying that they should try to enjoy things they are forced to do.

To exemplify, consider the following situations. Not all children love to study. Instead, being curious and enthusiastic, they love to explore the world around them, paying less attention to studies and more to other things. Should they be allowed to give up their studies? Certainly not. Or consider a very talented person, say a person with great academic record and excellent analytical skills trying for a job. Suppose the person is introvert but the company's recruitment process demands that he should go in through a group discussion. Should he give up because of this? I would strongly oppose his decision, if he does. Or consider a sportsperson being forced to go in for a drug test, because rules demand him to do so. The person being from a conservative background, feels uncomfortable with this. Should he give up the sport just because he is being forced to do something he doesn't like? Well, I would say no.

So, the point is that there are situations in life, when one has to do something he/she doesn't like. And not doing the thing may have a large impact on his

life. So, its sometimes wise to go against one's wishes. I don't advocate that one should always go against one's wishes when he/she is forced to take such decisions. It depends upon the importance and the urgency of a situation. For instance, one might want to quit up a job that one doesn't like. He may, infact he should do so, for perpetually doing something one doesn't like makes one's life miserable. But what if there's a recession in the economy and its hard to find jobs? He, ofcourse should be careful in his decision, and it won't be unwise if he continues with his same, probably boring job.

To conclude, I would say that one should judge a situation according to its merits and make a wise decision whether or not he/she wants to do something which he/she doesn't like. Compromising once in a while is sometimes a better choice.

NUMBER 28

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Television, newspapers, magazines, and other media pay too much attention to the personal lives of famous people such as public figures and celebrities. Use specific reasons and details to explain your opinion.

I am in absolute agreement with the statement that the media pay too much attention to the personal lives of the rich and famous. In an age of consumerism where the most putrid gossip can cause newspapers to sell like hot cakes, and also in an age where every member of the media is embroiled in a relentless rat race with competitors or colleagues, 'easy pickings' like to indiscretions of an actor or the marital troubles of a soccer star are almost irresistible.

The first reason is that gossip sells. There seems to be a demand for the most mundane details, like which brand of underwear a millionaire wears, and these very details cause newspapers to sell. The lives and styles of the rich and famous are an illusion that most ordinary people chase due to the dissatisfaction with their own lives. Morbid curiosity does its bit. However, most people forget that they themselves have been responsible for several things that probably would have made the front page had they been celebrities. Thus, because gossip sells journalists and photographers pursue it relentlessly and thus pry too deep into the lives of celebrities.

The second reason for my belief is that in this ruthless world, the media seems to have lost whatever qualms it had regarding journalistic principles. Reporters chasing Princess Diana of England and causing, at least in part, her death is one example of this. In this almost all important hunt for the 'scoop' reporters have forgotten that the object of their hunt is a human too and is entitled to his/her foibles without having if splashed all over the front pages and in the TV news. Another example I would like to give in this regard is that of the BBC

(British Broadcasting Service) recently paying a burglar for his side of the story. News at any costs seems to be the dictum even in this venerable media corporation.

Thus, for both the above reasons I feel that the media does indeed pay too much attention to the private lives of the glitterati and it would be a better world if they realized that celebrities were human and had a right to privacy.

NUMBER 29

Some people believe that the Earth is being harmed (damaged) by human activity. Others feel that human activity makes the Earth a better place to live. What is your opinion? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

It is a long way from the days when the earth nurtured the human and the human attempted to give back to the earth what he had taken from it. Today, the human endeavors to extract whatever he can from the earth for his own gain with scant regard to anything else. It is, thus, my firm belief that human activities are indeed harming the earth rather than making it a better place to live in.

What is the use of the information highway and super conductors if one day we may have to live indoors for the fear of radiation? The alarming state of the ozone layer makes this almost a certainty. Is this the kind of world that our children will inherit from us? All the advancements that humans have made till this day have taken their toll on the earth. Today rainforests have been converted into rice fields, mountains have been degraded, carbon particles greet us as we leave home and our rivers have chemical effluents in them. All this is the result of human follies. We have degraded nature to such an extent that it is no longer able to nurture us. One example I would like to offer in this regard is that of the river *Bagmati* in my home town of Kathmandu. When I was a child we used to go swimming in this river. There was plenty of water then and the water was clean. Since then, however, hundreds of industries and factories have sprung up next to the river due to the easy access to water. These worthy pillars not only take water from the river but also discharge all their effluents into it. The results today is that no one dares to swim in this river, the waters are a sludgy black and the river itself stinks to the high heaven. If this is not human activity, what is it?

Wherever we look, human activity is making the earth a worse place. Besides the degradation of the environment activities like terrorism, narcotic smuggling, and crime are doing their bit to make the world worse. Even cultural hegemony, bigotry, religious fundamentalism contribute to making

this world worse. These are all common phenomenon. As an example, I just look at the great numbers of people who die in the terrorist insurgency of Nepal-my country. Another example is the race riots that erupt on a regular basis in *Gujrat* state in India. Scores are either killed, maimed or psychologically scarred.

Thus, I would like to reiterate that even though there may be a small number of human activities that make the world a better place, the vast majority of our activities contribute to making the world a worse place.

NUMBER 30

It has recently been announced that a new high school may be built in your community. Do you support or oppose this plan? Why? Use specific reasons and details in your answer.

Education is the pillar upon which a man builds his personality. Entire countries are dependent on education for producing the men who would lead the country in the future. They are also dependent of education to produce the workforce of the country and thus, I will never oppose the building of a school in my community.

The first reason for my support is that education builds the solid citizens that we need to have a peaceful and progressive country. Education imparts to a man what his responsibilities in society are. It gives him his first experience of teamwork and leadership. It teaches him skills and knowledge that will stand him in good stead all his life and it teaches him principles that will serve him all his life. Thus, schools contribute immensely to polishing the character of people and it is for this reason that I will support the building of a school in my community.

Schools are also a cultural community based center. Society is all about the relationships that we have within and without our families and communities. Our sense of belonging is also given, in some part, to us by schools. A school makes a community proud and gives it the opportunity to leave its mark. Thus, for this reason too, I would like to support a school being built in my community.

Lastly, I would support this move to make a school in my community because ours is a poor community and does not have the funds to make its own school. It would be a most welcome thing if our children did not have to disperse far and wide in order to get a good education. Also, because of the many positive impacts that a school has on a community, two of which I have mentioned above, I would most definitely welcome this move and do my best to help in any way.

NUMBER 31

Some people spend their entire lives in one place. Others move a number of times throughout their lives, looking for a better job, house, community,

or even climate. Which do you prefer: staying in one place or moving in search of another place? Use reasons and specific examples to support your opinion.

Some people spend their entire lives in one place. Others move a number of times throughout their lives, looking for a better job, house, community, or even climate. Which do you prefer: staying in one place or moving in search of another place? Use reasons and specific examples to support your opinion.

It seems like the world is becoming smaller and smaller, almost by the minute. When I was a child, I had never met anybody from outside my hometown, much less somebody from another country. However, nowadays I routinely interact with people from all over the world. I might discuss a topic with my classmates from Iran, Korea, Brazil, or Palestine; buy computer parts from the shop run by Chinese; have lunch at a Mexican restaurant; or buy Russian pastries at the café near my house. In these experiences I can see the product of a world in which borders are falling and people are free to move about as they wish. There is nothing more invigorating for me than being a part of this emerging “global village.”

I have now lived in three different countries, Argentina, France, and the United States and am convinced that I am a better person for it. In each country I found something different. I remember the warmth of the human interaction of my hometown in Argentina; I enjoyed the great sense of culture and wit in France; in the United States, I am impressed by the feeling of liberty and acceptance. In each country I have learned a different language, experienced a different climate, conversed with people in different ways. I have learned that each place has something special about it and that no place on Earth is a perfect place. We may lose one thing when we leave a country, but we always gain something else in its place.

So, the greatest benefit of having met so many people from all over the world has been learning that each person and each culture has a different yet valid way of seeing the world. I cannot say that Argentines have a monopoly on how to view the world; nor can I say that the American system of doing things is best. I can only say that from my experience each system works for each culture and that each one is a valid way of seeing the world.

Perhaps this point is the most important one for the coming age of information and technology and falling political and trade barriers. As people from all over the world migrate more freely in search of better lives, they will necessarily have to learn to be tolerant of different worldviews. People who do x will learn to accept people who do y and perhaps even experiment with the new way. By accepting cultures different from our own, we learn more of the broad range of

the human experience and we are richer people for seeing beauty and truth in its many forms.

NUMBER 32

Is it better to enjoy your money when you earn it or is it better to save your money for some time in the future? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Life's glorious uncertainties lurk around every corner. Often we are unaware that they are upon us till they strike. It is at these times that we must show preparedness to tackle anything that life throws at us and thus, I would advocate saving one's money rather than spending it all on frivolous pursuits. Sickness, accidents and setbacks can strike anyone anywhere. In contingencies like these there is a marked need for money in order to get the best medical attention or to bail us out of any difficult situation. We must have enough in the bank in order to deal with these and without any savings it is difficult to solve the problems that life could throw at us anytime. One cannot earn throughout one's life. There comes a stage where one must accept the fact that one can no longer work efficiently due to old age and fatigue. In this case many people are forced to retire to old age homes and wait for death to claim them. However, I know a couple who bought a house in the mountains with the money they had saved all their lives. With this money they were able to retire comfortably and not care about providing for themselves. On the contrary, I also know some old people who survive on the pittance that the government gives them by way of welfare and pensions. With one's savings one can easily make one's own future. One example I would like to offer in this regard is that of my friend Shehzad. He is a diligent young man who had worked hard for several years as a teacher. Now with his savings he has opened his own institute and is doing much better in life than his peers. All this was possible only due to his savings and thus, I would like to advocate to everyone that savings are indeed important if we wish to advance in life. For all the above reasons, I would like to reiterate that savings are really important and thus it is better for one to save rather than spend on momentary pleasures that will soon be forgotten.

NUMBER 33

You have received a gift of money. The money is enough to buy either a piece of jewelry you like or tickets to a concert you want to attend. Which would you buy? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

In the hypothetical situation where I receive a sum of money and the sum of money were enough only to buy either a piece of jewelry or tickets to a

concert and if my choices were restricted to the above two, I would definitely prefer to buy tickets to a concert.

A piece of jewelry serves no practical purpose. No bauble can be deemed practical because it is purely ornamental in nature. A piece of jewelry is positioned on a piece of our anatomy for several purposes that lack substance. People wear jewelry to look better but beauty does not depend on just how much jewelry you have on but on several intrinsic factors that have nothing to do with trinkets. An inner beauty does not come from ornaments but from the inherent attractiveness that one possesses. Another reason people wear jewelry is to show their place in society or just to plain and simple show off! The less said about these reasons for wearing jewelry the better. Some people buy jewelry to secure their futures so that they can sell the jewelry in times of need. All I have to say in this regard is that prevention is better than cure and that if one is careful with their finances, one will never fall foul. Thus, in my opinion buying jewelry is very ostentatious and not an endeavor worth of a thinking person.

Music, on the other hand, is the food of life. Music speaks to us in many tongues and molds us into many different shapes. Music relaxes, invigorates, energizes and heals. From the great masters like Strauss and Mozart to the more contemporary Ella Fitzgerald and Aretha Franklin, music has always been the soul of mankind and a measure of a society's development. Live music is especially attractive to any music lover because one gets to actually see their favorite musicians and hear them unplugged. A musical concert today is pure and undiluted energy. The musicians feed off the crowd's energy and vice versa. A concert is an experience of a lifetime and one that you will continue to savor for the rest of your life. It is a once in a lifetime experience that will never be repeated and it remains in the memory for a long time. A concert is an adrenaline rush that canned music cannot hope to replicate and a bauble cannot replace.

Thus, if I were indeed to make the choice, I would definitely choose to go to a concert due to the numerous reasons above.

NUMBER 34

Businesses should hire employees for their entire lives. Do you agree or disagree? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

There are many advantages and disadvantages to offering employees job security for life. In Japan, for example, prospective employees know that their employers will provide them with job security for their entire working days and they are better able to plan for their future and family. However, many

businesses are now realizing that their employees have less motivation to work and this leads to less profits for the company. I will describe the advantages and disadvantages of this system in this essay and I will show that ultimately “jobs for life” is not good for a society.

Job security is very important for both the employee and the employer. For the employee, job security is important because she can depend on her source of income and better plan her future accordingly. For the employer, the employee represents an investment because of the number of hours of training required and the company will continue to have a return on this investment. As we all know, feeling secure about where our future income will come from is very important for our well-being—anybody who has lost a job and has had trouble finding a new one knows that this transition period can cause a lot of anxiety.

However, job security tends to lead to decreased productivity. In general, employees who are certain that they can never lose their jobs tend to work less efficiently, thereby contributing to an overall reduction of productivity in the company. A common example all over the world is that of civil servants. In Thailand, for example, many government workers are so indolent that it can take days or months for something to be finished that should only take a few days. It is not uncommon to walk into a government office and see employees filing their nails, making personal calls on the telephone, taking three-hour lunches, or surfing the Internet for fun.

Finally, the model of capitalism is proving to be the most efficient model that we have right now. This model of job security completely contradicts the foundations of capitalism. We can see in the United States now that people are starting to change jobs, even careers more and more often. Some career consultants even recommend that employees find new jobs every three to five years. Even in countries that still offer job security for life, this model is showing signs of dying out. For example, in Japan, once famous for its lifelong jobs, both employees and employers are starting to expect that these jobs will not last a lifetime. Many of my Japanese friends travel back and forth between the United States and Japan and have been able to find temporary professional jobs while they are in Japan.

In short, I disagree that companies should offer their employees jobs for life. We can see this example in some parts of the world and in other areas in the United States, but these examples are generally regarded as outmoded ways of conducting business. Finally, the models of capitalism, even though it may seem cruel, the so-called “law of the jungle,” are proving to be the most effective way to raise the standard of living of a country.

NUMBER 35

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Attending a live

performance (for example, a play, concert, or sporting event) is more enjoyable than watching the same event on television. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Attending a live performance is really more enjoyable than watching the same event on television. As I am very interested in football matches, I have experienced that watching a football match at a stadium is not comparable with watching the same thing on TV. I never forget the first time that I went the stadium and the match is inscribed in my mind. It was an unforgettable event.

At a live performance, you can see everything that is not possible on TV. Cameras zoom on special scenes and you cannot see what is going on the rest of the stage. For example, at a football match, the cameraman always tries to see the ball and its related events. When you are watching a football match on TV you cannot see that a player kicks another one because it is out of stage. But when you are present at the stadium you can easily see it.

On the other hand, you can cheer and boo and even cry in a live performance. A crowd like you has attended the match. All cheer and shout together and it encourages you to take part in their happiness. This is really enjoyable. Imagine you were attending Michael Jackson show then you could dance, whistle and cheer. This was not the case when you were at home. You might be alone because others did not like that specific show or they wanted to study. So you could neither dance nor cheer. You had to sit before T.V and turn down its voice. It is not enjoyable at all.

Another advantage that you achieve by virtue of attending a live performance is that you can have the feeling of participating in the performance. Every thing is live. If it is a football match for instance, then it is as if you were playing yourself. You were part of the match and could sense the kicks of the players on the ball.

Above all advantages there is only one disadvantage. It is that you must pay money to buy the ticket and spend time to reach the location of the performance. But it does not matter for me. By considering that I can achieve many things like seeing any event, cheering and shouting and feeling that I am participating in the performance are with no doubt unforgettable and highly enjoyable. I myself attend a football match even if it were in another country and it would cost me money and time.

NUMBER 36

Choose **one** of the following transportation vehicles and explain why you think it has changed people's lives.

- automobiles
- bicycles
- airplanes

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

There is no doubt that Automobile is one of the greatest inventions of the Twentieth Century. Of course there were different means of transportation before the automobile was first designed, but we can say that after automobile, transportation became a public matter. The impact of the automobile on people's life could be analyzed in three different ways: as a technical transformation, as an economical revolution and as a social change.

In a technical perspective, the automobile introduced a new skill to human beings. Although driving a car is not a big deal, it was one of the first attempts to make people work with machines in a very close way. People who want to drive a car, have to learn a procedure, have some practice and memorize a mechanical technique so they could do it without think about it.

In a social perspective, the automobile created a new way of communication among people. Cities were not the same since the number of cars began to grow up. All regulatory systems that were developed in order to "live" with cars, have created new social interactions that never exist before.

Additionally, the revolution of the automobile is also considered a new stage in economy. As railroad created different supporting industries during the nineteenth century, automobile did the same in the twentieth century. Many markets became obsolete, and new markets and opportunities appeared. Therefore, all these movements created new economic structures and actors.

As it was said before, other transportation vehicles, like airplane, have generated big changes in the world in the last century. However, automobile could be considered one of the few that went far beyond a technical progress. It has changed social life; in other words, people don't live in the same way as they did before automobile invention.

NUMBER 37

Do you agree or disagree that progress is always good? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

The important difference of mankind from other animals or living things is the ongoing progress it enjoys. The progress in science and art enables humankind to harness natural forces to the benefit of its life and build civilizations. In the past, when the progress led to an invention that will pose any threat on the humanity, the humans were aware of the harm and evaded it and tried to use the invention to the benefit of the humanity. I believe that the progress is inevitable for the humankind and that even the slowing of this progress may lead to the vanishing of the human being voracious to consume more.

In the absence of progress in fields of science, and art, and philosophy we would live like animals without growing crops, feeding animals and establishing cities. In the past, a lot of species once began to exist then vanished as they could not accommodate themselves to the changing living conditions or could not control the environment that they lived in. I believe that the human being is able to change his or herself to changing conditions and control the environment. The progress enjoyed in almost all fields contributed to this ability.

I admit that the progress in certain field may harm the humanity. The progress in atom physics brought about the atom bomb. Having acknowledged the harm of atom bomb in the second-world war, the humankind has never resorted to it since then. But the progress in atom physics also brought about the nuclear energy and a lot inventions in medicine which a lot cancer patients used them to defeat the cancer. These treatments are still used and the progress in this field is still serving to the humankind.

Some people may put the blame on the progress for the pollution and the denigration of forests. But I think it is more about insatiable demand of the human being. I rather believe that the progress in technology and science will prevent the world from being polluted and will bring about a more green world.

To sum up, the progress is inevitable process that makes the humankind different from other beings. Without progress, that makes up for ever increasing human needs, the competition for limited resources will turn to a clash involving all humankind which will lead to a collapse for the humanity and world will become a hell for all of us.

NUMBER 38

Learning about the past has no value for those of us living in the present. Do you agree or disagree? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Can knowledge of the past be beneficial for those of us living in the present? Some people think this information is useless, others believe it's significant. The former consider it obsolete. Although significant portion of the past knowledge can't be directly applied to the present day, learning about the past creates opportunities for scientific discoveries, prevents from repeating mistakes of the past, and contributes to the understanding of the purpose of our existence.

Technological progress is induced by new scientific discoveries that would never occur without knowledge of prior achievements in the certain scientific field. Major innovations occurring in the industry are based on new scientific

theories put into practice. Discovery of micro particles - electrons, protons and neutrons- in Physics revealed the possibility of creating the flow of electrons under the influence of the magnetic field. Every production process today is based on this latter discovery of electric current, which wouldn't be made without past knowledge of electrons existence.

Besides providing knowledge of fundamental discoveries, past experience helps prevent reoccurrence of negative events in the history of our civilization. School children learn about world wars cited in the history textbooks so that when they grow up they don't repeat mistakes of their predecessors. One of the brightest example is atomic bombs dropped on Japan during World War the Second. Knowledge of such negative experiences is necessary for humanity to continue its existence.

Moreover, learning about the past helps satisfy people's desire to understand who they are and why they exist. History and Religion are necessary for a discussion of these main philosophical questions. If people haven't been learning about the past, Bible texts, which give answers to these questions, would never be preserved till the present day. In the same time Bible is the main guide for majority of the world population today.

Consequently, it's imperative to learn about the past, because this knowledge is valuable for the development of our civilization. Technological progress, avoidance of past mistakes, and contribution to understanding of the purpose of existence can only be achieved through understanding of our predecessors' lives and deeds.

NUMBER 39

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

With the help of technology, students nowadays can learn more information and learn it more quickly.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

I am in total agreement of the statement. I will put some of the facts in the support of this statement in the following statements.

It is the technology that has made life simpler and easier. This has been observed in almost all aspects of life. First of all I would like to define technology. What is it? I feel that technology is an achievable sophistication of human imagination. Man is the sole creator of technology. Man used to think on a particular question or problem, very critically and thoroughly, and comes out with a brilliant solution. This solution is called as Technology.

Now we will see how it helps the students to learn more information and learn more quickly. Internet, email, interactive computer based tutors are some of

the forms of the new technology which help students learn quickly. In my school days I used to sit in the class rooms for hours. Teachers used to be age old and highly boring just like subjects. But I couldn't complain about that in those days. I used to get nervous at some point of time. But now a student can sit or even lie down in his or her bedroom and attend the class on Television or even as video conference. I feel that most of the children used to perceive a very good morale at home. They are fresh and enthusiastic at home. In this state of mind they can learn more in less time.

With the advent of computer based tutors, the time constraint for learning has also been vanished. Student can take his or her class as and only when he or she wants. It is not likely with every body that one will be fresh and ready to grasp for 8 hours daily. Sometime somebody may feel little drowsy or sick. CBT have the best answer to this question.

With the advent of internet, it is not at all necessary that you should attend the classes of the same age old and boring teachers only. One can discuss with the best professors in the world on any subject of one's liking. The new electronic storage devices like tapes, CDs and floppies have made the students able to store whole lot of information in their pockets. Big bulky books are being replaced by Adobe Acrobat Documents. Only having whole lot of information is also not enough. Because then you will have to search for the information back and forth. There are certain software packages which help students in managing his knowledge bank also. This has made learning faster and easier.

One thing is sure, if thing is simple, smoother and easier anybody will take interest in it. The new technology is very attractive. Students have started taking interest in the core subjects it self which are being taught with the help of new technology. I have one example to support this.

One my friend was highly unwilling to come to school. He used to feel very sad in the school time. Then his father made a very intelligent move. He bought a set of new shoes, new school uniform and a new water bag. He asked his car driver to drop him to school daily. And to my surprise, after that day, he became the most regular student in the class. The new uniform and new shoes gave him the new look. The new water bag gave him the eleventh hour help and coming by car gave him the pleasure of traveling.

In conclusion I would say that, same is the case with technology also.

Technology gives the new look to your studies. It provides help at the eleventh hour and it provides the pleasure of learning also. What else one needs to learn more information with more pace?

NUMBER 40

The expression "Never, never give up" means to keep trying and never stop working for your goals. Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Persistence is perhaps the surest way to attain success in any venture. In today's competitive, dog eat dog world, failure is not an option. Talent, at best, plays a secondary role for there are many people out there that are talented but unsuccessful. To try, try and try again is the mantra that has led to the most success stories and those who give up, inevitably fall by the wayside. The expression 'never, never give up' does indeed mean to keep on trying to achieve your goals and never give up on them. It is not a matter of interpretation or a play with clever words. 'Never, never give up' means to constantly strive to achieve your goals until you have achieved your objectives. The importance of this expression can never be underestimated in today's world.

One reason I believe that this expression means to constantly strive to achieve your goals is that this expression literally means to keep trying. As far as I know, this expression does not have a figurative meaning and thus is not open to interpretation. This expression is a simple fact of life that is engrained in us from childhood and that we should adhere to always.

Another reason that I agree with the interpretation of this expression in this topic is that it is an oft used expression that usually comes packaged with several analogies that demonstrate the simple facts of this expression. I am sure that we have all heard the story of the spider that kept on trying to get its web together and finally succeeded and became the inspiration of a historical figure. This whole analogy clearly demonstrates that the meaning of this expression is to just not give up.

I would like to also offer the example of my high school literature teacher who often quoted this expression when discussing our mastery (or lack of it) of Shakespeare. The difficulty of the language and the esoteric concepts were hard for us to grasp and it was precisely at this juncture that my literature teacher used this quotation. I believe that a scholar of his stature would not get a simple expression like this wrong and am inclined to agree that 'Never, never give up' exhorts us to persistence.

Apart from the interpretation of this expression, I would also like to point out its importance in our lives. Losers are those who have given up on their dreams and the ones who persist are often those who become achievers. For example, where would Bill Gates be now if he had become disheartened by early failures? Thus, I would like to conclude by stating that the interpretation of this expression in this topic is absolutely accurate that this expression is one that is extremely relevant in today's world.

NUMBER 41

Some people think that human needs for farmland, housing, and industry are more important than saving land for endangered animals. Do you agree or disagree with this point of view? Why or why not? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Some people think that human needs for farmland, housing, and industry are more important than saving land for endangered animals. I disagree with this point of view.

I find two reasons for supporting this view. The first reason is that all the creatures on the face of the earth have the same right for existence. Be it a four legged animal or a man, both have the same right .

The second reason is that for the existence of humans on earth ,the existence of other creatures is essential. I say this, because the presence of all the animals is essential for maintaining a proper food chain. We know the consequences if the food chain is broken. If the food chain is broken the ecosystem balance will be affected.

For example consider the food chain of rat, snake, and eagle. We know that certain types of eagles are endangered species.If it is hunted to a point where it becomes non existent then the food chain will be broken. As a result of this ,The number of snakes will increase .This will result in greater problems.

Therefore,if the endangered animals are not protected the existence of humans will become really difficult.

NUMBER 42

What is a very important skill a person should learn in order to be successful in the world today? Choose **one** skill and use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

Most people want to be a successful person and try to find out what make them achieve their goal. In my point of view, people who want to be successful in today's fast-paced world has to have "Interpersonal skill" because this skill will make us having a various kind of friends and societies that can help us to be successful by this following reasons:

To know many people, we can get helpful information that we want easily and quickly. For example, students who want to study abroad but do not have any information about this topic, can easily receive many useful information from someone who used to study abroad more quickly than they try to find information themselves. If those students do not have interpersonal and be shy, scare to talk with experience person, they will have to find information from many places and waste too much time before getting the need information.

And also, when we want some help from others, people with interpersonal skill can beg and gain assistance from others. For instance, a manager who has interpersonal skill would have more close relationship with their staff. Therefore, when he want to beg for assist from their staff, their staff would do at one's best heartily. On the other hand, a manager who does not have close relationship with their staff would be assisted, but their staff would work on duty only, not work because they want to help their boss; so, the result of both of work is totally different.

Another reason is people who have good interpersonal skill and have a lot of friends will gain a diversity of thought from many various kinds of people. This advantage will give them to broaden their perspective and knowledge.

In conclusion, In my view, to have interpersonal skill is the best short cut to become a successful person because that person would receive useful information easily, have some necessary assistance and improve their attitude when they contact with many people

NUMBER 43

Why do you think some people are attracted to dangerous sports or other dangerous activities? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

There are various sports and activities that people can get involved in. Some people are attracted to dangerous sports or other dangerous activities such as mountain climbing, car racing and high speed skiing to mention but a few, for a variety of reasons

For some, it is a challenge to be overcome or won. An example is a lady driver joining the rally. for example in Kenya, we have an annual Safari rally which involves cars racing with an aim of finishing with best points. The terrain is usually very varied and rough and the sport is dominated by men. Recently, there have been entries by women, and some may participate to prove that the challenge can also be undertaken by women and it should not be seen as a man's race.

Other sportsmen and women may find these dangerous activities to be actually fun. For some mountain climbers for example, the goal is not only to reach the peak but also to enjoy the varying scenario, plants and animals as they ascend the mountain.

To others still, the attraction could be the prize to be won in participating in such a dangerous sport. An example is in bull fights where the player dangles a red cloth in front of a bull, not only irritating it but inciting the animal to

charge. If the player wins defeats the bull, he is allowed to kill and probably earn some money.

In conclusion therefore, there are varying reasons that attract some people to dangerous sports, ranging from the personal to monetary satisfaction.

NUMBER 44

Some people like to travel with a companion. Other people prefer to travel alone. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

Travelling around the world is one of the most exciting things to do, because I can explore the variety of culture from all around the world especially the food and the people. That is why I don't want to spend that wonderful time alone. In other words I prefer travelling with a companion.

By travelling with a companion, I feel safe and comfortable because when ever I get lost in the middle of nowhere with no guide, then there is a chance that me and my companion will find some way to get back. We can always talk together and have a discussion to find the way. Many persons ideas are always better than only a person's idea.

I won't be lonely and bored if I travel with a companion. If the journey turns out to be a boring one, then I can always do something else with my companion, for example playing cards or maybe just talking if she/he is new friend. It would be a great time to getting to know each other.

After travelling to many places, I have noticed that help is always needed in a journey. And that is what a companions are for. Some of them probably would like to help me with some little things, for example taking a picture of me. If I just ask someone stranger from the street, then I might lost my camera cause that person might took it and just runaway.

Above all points that I have mentioned, travelling with a companion will always be my perfect choice.

NUMBER 45

Some people prefer to get up early in the morning and start the day's work. Others prefer to get up later in the day and work until late at night. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

I prefer to get up early in the morning and start the day's work. First of all, my parents have helped me to develop the habit of getting up early in the morning since I was a kid. And I see this is a good habit because by getting up

early, I have more hours in a day to finish the day's work. For example, when I get up early in the morning, I would reach the office earlier. Normally, I would either have more time to finish the work or finish the work earlier and leave home earlier.

Another reason that I prefer to get up early is because I can enjoy the beauty of the nature. When I get up early, I can really feel the cool weather and fresh air in the morning. And I would say it is best time of the day to plan for the day's work.

I also choice to get up early because I can beat the traffic jam at my residential area. In most cases, I can avoid the hectic traffics and reach my office on time by getting up early in the morning. By being in the office early, I show my commitment in my work and become more productive.

In short, I prefer to get up early and start the day's work early because it allow me to have more hour to work per day. Also, I can plan well in the cool and fresh environment. Last but not least, getting up early also means I can beat the traffic jam and be more productive in my work.

NUMBER 46

What are the important qualities of a good son or daughter? Have these qualities changed or remained the same over time in your culture? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

The qualities of a good son or daughter, through the ages, have a great deal of differences from those ones which were approbated once. However, a few qualities are the same as the ones in the past years.

Firstly, I will give some changes in the following statements. In the past time of China, parents hope their son is so strong and brave that they would be supported and protected in their ages because man is easily able to earn living supply, such as food, clothes, house and so on, or make money to buy them. The daughter is expected being of tender and gentle so that she would get married a good man, that means she would have a good fortune and her parents would not be worried because she does not make a living herself. As a good son or daughter, one of the most important qualities is he or she has to be obedient and submissive everything for their parent. For example, he or she would marry with a person who would be satisfied by their parents rather than loved by themself. However, in modern society, no matter son or daughter, the best quality is that they are positive, motivating, responsible facing their life. Parents hope their son or daughter capable of do everything independently and wisely referring to their suggestion.

Secondly, several good qualities are remained and are developed. With the development of society, more and more girls are educated and are able to support herself, even others. Hence, the qualities of a good boy basically are the same as those of a good girl. In general, almost parents adore their children, in turn they need to be loved by them, especially the olds. Therefore, no matter modern or past time, to Care for their parents is regard as one of the necessary qualities. Additional, their excellent behave and amazing performance are also appreciated by their parents, such as he or she is diligent and concentrated in their study and do their best in doing everything. Of course, every parents have different viewpoints of the qulities of a child. I think the most primary qualities are he or she is of love,enterprise and responsibilty around them.

NUMBER 47

Some people prefer to work for a large company. Others prefer to work for a small company. Which would you prefer? Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.

Working is a pleasure for me. It gives me satisfaction as and a feeling of achievement and fulfillment. Some people prefer to work for a large company. Others prefer to work for a small company. I prefer to work for a large company as it gives me opportunities to learn and grow. Working in a large organization also results in monetary benefits.

I am currently working in a multinational company, a world leader in education and training. While working here for last five years, I have been bestowed upon by innumerable opportunities to learn while working. I have attended several on the job training that have helped me grow into a tech savvy. These training are essential for each on of us in this organization. Actually, I am paid for learning. Isn't it a wonderful concept of earning while learning?

A large organization focuses on new ventures to expand the business. Hence, in large organizations, one can grab many opportunities to grow. The more you learn and prove your knowledge by application, the more opportunities you get to grow. A large organization consists of different divisions, such as Sales, Marketing, Development, Media, Research & Development. According to the personal interests and expertise in an area, one can pursue his/her career while learning and growing.

Another major reason for opting for a large organization to work is job stability. A large organization is well established in its field of business. The employees in such organizations do not have to worry about the shut down of the organization. Job security is one of the keywords in the fast changing business world.

To sum up, a large organization with focus on expansion, one can get many opportunities to learn and grow. As learning new things is my area of interest, I prefer to work in a well established, large organization. In addition, such a job gives me s feeling of accomplishment, growth, and security.

NUMBER 48

People work because they need money to live. What are some **other** reasons that people work? Discuss one or more of these reasons. Use specific examples and details to support your answer.

"People will work because they need money to live." Though I do believe that there are a lot of other reasons for people to work. I will enumerate each of these reasons in the following paragraphs.

According to me, all of us have an inbuilt burning desire to SUCCEED. Success is a combination of professional achievements and then earning money as a result of these. Even if one of these components is missing, one will not derive true pleasure of having succeeded. Thus it is a big chain of events, one enjoys one's work, the moment one's work is not to complete a job but an enjoyment, one works evn harder. more hard work over the long run inevitably leads to professional excellence which in turn translates in monetary benefits.

Secondly, when a person works hard, he contributes directly or indirectly to society. This feeling that "I have some worth and am contributing to betterment of society" is very important for mental happiness. Being an orthopedic surgeon myself, I have experienced this numerous times. If a patient comes to me with a fracture and then goes home walking, the pleasure I derive is phenomenal even if I donot derive substantial monetary benefit from this.

I also want to add that work gives money and in this day and age, even for social work one might want to do, one needs funds. Money thus earned can be given for various charitable causes thus giving a tremendous sense of satisfaction and well being.

I therefore strongly believe that one of the important reasons that people work is for money for themselves and for their family, there are many, significantly more important reasons for working and these are the ones which actually keep life going.

NUMBER 49

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Face-to-face communication is better than other types of communication, such as

letters, email, or telephone calls. Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

In today's fast-paced environment, we are faced with a myriad of communication options. Be it letters, e-mails, or telephonic conversations, I think that no means is more effective than face to face dialogue.

Firstly, face to face dialogue affords the speaker the opportunity to convey his message in a more detailed and complete way. Emotions, moods and expressions come forth to the surface in a face to face interaction, unlike written words or those spoken on the telephone. By using tone, facial gestures and body language, the speaker gives a thorough idea of the listener of his point of view. For example, by leaning forward on his chair, opening his arms and moving his hands in a forceful manner, the speaker can convey interest and leadership.

Another benefit that face to face communication provides is immediate feedback. The speaker can clarify any confusion rightaway. Unlike written statements, no idea or thought is lost in grammatical errors or misuse of vocabulary. Since all people involved in the conversation can easily see each other, approval, interest, or disregard, can easily be deduced and dealt with.

Often we see messages getting confused, and warped up in a maze of paperwork or unanswered e-mail and telephone calls. Such accumulation of data can create lot of stress and undue mess ups in an office environemt. Renowned CEOs, like Bill Gates are famous for making a point to show up at all business meetings, and if not possible, designate another person instead of using wriitten words, or the telephone.

They say, "nothing can replace the human touch." When people say that, what they mean is that the openness, camaraderie, and opportunity for feedback obtained through face to face dialogue is totally irreplaceable and invaluable.

NUMBER 50

Some people like to do only what they already do well. Other people prefer to try new things and take risks. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

People have varying habits and preferences. Some like to apply what they have learned and continue doing the same while others like to try new paths and take risks. Both kind of people have reasons for what they do. I prefer to explore and take conservative risks.

By doing what they do well, people can plan how they want to do it and for how long. This adds security to their life. They don't have to worry much

about failing in whatever they do. The downside to this approach is making life routine or boring. But that is good for people who don't like surprises. People who have a family to take care of, especially small kids, would take this approach.

On the other hand people who chose to do new things, will find a lot of surprises coming their way. They will be constantly challenged to do their best. This is good for people who like living on the edge. But this adds a lot of insecurity to their life. People who don't have lot of responsibilities and have enough resources to weather out occasional failures are most likely to try out new things.

Someone like me, who is at their early stages of life, have lot of enthusiasm and energy to pursue different things and explore new horizons. This allows them to be independent and make a mark of their own and their is potential for big rewards. Since I don't have the resources to make through really bad setbacks, I would take a conservative approach to taking risks. Before venturing into trying new things, I will assess the possible risk and make sure that is something I can afford.

At different stages of life people make different choices. While doing things they know well can bring security to peoples lives, I prefer to try out new things and take risks, because of the potential for big rewards and I like being challenged.

NUMBER 51

Some people believe that success in life comes from taking risks or chances. Others believe that success results from careful planning. In your opinion, what does success come from? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Some people believe that success comes from taking risks or chances. Others believe that success results from careful planning. In my opinion success comes from careful planning because it organizes, prepares and provides guidelines to finally accomplish the purpose.

In my view, a person learns well if he plans ahead of time before venturing any task. This not only makes him more organised and thoughtful of how to approach a given task but also allows him to keep pace with time. This would ultimately result in the proper finishing at correct time. The very example is when we appear for exams, it should be planned well before rather than sitting at the end moment and at last leaving it unfinished.

Careful planning allows the learner to know his weakness and strength in a particular work. This would enable him to work well on areas of weakness and

thus would help him to improve his final performance. This kind is seen among many sports people who practice well before the final match, to improve where they seem to lack. It gives them more confidence to finally approach the test with the positive attitude.

Last but not least careful planning further grooms the personality of an individual, as planning ahead gives him the sense of responsibility and creativity to organise his work and finally the competitiveness to reach the goal.

Thus overall careful planning makes a person more organised, responsible, competitive and punctual. All these qualities finally help him to achieve his purpose.

NUMBER 52

What change would make your hometown more appealing to people your age? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

I live in Istanbul which is a very cosmopolitan city. It's in Turkey and by the Marmara sea. I think that if a place full of cafes, cinemas...etc is built in Istanbul, it will be more appealing to people at my age.

I'm 20 years old at the moment and attending university. In my spare time I like going to cinemas to watch new films shown and to cafes with my friends. We like talking with each other about general things. I think it is a good way of reducing stress after a hard day's work at the school. We are so involved with courses that we would like to find all these activities like cinemas and cafes together.

A place full of different cinemas, cafes, fast food restaurants would be the right place for students to get together. There we could get many different choices. We wouldn't have to go to one place for cinema and then to another place to eat something, all of them would be together.

The other reason why I believe a place containing cinemas, cafes, should be built is that it would be a suitable place for all students to get together after school. There we can meet different people and have some new friends, also our parents wouldn't worry about where we are going. Maybe later on, a library can be built into that place. I think it would be very useful. We can study there with our friends and when we get tired and need some rest, we can directly go to a cafe or to cinema.

Finally I can say that a place offering all cultural activities to the students should be built in my city. This will make Istanbul even more appealing for students.

NUMBER 53

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The most important aspect of a job is the money a person earns. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Some people may think that money is the most important aspect of a job. Of course, this factor cannot be ignored. But in my opinion, I disapprove this kind of idea. As I see it, there are many other important aspects a job, rather than money.

One of them is the satisfaction of the worker. No matter what other people say, if the person is satisfied with his/her work, that's it. For example, my father was a good student in high school. His parents and teachers told him to go to law school because it was the best career a person could have at that time and was an honor for the family. But my father disagreed and went to the army because he wanted to. And until now, he is very satisfied with his job. He didn't choose a job that was conspicuous to other people, but a job he liked.

Another factor is how well the job suits the person. We can't get a clumsy person to be a doctor that requires great awareness on the work, such as surgery. A single mistake, even the slightest failure can kill a person. So people should also consider on how well he/she can do the job, and if it's suiting the person.

In closing, I disagree with the idea of money being the most important aspect of a job. Of course, we can't totally ignore money. Usually many people just work, whether they like it or not, just to earn money. But we must keep in mind that money should be considered as a second, after we decide things such as the satisfaction or how well the job suits the person. Money isn't everything in life, remember that.

NUMBER 54

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? One should never judge a person by external appearances. Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

I strongly believe that people should never judge a person by external appearances. The way we look not always reflects the way we are. We can make huge mistakes if we let the external appearances tell us everything about someone.

I consider that outward qualities are related in some ways to the manner we are and the way we feel inside. Sometimes the clothes we chose express our mood, how we are feeling at that moment. Also, the hairstyle, make up and

many other aspects of our look sometimes give an idea of our attitude towards life.

Even though, not all aspects or, for some people, any aspect of the personality is shown in external appearances. The look is not evident enough to communicate deep feelings, beliefs, thoughts and behaviours. There is so much more inside of a person that can only be noticed after knowing him very well.

I have met people who give an erroneous first impression. At first sight one could describe them in a completely different way from what they turn to be when you get to know them well. Before making premature conclusions we should pay attention at many other features, such as the way the person talks, the words he uses, the look in his eyes, that help us to recognize how is that person like. People's values, educational background, skills and virtues lie in the inside, not in the outside.

There is a great risk of missing good friends if we allow us to judge by appearances. We always should give a second chance to people to show us how they really are, without masquerades. We have to be smart to not mistake what we see on the surface, because the main part of almost everything is hidden and not easily seen.

NUMBER 55

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? A person should never make an important decision alone. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Someone says that a person should make an important decision alone, but in my opinion, I think that it is not true because everything can be looked in various aspects, and everyone has different skill and experiences. Consequently, consulting other persons is the best way for making a decision.

In my point of view, anyone in this world thinks differently from any other persons because there are many aspects for thinking about something. The more the number of people who help think, the more idea, so a person should not make an important decision alone. For example, in prominent company, it is very famous to work with team because the more the number of co-workers, the more a number of good ideas. Everyone has a chance to propose his opinion, and all of these opinions will be merged to be the conclusion decision.

In addition, making a decision alone can make people waste many things such as money, friends, or life because no one have a good skill in every fields. For example, in the business, if owner want to increase budget to develop a company, but he decides to do so by himself without consulting with

accountances who are good at calculating budget, the business may be turn down. So, the owner has to waste a lot of money because he makes an importance decision alone.

Moreover, it is sure that everyone cannot used to face with the same situation in his whole life, so no one has the same experiences as do any other persons. Doing something that we used to do is easy and has less chance to do wrong, so If a person has to decide to do something that he used not to do so, but he consult with someone who used to do so, he can do so too. For example, last 6 years ago, I had to decide in which faculty that I should study. In that time, I had not many experiences, so I asked about the characteristic of any faculties from my parents, my teachers, and my parent's friends who works in various careers. Those advices that everyone gave me were very useful for me to make a decision, and right now I am sure that I do not make a wrong decision that I choose to learn in the faculty of Electrical Engineering. If that time I decided to choose it by myself, I might be a doctor who was not happy at all.

To conclude, making an important decision is the important thing in people's life because it can point out our life such as being the rich or the poor, working as an engineer or a doctor, or being happy or sad. The best way for making a decision is consulting with other person. Therefore I agree that a person should never make an important decision alone.

NUMBER 56

A company is going to give some money either to support the arts or to protect the environment. Which do you think the company should choose? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

If a company were faced with a choice of either giving money to the arts or to environmental protection, and if I were to decide between the two, I would definitely choose the environment as this should be our first priority. Though arts are an integral part of our culture and nurturing them should take precedence over many other things, I feel that the environment is our first priority. There are several reasons for my belief that donating money for the protection of the environment is more important than funding the arts and I will try to outline them in the following paragraphs.

The first reason for my belief is that it is the planet that gives us sustenance and nurtures us and that we need to take care of the environment in order to leave a better world for our children. Too long have we exploited the resources that mother nature has given us and for too long have we ignored the need to give back to nature what we have taken from it. Our ruthless exploitation of natural resources has resulted in phenomenon like global warming and climate change along with the depletion of the ozone layer and the melting of the polar ice caps. Human activity has taken us to a dangerous stage where the planet will be unable to sustain us for long if immediate measures are not

taken. We need to restore the balance so that future generations do not suffer and to do so we need to generate funds for the protection of the environment. Thus, the arts pale into insignificance when we compare them to the imperative nature of the task ahead as far as the environment is concerned. Another reason that I believe that companies should fund environmental protection rather than the arts is that our very future depends on this. Imagine a world in which we have the most beautiful sculptures, paintings, poems and books that were developed by corporate funding but to enjoy this art we would have to brave scorching temperatures or sub zero temperatures in order to go to a museum! What is the point of having the most beautiful things in this world if the most beautiful thing- our planet- was becoming less and less hospitable? We must get our priorities right and in order to do this we must really evaluate what our planet means to us. Thus, I would like to conclude by stating that the environment is of paramount importance to us and that we should do our utmost to preserve it and not get our priorities distorted.

NUMBER 57

Some movies are serious, designed to make the audience think. Other movies are designed primarily to amuse and entertain. Which type of movie do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

There are two major kinds of movies; serious movies and entertained movies. Serious movies encourage the audience to think and pay most attention until the end. At the same time, this kind of movie is quite stressful in terms of detail and overall story. I prefer movies that provide me smile, entertain and thought.

Nowadays, I have many stressful works to do and after long working hour I want to relax. I want to go see movie that make me laugh and smile. My favourite movie "Sister Act", entertains me every time I watch. If I have to face with suspended movie which I have to find out the murder and see the death, my day will be too hard.

Movies that are designed to amuse and entertain, to me, are more colourful in detail. Again "Sister Act", my favourite one, has funny plot with good music. Personally, I like to hear music while watching movie. Not only music but also joke in the story that interests me. It is definitely more lively to see such a movie.

Some say serious movies make you think, I wouldn't argue but comedy movies can also give you thought. Good thoughts are found implicitly in almost all kinds of movies. I can't remember the title of this movie but the story is about family and a dog. It was light and entertained one and the thought I got from

watching this movie was a relationship between human and animal. We should care more of our little living pet. It has also heart and life. Comedy make you think subconsciously and you learn more from fun.

Life is easy, I like the way comedy movies benefit me. I can smile and listen to music I like while watching movie and absorb good thought from it.

NUMBER 58

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Businesses should do anything they can to make a profit. Use specific reasons and examples to support your position.

Some people think that businesses should do anything they can to make a profit. In my opinion, these people are thinking a little bit selfish, because there are other things that a business should do, for example considering the workers, costumers. Beside all these a business should serve the community.

The most important thing to realize is that, a person who is serving the costumers and the community should always be honest. In my opinion honesty is the most important quality a business should have in order to deserve the profit it makes. Earning money by playing trick on consumers or getting more money than it deserves is so bad that I don't think a business which makes profit out of dishonesty can carry on with success. In a business all the workers must consider the other workers, the costumers and the community they live in. Colleagues are also very important, they should respect each other and should never forget that business is a team-work. If a business is making large profits, it should share it with the people who made that profit possible.

If a worker cannot get what he deserves either economically or mentally he may not be able to work effectively in the future.

The other important thing is that some of the profits one's business earns from the community should be returned to the community. For example if big company is earning a lot of money, it should never forget that the money comes from community so it should return some of the profit back to community. There are various ways to do it. For example a company can built a park for the children or crèche just like public nursery for the children of the workers, get the trust of the workers.

The last very important point is to get customers' trust. A small company may grow into a large company after sometime but if it wants to be long lasting, it should always try to produce high-quality products ,and give good service to its costumers.

Generally, it can be said that the most important thing for a business is to make a profit, a business should never do anything to make a large profit. There are more important things such as serving the costumers, workers and community .A business must make profits, but we all - workers, customers, community- must profit from a successful business.

NUMBER 59

Some people are always in a hurry to go places and get things done. Other people prefer to take their time and live life at a slower pace. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

I think I would prefer to hurry to get things done than to take my time and live life at a slower pace because it allows me to do things over a short period of time, make my self available for opportunities and it makes one to be efficient in life.

Firstly, life on earth is short and I would advise anyone who cares to listen that it is advisable to do things on time knowing fully well that you cannot live forever and that your impact should be felt by people around you. Imagine, if everyone takes their time to do every thing that they should do, things wouldn't be done on time, there would be chaos, anarchy and total disorder. For example, the police would fight crime when they feel like or the president of a country would address urgent humanitarian needs at his own time or children would go to school when they feel like. Such a situation would lead to the total breakdown of a society.

If I have to do things at my time, then I would miss a lot of opportunities in life. For example, if an unemployed graduate like myself spends the whole day doing chores in the house, when I could do the house chores quickly and attend seminars related to my field that could keep me updated on recent developemnts in my field and in the long run enhance my job prospects.

Imagine, if workers in a company take their time to do things at a slower pace, then such an organisation is bound to fail because things wouldn't be done on time and such a company would lag behind its competitors.

No matter what some people feel I think is better for people to do things in a hurry to prevent disaster, promote efficiency and make one available for opportunities.

NUMBER 60

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Games are as important for adults as they are for children. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Everyone likes games and games are said to be for children. By playing games children learn new things and have enjoyable time. As long as adults also need to learn new things and need enjoyable time after a long depressing working day, games are as important for adults as they are for children. Games are

important because they make adults keep their minds sharp, learn new things and besides maintain social skills.

A few days ago, I came across a newspaper article and it was stated that modern research had shown that grown up adults could continue to grow brain cells by exercising their minds. When I thought about it, I found out that no other way other than playing games could manage to do it. By concentrating on the tactics of the game, keeping the track of your opponent's strategies, you can keep your brain functioning and growing. Some games can teach us a lot. Games that ask questions are not only enjoyable but also show us what we don't know. The best way to learn a thing is answering a question wrong because then you never forget the correct answer. It is always easier to keep something in mind when you realize you don't know it.

The other important point is that playing games is enjoyable. Not only children, but also adults need to forget about the problems of the real world. Games provide everybody a new view of life. You just concentrate on the game, and so don't think of anything else. Games get people together. By this way, one can observe people's reactions towards different situations. It is always very interesting to watch the others. Nobody is same, and we can learn new thing from others. Maintaining personal contacts is important for everyone.

Finally I can say that games are as important for adults as they are for children. Regardless of your age ,playing games can help you keep your mind alert, learn new things, and build friendship.

NUMBER 61

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Parents or other adult relatives should make important decisions for their older (15 to 18 year-old) teenage children. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Parents and adult relatives play a significant role in shaping a child's life. They teach them how to live, and struggle for the right things. However when children grow up, often they fail to realize the contributions of their parents and adult relatives in their lives. Teenage children think that being a teenager they are able to make all the decisions of their lives. In my opinion, parents and adult relatives should make important decisions for their teenage children because teenagers are unexperienced, overconfident and many times they do

not realize the consequences that the important decisions can have on their lives.

Teenagers, being new in the adult world and having their first experiences of their adult lives, think themselves as grownups and perfectly able to make their own decisions. However, most of the times, their decisions are influenced by their friends. For example a student may get into a top university, but just because his/her friend is going to college, he/she wishes to go to college too. In this case the decision is obviously influential, and can have great negative effects on his/ her life. At such a point the parents or the adult relatives should make decisions for their children.

Another reason why parents or the adult relatives decisions are very important is that the teenagers are over confident. The teenagers haven't still been into practical life, and they don't have an idea of how the practical world works. Specially before the university, teenagers are living in kind of a fantasy world, where they think everything is cool and perfect. For example they might think that playing basket ball in the school gym is definitely going to get them selected on the national team. This may be true in some cases, but usually it doesn't work out this way. So if the teenager, just neglects his/her studies, he/she is going to be definitely in loss. At such points, like choosing the subjects in highschool, parents and/or adult relatives should make decisions for their teenage children.

In conclusion, although teenagers might think the decisions being imposed on them as a stone in their paths, it is in fact a blessing for them. Teenagers, being irresponsible, and inexperienced are not always able to make decisions for themselves. Hence parents and/or adult relatives should make the decisions for them.

NUMBER 62

What do you want **most** in a friend — someone who is intelligent, or someone who has a sense of humor, or someone who is reliable? Which **one** of these characteristics is most important to you? Use reasons and specific examples to explain your choice.

As a friendly and open-minded person, I enjoy making friends. As a result, I have many friends. However, regardless of their background, gender and characteristics, I notice that all of my close friends have one characteristic in common - they all have a sense of humor.

First of all, I always wanted to feel happy and have a good time when I go out with friends. By going out with friends who are humorous often make me laugh and cheer me up whenever I feeling down.

In addition, I believe people who have a sense of humor, are normally the one who has positive thinking. I like to mix with people with positive thinking because I always believe that it is better think positive rather than negative when dealing with problem. For example, when I face a problem, I like to talk to friends who humorous and positive because they can always give me new ideas and help me to solve problem by guiding me to look at problem from the different perspective.

In short, what I want the most in a friend is a sense of humor. Friend who has a sense of humor can influence me positively.

NUMBER 63

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Most experiences in our lives that seemed difficult at the time become valuable lessons for the future. Use reasons and specific examples to support our answer.

Life is a continuous struggle and it has its ups and downs. Sometimes we are quite satisfied with our lives but there are moments when we don't feel zest in our life due to some unavoidable problems. I totally agree with the notion that the difficult situations we face in our lives become a valuable lesson for our future. This I supports with following facts and examples.

It has been proved scientifically that when we feel ourselves threatened, we use our best physiological and psychological capabilities. Often in our lives, we remain in a safe and satisfied atmosphere and avoid problems as much as we can. In this condition, we can easily

become lazy and our abilities may rote as we are not using our full potential.

Lets take an

example of an employee that is working in a firm for a very long time. Being content with his

job, he must have long abandoned the practice of increasing his skill set or enhancing his

knowledge. Suppose he becomes a victim of downsizing. He will have a very difficult time.

Observing him closely, you will find that he will also realize that his skill sets are obsolete

in the job market. Therefore, if he is an intelligent man, he will try to learn the new relevant things related to his profession. Soon he may find himself doing a higher paying job that he may have never dreamt of while doing his old job. There are countless examples quoted in newspapers

about people who after losing their jobs unexpectedly found an excellent and more paying job. Truly, a difficult situation is a blessing in disguise.

Failure is also a cause of our bad experiences. But failures are no more failures if we can learn from them. Actually, there are no failures only feedbacks. I have used this statement to guide my life. Once, I have almost

failed an examination in my school life and ended with just passing marks. Instead of being dishearted, I decided to learn from this experience so that it should not happen again. I listed out all the factors that were responsible for my failures like watching too much television and studying without concentration. Next academic year, I took care of all those listed causes and I was able to secure the first position in my school. Thus, failures give us new directions and guidance in our lives.

Survey of successful persons has shown that many have seen more tough time than probably unsuccessful persons. The only difference is that they have faced the situation with their full might, learned from them and applied learned lessons in their future strategy.

We should not be afraid from bad circumstances and should try our best to convert them into useful lessons to chart our future.

NUMBER 64

Some people prefer to work for themselves or own a business. Others prefer to work for an employer. Would you rather be selfemployed, work for someone else, or own a business? Use specific reasons to explain your choice.

If given a choice of working for someone else or being self-employed I would choose the latter without any hesitation. This doesn't mean that working for someone else is in any way inferior to being one's own boss. I believe your personality type and the way you want to live your life are the key factors in making this choice.

To me a life without thrills and adventures looks unattractive. The myriad challenges and problems one has to face as a self-employed or business person attracts me more than the relatively secure life of an employee.

I am well aware of the darker sides of my choice. Being your own boss gives you immense freedom. You are free from undertaking any venture in which you cannot put your heart, nor will you be troubled by the stumbling blocks of employer disapproval in the course you believe in. But hand in hand with this great freedom comes great responsibility too. The success of the entire venture or business lies solely upon you, the decision you make the methods you use to implement them etc. The risk factor is very high and you have to be prepared to fight against all the destructive, malicious, sudden rising storms. But the joy you will get from leading a life in your own terms, is worth all the strife. For success tastes sweetest after the toughest battle.

To conclude I choose the adventurous life of a self-employed or business person to the smug secure life of an employee, I choose to live a life in my own terms, to shine in use and not to rust.

NUMBER 65

Should a city try to preserve its old, historic buildings or destroy them and replace them with modern buildings? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

People can think of to destroy the historical buildings , and replace them with mordern one, but in my opinion they should not be destroyed. Historical buildings are of great importance to mankind.They help us to know the history,attract tourist people and are status symbol for the nation.

Firstly, historical buildings help us to know the history behind it,and are the standing proof to what we read in our history.By seeing them we get to know too many things like what type of material they use to construct them, what kind of design they make and also to some extent the way of life they live. So it helps in giving knowledge of our ancestors.

Another benefit is, it attracts many tourist people from diffrent part of the world,helping the government to earn money from them. So a major part of an nation economy can be shared by the tourist departmant.Even for some countries the historical buildings are the only source of income to the people. so it has a great importance in contribution in the economy of the nation.

Last not the least, historical building are the Status symbol for the nation.Like Taj mahal is the status symbol of beauty and love for India., so it will heart the people which are emotionally connected with the building anyhow.You can take example of pyramids, the country is Egypt is popular mainly for it huge pyramids.So historical building are important in the sense that it brings the fame to the country worldwide.

I conclusion, we should try to preserve the old, historical buildings to make people understand better their history, and to help the nation to get fame worldwide and earn money from the foriegn tourist visiting.

NUMBER 66

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Classmates are a more important influence than parents on a child's success in school. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

When children attend school, they spend most of their time with their classmates. Because of this reason many people think that classmates are a more important influence than parents on a child's success in school. I totally agree with this statement in the light of my experiences and my other friends' experiences. In this essay, I will try to figure out how classmates are an important influence on a child's success in school.

First of all, at the very beginning of the school years, children meet new friends and they get close with some of them either because they get along

with them well or they are in the same neighborhood. It is very normal for a child to have new friends that she likes and have enjoyable time but sometimes these classmates become a very important influence on a child's behavior. This behavior can affect her positively or negatively. For example my cousin had had some friends at school. She liked them a lot but I felt something wrong as soon as I met them. I talked to my cousin about it but she didn't listen to my advices. Later on she realized that her friends were using drugs and cut her relations with them. My cousin and her family had to move to another city because this event affected my cousin very much and she suffered some psychological problems. My cousin had to give up her school for a year and took her 2 years return to her normal life.

On the other hand, classmates can influence a child's success in school in a good way. Because, to my way of thinking, meeting new people, getting to know them, is an important experience in one's life. Studying together, helping each other with some problems is very useful. For example, I study with my friends for the exams and I think it is very helpful. One of my friends can solve a mathematics problem that the others cannot solve, so we complete each other. I sometimes don't feel like studying but my friends force me to study and I thank them for that. Because sometimes one needs motivation and friends are there at this times.

Finally, we can say that classmates are an important influence on a child's success in school. The important point is that how they influence a child's success. And as long as we have good friends, they play an important role in our success.

NUMBER 67

If you were an employer, which kind of worker would you prefer to hire: an inexperienced worker at a lower salary or an experienced worker at a higher salary? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

If I were an employer, I would hire a worker depending upon the type of the work my organization deals with. There are many types of organizations that deal with different works like industry, restaurants, consultancy, banks, forum etc. And depending upon these types of organizations, the working personal also varies. If I belong to the organization that works for building and construction, and I require workers for the same purpose, then I would surely hire inexperienced workers at a lower salary. By doing this I will make my organization more cost effective, as for building and construction purpose, more numbers of workers are required, and this helps cutting down expenses. Also, when the work is related to the physical work, then more than experience, the desire to work counts. If the person is inexperienced, then he can learn how to work, until he has desired to work. But, if the organization is related to the professional levels, then in such case, experienced workers are highly required. So, the type of the work is directly related to requirement of the experienced or inexperienced worker with respect to the amount of the

salary. As I am related with the international organization, I would prefer an experienced worker even at a higher salary.

Experience is the most important criteria for getting professional job. Experience makes the person perfect. And perfect ones can only work effectively and efficiently by the time they join the organization. Even for the experienced person, it takes some time to understand the way the organization works and the management over there. So, for the inexperienced person, it takes almost months to years to know the working atmosphere of the organization depending upon the type of work. The total amount of the salary the worker gets by the completion of work is almost same whether the worker is experienced or inexperienced. Training is required for an inexperienced worker and the training expenses can be more. But for the experienced worker, training is not required, one can just understand by observing, and managing oneself. The experienced one can get the job done soon while, the inexperienced worker takes double the time. Double the time means double the salary one gets. So, whether one is experienced or not, total amount of the salary, the employer has to pay is somewhat equivalent. Organization values its overall human resources, no matter whomever; all are integral part for its existence. For the long-term development and for the excellency, experienced worker needs to be hired.

I work in the international organization that deals with the e-consultation. If the inexperienced person was hired for the same job, then he would almost take 6 months to understand what's going on. But if the person is experienced one, he needs not more than one month to get involved. For such an organization, excellency is of prior than the amount of salary that is to be paid. Also, it's not sure that even after training, the inexperienced person can work effectively. In the medical shop, if I have to hire the sales man than, I would go for the experienced one even at the higher salary. Experience is the most important criteria for employing as the work is relates to the health of many people.

So in my point of view, experienced workers are more effective than inexperienced ones regardless of the amount

NUMBER 68

Many teachers assign homework to students every day. Do you think that daily homework is necessary for students? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

This question of whether or not to give the students daily homework is a much debated problem in that it affects everybody as a student like us. Of course, doing homework will scare our leisure time in some extent, but it can help students understand the texts more deeply, force students to review the texts

and make students have a lasting impression about the texts. So personally, I would prefer to do homework everyday.

There are numerous reasons why I think that daily homework is necessary for students, and I would here explain some of the most important ones. The main reason is daily homework can help students understand the texts more deeply. It can be given an example, you must make yourself understand the texts firstly in order to do your homework. Whatever in mathematics, in chemistry or other courses, if you don't understand the texts, you can not finish the homework of that day.

The other reason is that daily homework can force the students to review the texts. Just imagine when you have the problems in your homework you will understand it more. When you have the problems, what can make you work out is reading your texts and your notes carefully or discussing with other students.

One very strong argument is that doing homework can make the students have a lasting impression about the texts. In order to see it clearly, let us see an example. When students do their homework, they have to review the texts, understand the texts, even more discuss the problems about the texts. They gradually have a lasting impression about the texts.

From what has been discussed above, doing homework has more advantages, so we finally draw the conclusion that daily homework is necessary for students.

NUMBER 69

If you could study a subject that you have never had the opportunity to study, what would you choose? Explain your choice, using specific reasons and details.

Almost everyone of us come at some point of our lives comes to the realization that we might have missed something on the way and we want to go back for a moment and take that thing before we continue. Many times this is expressed via the unexpected desire to study something we might have had the chance, but we before we never took it. For me such thing is astronomy. It appeals to me in so many ways, the mystery that accompanies the science of the universe has always attracted me in some magic way but I never took my chance. Now, if I am given such, I will not hesitate much before I take and below are some of my reasons for doing so.

Astronomy is the science that tries to give us a more profound knowledge about the Universe - the unimaginably big world that we are just a tiny part of. It give us a better look at worlds that we've never imagined exist and within

the whole picture it tries to explain our own existence the way it is. Everyone of us has looked at the starry sky at night and at least a brief thought has come through out head of what's there, what are all this flickering lights and is somebody waiting for us millions of lights years away. Thoughts like this have always made us feel a little bit better in our existence, a little bit less lonely in our universe and science like Astronomy is that one that prove our hopes true, to make the dreams reality.

On the other hand, Astronomy helps us understand better who we are, where do we come from, what is our place in the big picture and how do we function as an entity within it. Let's take for example the studies on the structure of the matter in the universe. Astronomers have proven the existence of substances that we considered unthinkable before and the knowledge they get from this inventions helps is go beyond the visible part in our own world, find the secrets of the matter that are hidden deeply in its existence on earth. We shouldn't also forget the recent discoveries regarding the Big Bang, considered the creation point of the Universe the way we know it today, and the help they provide us on understanding our origin as living beings. It helps us understand where are we heading for.

Taking all of the above mentioned, I can easily conclude that Astronomy for me is a way to broaden my mind, a way to look beyond the visible part of the world I live in, a feeling of belonging somewhere in the whole picture of the universe and, most of all, astronomy the knowledge that provides me with the confidence and hope that living beings on Earth are not alone in their existence.

NUMBER 70

Some people think that the automobile has improved modern life. Others think that the automobile has caused serious problems. What is your opinion? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Twentieth century has witnessed many astonishing and methodological improvements. Innovation of automobile is one of them. Advent of automobile definitely made the life easier and faster. To my opinion, although this invention has few drawbacks but still it has improved modern life. I would support my analysis by stating few reasons below.

There is no doubt about great benefits of automobiles. The impact of the automobile on average peoples' lives could be analyzed in three ways: technical, economical and social concepts.

Firstly in technical impact, the automobile formed a new proficiency in humans, which includes operating mechanical device by practicing and of course, memorizing new skills. For an example driving a car is not so sturdy, but it was one of the foremost attempts to make people work with machines.

Driving a car includes learning, practice, and memorizing mechanical techniques in mind. After learning to drive, one can do it anytime without even giving stiff thoughts about it.

The revolution of the automobile uplifted the economic level. Many businesses, markets are totally dependable on automobiles. Additionally, this invention has opened new gates to many new opportunities. Delivering commodities in nippy and secure way, automobiles play a key role. Today almost every business and market is totally dependent on different kinds of automobiles. All modes of automobiles are assets to our economic status. World has become a global village, thanks to the invention of airplanes which is the one of mode of automobile. Automobiles have transformed the way of communication among people. New social interactions are formed, which were never existed before, again thanks to this significant invention. In conclusion I would say, in spite of increasing air pollution, noise, traffic jams, still automobiles are foundation of modern life. This noteworthy invention of twentieth century made individual's life easier and faster.

NUMBER 71

Which would you choose: a high-paying job with long hours that would give you little time with family and friends **or** a lower-paying job with shorter hours that would give you more time with family and friends? Explain your choice, using specific reasons and details.

In order to earn a living many people are engaged in jobs. Some jobs are high-paying with long hours of work while others are low in salary but the working period is also less. Now if I were given a choice to choose between these options then I would certainly choose the latter one.

Man is born free but he is in chains. He has various duties to perform. He must earn bread for his family. But in doing so he must not be devoted to his work so much that he has little time stored for his family and friends. Because there are times when he should give some time for his family. To strengthen the family ties, it is essential.

Now-a-days the society has gone to astray because there is no family values. Parents are busy with their work. Children do not find their parents most of the time. So they are with their friends most of the time and if they choose wrong friends then they are likely to go down the drain. But if parents are beside them at their time of need ,then they won't feel lonely. Parent-children relation will grow.

Money is essential but it is not the only thing we should run after. If a friend is in need, we should be by his side. If a relative is ill, we should manage some time to see him. And most of all if our family needs us, we should put aside all jobs and be there. We cannot escape from our duties by just saying that we are too busy in our work. We should keep our priorities in order.

Finally, it can be said that we earn money for our happiness and for the comfort of our family. In doing so we should not forget our ultimate goal. If we do, then our families will be in a disaster. In our difficult times we will have no friends to share our problems with. So we should get jobs considering the consequences it may bring. If a lower-paying job with shorter hours makes me happy in the long run, then it is the one I certainly will choose.

NUMBER 72

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Grades (marks) encourage students to learn. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

I personally agree that grades encourage students to learn. Grades enable a person to enhance his/her ability.

Grades enable a person to assess his capacities and disabilities. By looking at one's grade one can roughly tell how well one knows his subject. And this enables a person to overcome his flaws and improve his knowledge on the subject he is weak in.

Grades increase a sense of competitiveness. We usually work hard to get more marks than our friends and classmates. Grades provide a base and reason for this sense of competitiveness. If there were no grades people wouldn't bother much about enhancing their knowledge and would take their studies easy.

Grades tend to develop an interest towards studies. In today's world where most of the students consider studying a burden, a bad grade in their subjects would initiate them to do better. This would enhance their knowledge.

Grades either good or bad are beneficial to students. If one gets a bad grade, he would be embarrassed and would strive to work hard thereby improving his scores and knowledge. And if a person gets good grades he would be careful not to reduce his grades. Thus either way grades play an important role in a student's life.

Thus grades are beneficial and are necessary to encourage students to learn.

NUMBER 73

Some people say that computers have made life easier and more convenient. Other people say that computers have made life more complex and stressful. What is your opinion? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Life has changed a lot since the invention of computers. The computer influences our lives and we influence the world by using the computer. I believe that the computer have made our lives a lot easier and convenient for the following reasons.

First of all, we save a lot of time using a computer and this makes life a lot easier. How much time would we spent waiting in banks in order to get the information we like to receive or we urgently need. With our personal computer we don't even have to leave our homes. Online banking allows us to get the information through the internet and to get it immediately.

Second, we will save not only time but also money. Nowadays nearly every company can be contacted through electronic mail or internet. If we like to buy a special product we can do this using our personal computer. What we pay is the price for the product and the telephone costs for using the internet, but nothing has to be paid for gasoline or other transportation costs.

Furthermore, I would like to lay stress on the advantage which is created through the access to information via internet. Students, for instance, have to do a lot of research work for the university. With your computer you get an access to other universities all over the world.

To sum up, I believe that the advantages of computers outweigh the disadvantages of this invention. I recommend everyone who thinks that life is getting more complex and stressful should start learning more about the good sides of the computer.

NUMBER 74

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.

Travel is one of the most common leisure activities on this planet. It is part and parcel of our culture as is evinced in honeymoons and pilgrimages. Travel for pleasure to exotic places has replaced many traditional holiday activities in recent times and there are several disadvantages in group travel led by a guide and individual travel. Thus, I would like to advocate individual travel

without the benefit of a tour guide and categorically state that, to me, traveling in a group with a tour guide is not a preferable option. There are several reasons for my belief and the foremost is that traveling in a group with a guide defeats the very purpose of leisure travel itself- that of exploring and discovering. Travel is not an experience to be purchased. It is not about visiting site and clicking photographs to show off to friends and family back home. To travel is to discover and to explore- it is an adventure rather than an experience. 'Canned' tourism has little attraction for me because I like to explore for myself and discover for myself rather than be led. I prefer to get involved in an exotic culture through whatever circumstance throws at me rather than experience only whatever a travel agency wants me to experience. I remember an incident while I was traveling in the beautiful Himalayan kingdom of Nepal. I did not take the mountain flights and neither did I live in a resort. I simply set out on my own and met up with many locals and even lived with them for several days. I was able to experience first hand how these beautiful people actually live and this, to me, was far better than any pre ordained experience that I could have purchased at travel agents. Another reason I would prefer to go it alone while traveling is that I will be free to decide what I want to do and where I want to go. In a group, one must adhere to a premeditated itinerary and changes of plan cannot be incorporated into it. One does not have the freedom to decide ones own course of action. I would like to narrate a friend's tale of woe in this regard. I had met this sophomore in my travels in Nepal and chanced upon her again in the forbidden kingdom of Mustang in the north of Nepal. She had just made friends with the locals at a stop in Jomsom, the capital of the forbidden kingdom and received an invitation to travel with them to the interior. She was forced to refuse the invitation due to the fact that she was traveling with a group. Had she been traveling alone she could have experienced what few foreigners experience- a trip to the interiors of Mustang! So, I would like to reiterate my belief that individual travel is far better than group travel with a guide due to the numerous restrictions imposed on one by the latter and I would also advise any would be vacationer to take the long and lonely trail in order to obtain the optimum benefit from travel.

NUMBER 75

Some universities require students to take classes in many subjects. Other universities require students to specialize in one subject. Which is better? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

It is true that some universities require students to take classes in many subjects and other universities require students to specialize in one subject. In my opinion both of these approaches have advantages and disadvantages. In the present essay I will argue in favor of requiring students to take classes in many subjects.

It is great for one to know what exactly wants to do in his life. If one can answer the question "What vocation is appropriate for me" then he can attend university that requires students to specialize in one subject. This is the right way to improve knowledge and to make the most of courses.

But unfortunately there are a few people knowing well what exactly they are born to do. I am one of them. That is why I think taking classes in many subjects would help students to make his mind in order to realize his vocational opportunities. Moreover, taking classes in many subjects helps one to increase his knowledge and to achieve new levels of it.

Of course it is a free choice to attend many classes or to specialize in one subject. But I rather attend university that requires students to take classes in many subjects. Because I am still incapable of making my mind which particular subject to choose, and because it is really important for one to know a lot of things, not only in the realm of his interests, but out of their borders.

NUMBER 76

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Children should begin learning a foreign language as soon as they start school. Use specific reasons and examples to support your position.

Language is the best means of communication. In the globalization era, one language is definitely not enough for one to be able to communicate well with foreigners. I strongly support the idea that children should begin learning a foreign language as soon as they start school. They will get themselves familiar with new language, improve hearing ability as the time goes by, and learn to speak new words early.

In my country, Thailand, it is compulsory for all children to start learning English at the age of three or four. However, they learn only a few words like one, two, three and simple animal names. It is more fun to know other

languages especially when children begin to learn with very easy vocabulary. The learning process is more fun for them. Most language books for kids are colorful and fun to read. It gets children familiar with new languages without feeling afraid or bore to learn.

No doubt, early start means more time for practise. Children can improve their hearing ability from foreign movie, songs, or from tourists. They might not be able to understand the whole conversation but they will hear the word they have learned and know how to pronounce them correctly. I have read the book about bringing up a child where parents speak two languages; there is no problem for a child to learn two languages at the same time. Psychologist said a child will not get confuse but he will be able to speak two languages which will surely be one asset for the future.

In addition, children would start to say a word or sentence early and do not worry so much about mistake as most adults do. You cannot refuse the fact that adults always concern more about grammar and pronunciation of the new languages. This is one of the big barriers for learning. Adults are afraid and not say at all afterward. Language is a matter of practicing not avoiding. Children will start to say what they learn regardless of rule or grammatical part. And that is the best way to learn language.

To me, children can receive new things fast and their development is always progressing. Time and practise will make them master in new language, which will benefit them when they grow up. All in all, language is an art, which one should learn as early as possible. If one wants to see outcome soon, one must start sooner.

NUMBER 77

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Boys and girls should attend separate schools. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Whether boys and girls should attend separate schools or not is a complex and controversial issue. Some people think attending separate schools is benefit for boys and girls to put their heart into studies. On the other hand, other people argue that boys and girls would be benefit from not only studies but also social skills if they are put together in the same schools. In the final

analysis, I prefer the latter one to the former one. In the following discussion, I would like to have evidence to support my view.

First of all, the disadvantage of attending separate schools is that the mutual sex will be suffering in the future because of lacking the knowledge about the opposite sex. One of my friends, for example, who was in separate high schools, lost the regular psychological mind after breaking up with her first boy friend. Because she didn't know boys very well, she hoped they could get along well as the relationship between she and her girlfriends. However, her boyfriend didn't do as what her girlfriends did such as going shopping for a whole day. She was disappointed by him and had an extremely terrible fight with him. They broke up in the end. She was hurt so deeply that couldn't control her behavior any more.

Second of the place, the advantage of attending mixture schools is that boys and girls can help each other more efficient than those in separate schools. Because of different physical minds, they have different ways to think about questions. When they communicate together, they exactly can get some new ideas from others. I still remember after discussing with my partner who was a smart guy, I learned to consider the same thing with different ways. In this case, I really benefit from those experiences to work out every possibility in my work.

However, it may be true that in the mixed schools students will be affected by falling love so early. But the thing is when girls from separate schools meet strangers they are much easier be attracted by opposite sex than those from mixed schools. So this alone can't constitute sufficient support to the view that boys and girls should attend separate schools.

Given the reasons discussed above, the conclusion, which may intertwine at the beginning of discussion and thus become more persuasive, may be safely reached that it's not necessary for boys and girls to attend separate schools.

NUMBER 78

Is it more important to be able to work with a group of people on a team or to work independently? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.

Man has always been a social animal. It is established that most of his achievements are attributed to social structure and team work. So, it is more

important to be able to work with a group of people on a team than to work independently.

Every person has a knowledge unique to himself. No person has complete knowledge about any subject. People have different approaches and contribute in different ways to the same cause. So, a group of persons can contribute more to a cause than a single person can do.

Having many persons working together also helps in the fact that a group can execute its plans more strongly and in a better way, whereas a single person may fail to do so because of lack of opinion or resolution.

A team also promotes team spirit. There is a healthy competition within the group members and this breeds innovative ideas by provoking thoughts. On the other hand, a single person thinks in his own way. The possibility of verification and hence improvements are less than they are in a group. I fear he may continue to make same mistakes and will realize them very late.

A team person draws ideas from each of his teammates and hence is more exposed to the current progresses and latest methods in his field. A single person may need to put a lot of effort, (often impractical) to gain an equal amount of knowledge.

At some or the other stage in one's life, everybody should work with others. A person working in a team learns to live with many persons and work in harmony with strangers. Meanwhile he gets rid of his individual complexes which might have adverse effect on one's profession. These lessons he learnt in his team are also important assets in his personality that he carries home. But, a person working independently would not have experienced these things. He may find it difficult to work with others in future. He will have to start afresh and learn to cope with the group when it is inevitable.

Hence, I strongly feel that team work is essential in everybody's life. It brings out the best out of a person. Even a brilliant person cannot strive for excellence without anybody's assistance. Therefore, it is very important to develop team's attitude.

NUMBER 79

Your city has decided to build a statue or monument to honor a famous person in your country. Who would you choose? Use reasons and specific examples to support your choice.

If it is decided to build a statue or monument to honor a famous person in my country, I would choose Mahatma Gandhi- The father of our nation. Though

there are many other personalities who have contributed to the country and will be a part of the unforgettable glorious past of our country, but Mahatma Gandhi's contribution to his country and fellowmen is irreplaceable.

Mahatma Gandhi was a person who made it possible to achieve independence from British rule. He believed in the principle of non-violence which he followed throughout his life till he breathed his last. Due to his realistic approach, our country was able to free itself from the shackles of injustice and slavery.

Mahatma Gandhi was an advocate by profession but he spent his entire life for his country and lived a most simple and disciplined life. He invented the spinning wheel which was meant to teach the people of the country a means of producing their own cloth for wearing instead of relying upon the foreign goods. The superior example of his simplicity and determination to achieve anything in life is an inspiration for the generations to come.

In conclusion, Mahatma Gandhi in my opinion truly deserves the respect of people and also the title given to him as The father of the Nation. Any monument/statue in his memory can prove to be a mark of respect for the great personality.

NUMBER 80

Describe a custom from your country that you would like people from other countries to adopt. Explain your choice, using specific reasons and examples.

In our world there are many different customs that differ from one country to another. My country has one that, in my opinion, can be adopted by many other countries. My country inhabitants called it "Martisor". In spring, people give each other a gift of a white and red piece of string, which means revival of the environment.

One of my reasons is that this custom is symbol of life and health. In our competitive world, when we often forget to enjoy the simplest things in our life such as flowers, trees, fresh air, walking with friends and family, or in other words have a good time, "Martisor" is not a simple gift. Our life are very complicated and stressful. Therefore, in my opinion, this custom will benefit to all people all over the world.

Another important reason is that one can make a lot of friends by giving them his inexpensive gift. Also, he can make it by himself because it is very

easy to make and you do not need special acknowledge how to make it. For example, I feel very happy when somebody gives me such a gift. This is not because I like surprises. When somebody give you a gift, this means he is proud of you, he love you, or even he want to make you happy, to see your smile or a look in your eyes.

In conclusion, I can say that if I had an opportunity to choose one custom, I would select "Martisor" because everybody can make a lot of friends enjoying life and having a good time by giving them this symbol of life and health.

NUMBER 81

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Technology has made the world a better place to live. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Technology as we all know has changed the way we live our lives in this new millennium. It has affected each and every faucet of people from all countries irrespective of cultural and physical boundaries. Now many people may argue with the fact that, not all change brought due to the technological revolution has resulted in progress for the human kind. But I strongly support the argument that technology has made the world a better place to live. I will explain my point of view with examples and reasoning in the following paragraphs.

First of all, technology has improved the quality of our lives. For example, in our working lives where we use computers, which help us plan and execute our work faster. And also for instance the communication technology which has revolutionized the way people around the world talk and share information. Previously, pigeons were used to transmit information, now due to efforts of many scientists and organizations we have mediums such as e-mail, telephone, fax which allow people to share information, in ways which was never thought possible before. All this results in people meeting and sharing thoughts and exchanging knowledge, which eventually leads to betterment of mankind.

Secondly, It has made it possible to do things unimagined before. For instance, it was never thought possible to cure people of some diseases and disabilities. But path breaking applications of radioactive isotopes in cancer treatment and artificial limb implants in disabled persons are some instances where technology has given people a new ray of hope.

It has also resulted in increasing the efficiency of humans. A good example of this are the machines used in factories which are 1000 times more effecient in

doing some repetitive tasks compared to humans. This results in industry being able to supply the increasing demands of the ever increasing population. Good examples of this are cars and packaged food products.

Technology has also given us a second chance in case of unexpected events like diseases and natural calamities. Because of technology we can better respond to these problems. For example, vaccines are used extensively throughout the world when any particular pandemic or epidemic breaks out and now less lives are lost due to natural disasters than before, thanks to the state of the art search and rescue equipment.

Lastly, it has given us a purpose of our life. For example space technology has strived to explain our origins in the universe. Meanwhile also finding the roots of our own evolution. All this results in a better understanding of the forces of nature controlling our existence and better utilizing them for our own good.

In conclusion, I fully support the statement that technology has made our world a better place to live and also gives us a means by which we can preserve the best of our world for future generations to come.

NUMBER 82

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Advertising can tell you a lot about a country. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Advertising is an all powerful tool in today's world where communication means are varied and accessible by all, and reaching the target audience with the right message makes all the difference. Advertising is a medium through which, people can be educated about a particular issue at hand. Advertising can be about a new product, a new business opportunity or in this case about a country. I strongly agree with the statement that advertising can inform, educate and can tell a lot about the country. I will support my argument through examples and reasoning given below.

Advertising can be of many forms: Printed and published information, through broadcast media (radio and television) and now the most important emerging means of all; that of the Internet. All these forms of advertising have their own advantages and disadvantages. Advertising is generally responsible for the first impressions of a country in people's minds. In this case, what they hear about a particular country for the first time through any means of advertising, will result in it being a true picture of a country for that person / country.

So that's the reasons why governments of some developed countries have taken this issue of projecting the right image of their country through advertising very seriously. This is proven by the fact that their tourism numbers and advantages of living and working in their country are most highlighted than other countries. This is nonetheless important in today's competitive global environment where countries are competing against each other to attract new investments and business in their country. All this directly affects the economic and development scene of the country as good or bad advertising can directly result in the country's growth.

For instance, in my country India, the Information technology ministry has spent substantial finances and efforts to highlight India's advantage as a global source for information technology workers. This in fact has resulted in growth in the Gross Domestic Product of our country there by raising the standard of people living in this country and giving a nascent industry a chance to grow in a free capital environment. This couldn't have been achieved without concentrated advertising of our advantages and economic benefits of developing software in India.

So I conclude to say that Advertising can not only tell a lot about a country but can also result in bring growth to the economy and prosperity to its people. Adding to that, I would like every government of the world taking efforts to promote the best their country has to give to the world, here by promoting peace and prosperity among all nations.

NUMBER 83

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Modern technology is creating a single world culture. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

I agree that modern technology is creating a single world culture because it disseminates knowledge beyond the geographic borders of a location. When people communicate they exchange ideas and feelings. In the ancient era, culture was passed from parents to children by spoken language. Knowledge, traditions and beliefs were transferred to the youngest through speaking and in some cases writing or drawing. Thus, at that time, culture was very restricted to the tribe, village or the community where they lived.

The modern means of transportation, in my opinion, was the first invention that contributed strongly to the spread of cultures throughout the planet. The advance of automobiles, airplanes and ships made it incredibly easier to be in other parts of the planet. People started to know more about other cultures and many times introducing to their own culture things learned in other places and countries. The exchange of knowledge and goods started to play an

important role in people's life. The café from Brazil, the scotch from Scotland, the cigars from Cuba, the wine from France, the American music, are good examples of how other countries products are rooted in our day-by-day life and our culture.

Furthermore, in the past few years we have experienced a new wave of technology. Internet, mobile phones, email, e-commerce, are some words that resume what is present in our quotidian. As never before was so easy to communicate to one another. Consequently the world is creating a whole new definition of culture. It is the culture of mass that transcends the geographical borders, permitting that you feel at home anywhere in the planet. The people's behavior and architecture has been standardized either. Picture yourself, for instance, in a hotel room in Japan, Rio de Janeiro or New York. In most cases you will receive the same treatment in all those places and the interior designs all look the same, as the services provided. The reason they do this is to make everyone feel as he was in his own hometown, not mattering where you are from.

In conclusion, modern technology has facilitated our lives enormously. But the price paid for the advancement of technology is that some countries, if they do not stand hard at their beliefs and traditions, they will lose their identity to absorb the globalized culture.

NUMBER 84

Some people say that the Internet provides people with a lot of valuable information. Others think access to so much information creates problems. Which view do you agree with? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Internet as we all know is changing the way we live our lives in the new millenium. Never before in the history of mankind, was so much information available to people. So with this abundance of information, also comes the clashes of views. Some people beleive that this medium provides people with lot of information, while others stand by the view that this excess of information creates problems. In my opinion, the information provided by the internet is valuable to people and can help us solve a lot of problems which is faced by the world today. It can also serve as people voice against corrupt governments and make them aware of their rights to freedom and expression of free speech.

Internet because of its distributed nature is very free in nature. By free, i mean that anyone and everyone with a view can express it on the internet. This is best described by the journalists and other social workers who can break the news of war, conflict or any epidemic almost immediately as it occurs.

Previously, governments used to control the flow of information. But now due to the advent of the internet, every piece of news and developments in news stories can be broadcasted live over the internet. This valuable information is transmitted over the internet over a medium which knows no limits or boundaries. This helps in bringing people closer and promises that the message will be delivered to the world in an uncensored form. This principle very much supports the view that this is a free world, which is made possible due to the medium of internet.

Another nature of the internet is that, it is non-proprietary and no one can claim ownership or copyright over it. This establishes an ideal medium for people to exhibit their work. Best examples of these are the students at university, music artists, scientists researching on a new product or path breaking discovery. With so much information freely available, people can be well informed of their alternatives available to them. Like for example, I read in a news article that a woman in Africa was suffering from a rare form of cancer. The doctors in Africa had given up hope. Then one of the doctors had read over the internet about a new revolutionary treatment for this cancer being developed by some Canadian doctors. So after some more research and communication over the internet with the Canadian team of doctors, the woman was flown to Canada, where she was treated for the cancer. Thus, a life was saved because information was available in time.

So I believe that Internet provides people with a lot of valuable information, which in most cases is life saving or sometimes is educating to people. But I would also like to add that with this access of information comes responsibility. So individuals and governments should respect the value of information and use it in ethical ways so as not to cause damage.

NUMBER 85

A foreign visitor has only one day to spend in your country. Where should this visitor go on that day? Why? Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.

A country is represented by her people. She will be revered or belittled by the way her people behave. If I had a chance to suggest a place to a foreign visitor to visit in my country, I am glad and proud to suggest "The Banyan", a non profit organization in Chennai, India.

The very first reason to suggest a place like this instead of stunning, scenic beautiful natural places is that every where in this world, we can relax ourselves by visiting a naturally beautiful, peaceful place. But "The Banyan" is a place where mentally ill distressed, forsaken women get shelter.

The reason why I was very much impressed by "The Banyan" is, It is the perfect rehabilitation center, found by two college girls Vandhana and Vaishnavi without any strong political as well as economical background but with their strong fire for helping people. After facing number of problems, they established this organization. Now this organization has hundreds of members.

When I first visited "The Banyan" I was really melted. I saw women who were not even aware of their name. I saw small kids affected by AIDS, but still playing cheerfully without knowing about the danger they are facing. When I was speaking with one of the women, she said, "I feel very comfortable here. With the help of The Banyan I have the confidence that, in the near future, I will reunite with my near and dear ones from whom I was separated for the reason that I have forgotten already."

If the visitor sees this organization, he can realize that our country has such a bold and helping minded people like these girls. These girls are the best persons to represent my country. I am really very proud to suggest this place to a new visitor.

NUMBER 86

If you could go back to some time and place in the past, when and where would you go? Why? Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.

Had I a 'Time machine' that would enable me to travel to any time in the past, I would choose to visit King Arthur's court. There are several reasons that I choose this time over several other (perhaps richer) periods and I will attempt to outline them in the following paragraphs.

The first reason that I choose King Arthur's court to go back in time is that I would really like to experience the world of chivalry. Brought up in this modern world and very much a part of this material culture, I would like to experience the era when it was compulsory to treat all others with respect, where women were treated with utmost chivalry. In a world where all others weaker than oneself were to be protected and treated with love, I think that I could bring back some of the ancient values that are so conspicuous by their absence in our world.

Another reason that I would like to visit King Arthur's court is to experience the pomp, pageantry and splendor of the court. In our times, we have lost the value of ceremony and all our 'ceremonies' are a distant echo of times past where ceremony existed for the sake of ceremony itself. In this ultra practical world, we have lost a lot of the culture that was followed right up to the last few centuries and the absence of pomp and grandeur is a big loss for this world. If I could imbibe some of the culture of King Arthur's court, I would consider myself fortunate and would definitely attempt to infuse some of the pageantry of days bygone into our modern culture.

Perhaps the most important reason for my choosing King Arthur's court would be to be in the presence of historical figures like King Arthur himself, his beautiful wife- Queen Guinevere, the epitome of chivalry- Sir Galahad and the exemplary knight- Sir Lancelot. The king and queen are remembered in history as the greatest lovers that existed in times past. Sir Galahad has even made his way into modern idiomatic usage through his exemplary chivalry and the quintessential knight, Sir Lancelot is the greatest example of knighthood ever. Just to be in the presence of these historical heavyweights would make my day!

Thus, I feel that this period and the perspective it represents is truly important in the modern context and were I to be given a second chance to go back to another bygone era, I would choose King Arthur's court all over again.

NUMBER 87

What discovery in the last 100 years has been most beneficial for people in your country? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

There are various discoveries in our countries in the last 100 years. I am sure that the exploitation of natural gas layer in the continental shelf of our country was the important one of them.

There are several reasons which are listed as follows.

First of all, the natural gas can enhance the ability of competition in price. There are a little resource to produce in our country, so we must import it. Discovery of natural gas provided power plant and company energy to produce goods to export. Thus, we could save the money to spend to run plants. Therefore the price of production was lowered.

Second, the exploitation of natural gas supplied us with diverse another natural resources. The natural gas layer imply the possibility of oil buried beneath it. Of course, our country are investigating in the continental of shelf in our sea.

Finally, we are independent of the change of the energy resources in price. Most people had to be careful the rise of oil in the past. It was essential for Government to comprehend the supply of energy. Furthermore, company took pains to compensate for the rise of cost during production.

In conclusion, the discovery of natural gas gave rise to a lot of changes. It is needless to worry about the rising cost. And we can improve the competitive power in world markets. Through the exploiting of oil, we will need not to export energy resource any more.

NUMBER 88

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Telephones

and email have made communication between people less personal. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Today almost everybody has a telephone and a computer, which is connected to the Internet. These inventions has some positive sides-especially when we should talk to a person who is a long distance away from us; nevertheless they have one negative side -they make communications between people less personal.

When I was a child neither we have a telephone, nor a computer connected to the Internet. Now we have both. However, I do not use them very much in order to communicate. I am not used to making a telephone call or sending e-mail yet. I would rather speak directly with the person I want to. In this way, I could see his or her reaction to what I say and thus it is easier to talk. Actually, this is the reason why people prefer to talk in person rather than using a telephone.

The other popular way to communicate is via sending e-mails. This, according to me, is the least personal way for communicating and the hardest way, as well. When we send an e-mail we sometimes either have not seen this person, or we do not know anything about him. Therefore, we cannot easily choose what to write him. Another thing that makes this kind of communication so impersonal is the e-mails, which are sent when we became members to an Internet site. These e-mails are sent to every member and text is the same.

All at all, e-mails and telephones make communications impersonal. Thus, for some people it is very difficult to communicate in this way. I hope that when further advancements of these technologies are made this problem will be solved.

NUMBER 89

If you could travel back in time to meet a famous person from history, what person would you like to meet? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

If I had the chance to travel back in time to meet a famous person from history, I would like to meet german scientist Albert Einstein, because I consider him being the best physicist of all times and an extraordinary intellectual. He made a valuable contribution to humanity.

Born in German in 1870's, Einstein became the most famous scientist of the twentieth century. His studies revolutionized and reshaped scientific thinking. I find interesting the complexity of his mind and spirit. He was in conflict with his deep religious feelings, he said that the Bible could not be literally true, and this thoughts also allowed Einstein to discard scientific prejudices. He stated that problems cannot be solved at the same level of awareness that

created them. His creativity amazes me, after Einstein's work, space and time would never again be the same.

Not only his scientific work is fascinating to me, but also his sense of humor, just to give an example of that I will tell that he once said that gravitation cannot be held responsible for people falling in love. He was an undoubted revolutionary, an innovator and also a philosopher and a pacifist. He believed that he owed his success to imagination, that fantasy had meant more to him than the talent for absorbing knowledge. I totally agree with him about that. Since I am interested in science I admire him very much for his great contribution to humanity, I would have been pleased to meet him and work with the genius and emblematic master of science that he was.

To conclude I say that I would choose to meet Einstein who is acknowledged as the greatest physicist that ever lived because I have always found fascinating his reasoning and the significant contribution to science he had made.

NUMBER 90

If you could meet a famous entertainer or athlete, who would that be, and why? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

Given the chance to meet a famous entertainer or athlete, I would definitely want to meet Mohammed Ali as, to me, he represents the single most important sporting icon of our era. Mohammed Ali's life reads like a history book and the resilience that he showed is a great example for today's youth. The image of Mohammed Ali lighting the Olympic torch at the Atlanta Olympics is one of the most enduring images in sport today. Ali owes his status as a sporting icon to the extraordinary life that he lived. He has endured inequality, racism and the draft to emerge as 'The Greatest' and I am sure that there is not a person alive who would opine that he does not deserve that sobriquet!

One quality of Ali's that inspires me is his tenacity and his ability to stand by his beliefs. To regain the world title thrice is no mean feat and unparalleled till the present. To say that the Vietnam war was not his own and to risk losing the world title and being disbarred from boxing in his own country took a great deal of courage. I would like to be in the presence of such a personality, even briefly, because to me he is an inspiration and all that personifies determination to stand by one's beliefs. The strength of his beliefs are exemplified by that incident when he threw his Olympic medal into a river after having been at the receiving end of racism. His liaisons with Malcolm X and Martin Luther King further prove that Ali stood by his beliefs all his life.

Ali's battles did not end with his boxing career- in fact they had just started. Battling Parkinson's syndrome has taken even more of that exceptional courage. To stand before the world with hands trembling due to the lack of control over his own muscles and to light the Olympic torch took a great deal of courage that we would do well to imitate.

Another reason I would like to meet Mohammed Ali is that I am a boxing enthusiast and would like to meet the greatest of them all. 'dance like a butterfly and sting like a bee' are lines that made Ali's boxing style famous. The dazzling footwork and the ability to manipulate opponents to any part of the ring were amazing to behold and the sheer determination to come out on top was awe striking. To be in the presence of a boxer who had the whole range of skills would be a dream come true, to be with the boxer who had a monopoly over all the superlatives would be an experience to remember till the grave.

Lastly, if I were indeed to meet Ali I would also make sure that I had my photograph taken with Ali with him, as only he can in his inimitable style, holding one of those ham sized fists to my jaw!

NUMBER 91

If you could ask a famous person **one** question, what would you ask? Why? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

If I could ask a famous person one question, it would definitely be regarding the meaning of life to him/her. The meaning of life has long puzzled even the greatest of minds. In my opinion, knowing the meaning of life and what one wants out of life can actually help a person to live out a fairly productive life.

Life represents different things to various people. Some people view life as mesmerizing and worth living, while others just take it for granted and don't really give it much thought. Knowing what life is really about is of great importance to me. I have always been amazed at the multitude of living beings that presently inhabit the earth. What is the meaning of life? How did it come about in the first place? What can be done to make living here on earth worthwhile? Someone who is famous, might actually have some interesting thoughts to share on this subject.

It surprises me that no one ever asks such questions from famous people. People like to interview a famous person and ask all sorts of personal questions. I think that asking this single question and carefully observing the speaker can actually reveal a lot about the speaker's personality and outlook than asking personal questions. This is because famous people might become somewhat defensive and not entirely honest when asked to describe their personality traits or likes/dislikes. But asking them about their outlook about life gives them space to talk about a lot more than just answering some to-the-point questions.

Asking a famous person about his/her view about life might also help us out in how we can view the world around us. Often people who become famous or successful have positive outlook towards present and future. They don't worry about the hardships of the past. This might motivate others to adopt a similar positive view of life.

In short, I would really like to ask a famous person about his/her outlook on life, which in effect, will let me know something about the famous person as well.

NUMBER 92

Some people prefer to live in places that have the same weather or climate all year long. Others like to live in areas where the weather changes several times a year. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

Some people prefer to live in places that have the same weather or climate all year long. Others like to live in areas where the weather changes several times a year. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

I was born in a part of the world where the climate has four seasons and I learnt how much beauty each of these periods can bring to the environments and our lives. I prefer to live in an area where the weather changes several times a year.

Although sometimes I experience difficulties in the cold winters because of my bad tolerance to low temperatures, I cannot imagine the Christmas without the white snow making the whole world to look like the pictures from a fairy tale book.

There is so much beauty that each season comes with that I do not think I can live in a place where the climate is the same all year long. I might like going in those places for some weeks in winter but not for a longer time. If I were to live in such a place for a life- time, I would miss the spring when the whole nature wakes up. I would miss all the wonderful spring colors, the new buds, the first grass that comes after the gray winter, the trees blooming, the birds that are coming back from warmer places where they lived during winter. The spring is my favorite season, but I love and know to cherish the others as well. Talking about colors, the fall is the next on my list, with all those reddish, yellowish and brownish hues that cover both the leaves and the earth. The ripe harvests, the crops waiting to be gathered are things that bring joy and satisfaction in fall.

The summer has its own beauty and in that period of the year the holiday flavor is in the air. In places with temperate climate the vegetation is abundant. The days are sunny and bright.

Living in a place with the same climate all year around would be very difficult, as I could not enjoy and cherish the wonderful things that occur every time a new season arrive.

NUMBER 93

Many students have to live with roommates while going to school or university. What are some of the important qualities of a good roommate? Use specific reasons and examples to explain why these qualities are important.

Most of the students might have lived with roommates while studying in school or university. In most of the cases, it is true when the students went to the universities. I would prefer to have the characteristics of the roommates are co-operative, competitive and generous.

The one important quality of the good roommate is the generous, as the student stay most of the time stay with the roommate, he should be kind enough to share our sorrows and happiness. For instance, during my study in university once I felt sick before annual examinations. My roommate was taken me to the doctor and paid lot of attention till it gets cured. With out his kind, generous nature I would haven't recovered before the exams and I would have got low grade.

Also roommate should be competitive. This is because this will increase our studies growth a little bit faster and always try for the highest grade in the exams. At the same time we should not depress by looking at the roommate's progress in the exams. Infact, we should take that progress as a challenge and keep trying for the good grade. For example, I always used to take inspiration from my roommate percentage and used to get the more or less equal percentage with him. This resulted in increasing my position in class from top10 to top5 ranks.

Co-operation also one of the important quality of the good roommate. This would eventually helpful in sharing the knowledge of the subject and also resources like reference books and writing material. In my study days, once I couldn't attended the classes for one week due to ill. But as I have got my roommate such a cooperative person, I got to know the course details went on during that week and that was helped me a lot in follow up with the next courses.

As a whole from my point of view important qualities of good roommate are generous, competitive and co-operative

NUMBER 94

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Dancing plays an important role in a culture. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Dance, patterned and rhythmic bodily movements, serves as a form of communication and expression. People of different cultures dance differently and for varying purposes, it can express emotions, tell a story, religious or political needs, their varied forms of dance can reveal much about their life. Therefore dancing plays an important role in a culture.

The first characteristic of dance that can tell us about a certain culture is the body movement. By varying physical actions and using different dynamics, human being can fashion an infinite number of body movements. Out of the range of movements that the body is capable of performing, every culture emphasizes certain features in its dance styles. For example, rotating and leg lifting movements in ballet and European folk or pantomime and symbolic gestures may be used in Asian dance forms.

Another basic motive of dance is the expression and communication of emotion. People often dance as a way of releasing powerful feelings, such as sudden accesses of high spirits, joy, impatience or anger. This emotional expression way can be seen not only in individual dances but also in the more formalized and collective dances such as tribal war dances or festive folk dances. This motive also plays an important role in any culture.

Every society has its own dance. Dancing may mark birth, initiation, graduation, marriage, succession to political office, and death. In some societies dances may be the only events at which young people of different sexes can meet. In contemporary society, dances also provide important occasions for young people to socialise. All these forms of dance profoundly reflect the peculiarity of each culture.

In short, through its various forms; dance is an indispensable art form in a culture.

NUMBER 95

Some people think governments should spend as much money as possible exploring outer space (for example, traveling to the Moon and to other planets). Other people disagree and think governments should spend this money for our basic needs on Earth. Which of these two opinions do you agree with? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

In the one point of view, it is one of the man's characters to be curious. He wants to break the limits and learn more. No one can oppose to this quality of human. This curiosity caused many inventions and profits for the people around the world. In the other hand, we live together and we should think about others, have compassion for them and give their due. It is not fair that governments notice on their points and don't think that it may harm other people. In my opinion, governments should spend money for our basic needs on earth and stop spending money for outer space researches.

If one person deprived himself and his family from eating to buy and run a car, we may consider him mad. It is not acceptable to spend millions of money's funds and expenditures for space researches while there are many people around the world who have a severe lack of food, water, and hygiene and many other primary necessities.

When we see that there is many violent thugs, suicides, robberies and divorces occur in our society and most of these problems are because of lack of money or poverty, It is not conventional to squander this huge amount of money for traveling to space while many essential requirements have not answered yet.

Many times, we see from our television or read from news that our earth is in a very bad condition. Deforesting caused many jungles destroyed, air pollution is going to be a very dangerous problem and so on. It is utterly absurd that governments waste this amount of money while our earth, the only place for us to live; situation deteriorates every day so fast. At last but not the least, there are still many troubles in our society and earth in that many people die because of lack of food and water supply in the 20th century what is not a negligible problem. Furthermore, our earth is going to be an intolerable place to live providing we don't find out a solution for it. Its more better to government focus their money on the people and earth problems first and then let space look after itself.

NUMBER 96

People have different ways of escaping the stress and difficulties of modern life. Some read; some exercise; others work in their gardens. What do you think are the best ways of reducing stress?

Use specific details and examples in your answer.

Nowadays people have stress from their work, study, living in urban areas, and so on. I think exercise is the best way to reduce stress. The developing of vehicles has been decreasing less exercise to modern people. Exercises bring our bodies health and feel refresh.

Today, The invention of car made our life more convenient. Most families have at least one car for their commute, shopping and leisure activities. However, when you drive a car to go to work, how do you feel you have to be in a traffic jam every morning? Most of them feel stressful. Trains and subways are also convenient vehicles for people who work far from their houses but if they get on a crowd train every morning and evening, they also feel stressful and uncomfortable. Using vehicles are very convenient but they bring stress and less exercise for people. Some people do exercise such as jogging, walking, play sports, and so on. I think moving our bodies make stronger and healthier bodies. If you do exercise outside, you can see animals, natures, and new view every second. For people who see same view and stay same place while they are commuting, moving their bodies and watching new view will help release their stress.

Another effect of exercise makes our body warm and sweat. Good amount of exercise make people's feeling good and refresh. After finishing exercise, they feel their bodies are light and have confidence and self – satisfaction. I think exercise makes people feel good not only physically but also mentally. When people are depressed because of their work or study, exercise will help to change their feeling and mind better.

In conclusion, I think exercise is the best ways of reducing stress for modern people. People feel stress because of their less exercise, depression from their work, study, or relationship with their friends and families. If people exercise continuously as their daily role, exercise will be able to solve both physical and mental stresses efficiently.

NUMBER 97

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Teachers should be paid according to how much their students learn. Give specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

We are going to school to get our knowledge. Our parents are paying money for our education and they expect us to get the best one. And how disappointed they are if we are getting bad grades. They are paying money and don't see any result. Their kids do not learn too much. May be it's the teacher's fault. May be parents should pay less money? A lot of parents think

like this. But I disagree with the statement that teachers should be paid according to how much their students learn.

I think that everything depends on a student and his willingness to study. So why should teachers be paid according to students desire? Teachers help us to understand a lot of things from the books if we cannot afford them. And if students do not want to study, why should teachers suffer?

Teachers have been studying for many years. They became teachers through so many difficulties and efforts. As far as I know if you want to be a teacher you have to study a lot. You have to get very good education, because you will take responsibility for the rest of your life-to teach others since you have finished the education. That means that the teachers spent a lot of time, energy to get their degree. And I think that they have already deserved to be well paid.

People were always paid for their knowledge. As much as you know, as much as you are awarded. I think that teachers know a lot, in a such a way they should be paid well for their knowledge. And it does not depend on how much their students learnt. I think that there are no bad teachers- there are only bad students. And if the student explains lack of his knowledge because of a teacher, that means that he never tried. He never tried to study, he never tried to ask his teacher for a help, he never wanted to get more than his laziness.

That's why I think that teachers should not be paid according to how much their students learn. I believe that every teacher wants his student to get the best knowledge. And it is not his fault that the student didn't want the same thing.

NUMBER 98

If you were asked to send one thing representing your country to an international exhibition, what would you choose? Why? Use specific reasons and details to explain your choice.

If I was asked to send one thing that represents my country, I will choose an object that holds a great amount of importance. The product that I select should be native to my own nation so that I can inform my nation's excellence to the people of the world. In this essay, I will describe the attire that I will offer in great detail.

In my native country, there is a traditional garment called "Hanbok". Its vivid color and intricate, ingenious design will evoke people's applause.

The reason that I would choose "Hanbok" is that its pattern is unique and innovative. The main difference between "Hanbok" and regular western dress is that the former is extremely practical, while the latter is not. It is suitable for

any kinds of meetings, so you don't have to squander you money in purchasing luxurious dresses.

Due to its extraordinary design, "Hanbok" can adapt to any kind of circumstances. In the summer, "Hanbok" will lower your body temperature, because it is full of minute holes. In the winter, "Hanbok" will maintain your body temperature, so that you wouldn't have to worry about getting cold.

"Hanbok" consists of several pituresque colors; green, red, yellow, and blue. The colors symbolize my nation's patience and creativity. Hence, presenting "Hanbok" in an international fair will result in my country's success.

I have explained my opinion through the ensamples that I have enumerated above. "Hanbok" is the perfect product to display in an international expo, because it represents our national traits.

NUMBER 99

You have been told that dormitory rooms at your university must be shared by two students. Would you rather have the university assign a student to share a room with you, or would you rather choose your own roommate? Use specific reasons and details to explain your answer.

For the last five years of my life, i have been living with roomates - a long enough time for me to know the kinds of people i prefer to live with, and the kinds that dont want to be around. Which is why, when I was told that I needed to share a room with another girl, I decided to do the chosing myself. This would not be such an easy choice to make, but atleast I had a few points on my side. First of all, I had lived in this one town all my life, and I had so many freinds going to university at the same time as myself, so it would be no problem finding someone willing to share with me. Also, i figured that if i let the authorities chose someone for me to live with, then they probably would chose someone that i had never known before, and becuase it is so hard for me to make friends, i would take a very long time to get used to this new person.

With this in mind i decided that letting the school chose someone for me is not a good idea.

Also, it would be so much better if i chose someone for myself becuase i have a lot of rules that govern my life and i expect whoever i live with to follow them. I sleep very early at night, something which many young people i know don't do. There is no guaratee that the person the school choses for me is going to sleep as early as I do, therefore the most logical option is for me to find someone that can fit my needs. Also I am a vegetarian, and the slightest smell of meat anywhere around the house can make me get very sick, so i need to be sure that the person i live with either is a vegetarian like myself or is going to remember never to bring meat around me.

The most important factor in me wanting to choose a roommate of my own is the fact that I love animals. Wherever I have lived, I have always had at least three cats living with me. I love animals so much and I possibly can not live without them. Not everyone however shares this same passion that I do, in fact, many young people do not have time to care for pets, and don't especially like them, or worst, are allergic to them. For this reason I need to find someone that shares this passion with me, or at least doesn't mind having pets around the house. If the school was to choose someone with whom I was to live, then for all I know, it could be someone who can not stand the sight of pets. One last reason I would want to choose a roommate for myself is the fact that I have a best friend with whom I have been sharing flats for five years. Now, both of us are accepted into this university, and I would love to continue being with her. We both get along very well, and I don't need to put in extra effort to start a good relationship all over again. For these reasons, it is clear to me that I would never want the school authorities to find a flat mate for me when I can find one for myself - especially one that will completely suit me.

NUMBER 100

Some people think that governments should spend as much money as possible on developing or buying computer technology. Other people disagree and think that this money should be spent on more basic needs. Which one of these opinions do you agree with? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

Computers are one of the most prominent and exceptional inventions of the last century. With the enhancement of human knowledge on electronics and machine based processing, computing and storage systems, human lives have been radically changed. Not only has the spheres of education and science and technology advanced as a result of its own offspring, the computer era, but also the whole world and its myriad problems have been solved by the computers, which man, its creator was unable to.

That computers have had an enormously positive impact on the lives of people, from the poorest of the poor to the richie-richs is a fact beyond contestation. While on one hand, when the computer revolution, especially the mainframes has given a new life to the space age and mankind has thus been able to explore space to such an extent that space is no longer a mystery to us. On the other hand, the need based and intelligible use of computers has solved the greatest problems in the industry and agriculture as well. The tremendously useful and efficient control system instrumentation in industry has made productivity of plants rise in leaps and bounds. It has aided us to even such a great extent that the world economy has a new frontier called the IT or Knowledge sector based on the Computer system and its handling by humans.

A government of any sovereign represents the people. Quoting Abraham Lincoln's famous words for a democratic government "is for the people, by the people and of the people". Thus the primary job of any government, whether elected or not is to look after its people and hope for the collective betterment of its masses. The development of a economy is only a medium of fulfilling its basic duty of empowering and satisfying people's basic needs. Hence the reigns of economy in the hands of government are to be so directed as to suit and benefit its people the most. Addressing and fulfilling the basic needs, wants and desires of the people to as much level as possible is thus the foremost responsibility and a mandatory requirement for any government.

The immense aid to mankind, that the computers have done so far has been a real good pointer as to whether it can be integrated to anything and everything of our lives. And, thus several scientists worldwide have been working on myriad platforms for developing several things to benefit mankind.

But, still, computers cannot feed the poor, can't cover his/her body or provide him a space to live in. This being the most basic needs which any government has to fulfill. Though in all these processes computer technology can well be implemented to best uses as a medium of improving the time and cost requirements at least. Thus it can be definitely seen that the computer technology at the current stage of development by itself can never achieve these basic goals. A strong infrastructure is what facilitates to solve such basic problems.

So in my view, for the countries of developed world and some of the world's developing economies it is but natural to invest hugely in computer technology for providing its people with a better and more prosperous future. But for the others, i.e. the underdeveloped countries and the one's in which most people still live below the poverty line it is important to think and allocate resources in such a fashion that the basic infrastructure for the people is developed and also the needs to march with times is served.

NUMBER 101

Some people like doing work by hand. Others prefer using machines. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Some people prefer using machines to do work while others choose to work with their own hands. Personally, I prefer the latter because I find that working

with one's hands will reap a greater sense of satisfaction when the task has been completed. Consider a case. Your friend's birthday is coming up. It would be absolutely fabulous if you could send her a gift personally, right up to her door step instead of sending her an electronic greeting card with the computer in your bedroom. Doing things with your own hands brings allows us to appreciate the fruits of labor and hard work.

The virtual world is far too distant and unrealistic. Human touch is still the most sincere way to make friends and communicate with your loved ones. Moreover, an over reliance on machines will tend to make us less capable in completing simple task. Taking a short ten minute walk to the shop opposite your house to buy some daily necessities will benefit our health because it allows us to exercise our limbs after lying on a couch in front of the television for over two hours but majority of the people nowadays will choose to drive there instead, claiming that it saves time and strength. Human's natural ability to move and do work has depleted over the years with the invention of machines which enable us not to even move ourselves to get things done. It would benefit and foster family relationships by doing things together such as cleaning the house or clearing the garden with your siblings instead of ordering the maid-"a human machine" around or following a schedule to take turns to clean up the mess using a vacuum cleaner in less than half an hour.

Nevertheless, machines does indeed provide us with a much more efficient and faster way to complete a task in hand like typing a resume or an essay instead of writing it out. It does allow us to survive better in a fast-paced society.

NUMBER 102

[Schools should ask students to evaluate their teachers. Do you agree or disagree? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.](#)

Teachers often get a chance to evaluate the knowledge of their students. Some people think that schools should allow students to evaluate the work of their teachers. In my opinion, this is a very good idea, because it will improve the quality of teaching. Also, students would be more interested in attending classes. Finally, the school would improve it's reputation in the community.

Firstly, students would have great benefit from such a survey. If students are not satisfied with a teacher, they would be offered a chance to express their opinion. This way they would have their say about their own education. Their opinion should not be accepted as an absolute truth, but should always be heard and taken into consideration. Indeed, bad evaluation by the student population doesn't necessarily mean that the teacher is bad. For example, if students claim that certain teacher is not good, it may mean that the teacher isn't competent, but it may also mean that students don't pay enough attention to what he is saying, or that they should spend more time studying.

By expressing their opinion, students can make teachers prepare better for their lectures or explain the content more clearly and with more enthusiasm. Therefore, students would be able to understand the lectures better and consequently to get higher grades. Furthermore, the students would be motivated to pay more attention during classes and to listen to lectures more regularly, since they will be asked to give their own opinion about what they've heard.

Secondly, this kind of survey would also be useful for teachers. Good teachers should be rewarded financially or otherwise. On the other hand, the teacher who receives low grade from his students should be sanctioned, for example by lowering his salary. In extreme cases, he should be fired. This way he would be forced to improve his teaching skills in order to keep his job or raise his salary. Therefore, he would become a more competent teacher and better educator. This would improve the overall quality of education in the school.

Finally, this survey would be useful for the school and its reputation. If a school asks students to evaluate teachers, it means that students have their freedom of expression and that they are not intimidated by the authority of the teachers. The school would be more popular among prospective students, who would be more interested in enrolling that particular school. Also, the school would be better funded by its sponsors more appreciated by the community.

In conclusion, if the students were asked by the school to evaluate their teachers, it would benefit everyone. Teachers would be obligated to constantly improve quality of their lectures to avoid bad evaluation. Students would enjoy better education, and they would pay more attention in classes, since they would be able to influence the quality of the classes. This would improve the reputation of the school, which will be better respected by the community.

NUMBER 103

In your opinion, what is the most important characteristic (for example, honesty, intelligence, a sense of humor) that a person can have to be successful in life? Use specific reasons and examples from your experience to explain your answer. When you write your answer, you are not limited to the examples listed in the question.

Many people believe that one can be successful if he /she is committed, honest, faithful or intelligent. But, the foundation of each of these qualities lies in believing the power the person has, and working accordingly to achieve the goal. There are many people, who are honest, beautiful, good and soft spoken, intelligent and even faithful, but only some are successful in achieving their goal. While all of these characteristics are equally important and act as the medium for success, the most important is the power to cope with circumstances and keep our spirit go on in the most difficult situations.

As it is well said that we cannot direct the wind but we can adjust the sail, similarly, in the way to our destination, we will come across lot of obstacles, but we need to find the way to come across that situation. This is where the success lies. No matter how low we fall, but what matters is how high we bounce back Success can be measured by what we have and how much of the power we are using to achieve our goal. For, example while in playing games, it is sure that one team will win and other will lose, but the spirit is not just in winning but in learning new techniques and improving the team sprit and cooperation. Winner team cannot always be successful, but the successful team is the one which has improved a lot with respect to its earlier performance.

Though the person is honest, intelligent, faithful and committed, it is not sure that he will be successful. The most important rather than these is to know the environment and the need, and implementing best of the best ideas and actions. No matter how smaller step it can be, but it can bring great changes. As Shiva Khera has said, "Winners don't do different things but they do things differently", better explains the meaning of being successful. Success is not just winning, but more than that is how much we are satisfied with whatever we are doing. So, all qualities like honesty, intelligence, and faithfulness are directly proportional to the success.

The definition of success for each of us may vary. Some may think root cause for success is honesty while others may think it is the commitment. But, in my opinion, where there is will there is power, so each of us should know our strength, and work accordingly to be successful. And we should measure our success not with others but with what we have and what we have achieved.

NUMBER 104

It is generally agreed that society benefits from the work of its members. Compare the contributions of artists to society with the contributions of scientists to society. Which type of contribution do you think is valued more by your society? Give specific reasons to support your answer.

It is a commonly accepted fact that society benefits from the work of it's memebtrs. Some of them are more inclined to artistic forms of creation, while others prefer working in a scientific framework. Both scientists and artists contribute to the socity in their own way. Works of artists affect people's state of mind, and works of scientists affect their everyday life. In my opinion, scientific work is more valued by the modern society.

Artists make art, and art makes people feel better. Artistic creations may be more or less valuable, from the connoisseur's point of view, but nevertheless, some people find them enjoyable and pleasing. For instance, looking at a beautiful picture or listening to Beethoven's symphony seems very relaxing after a hard day spent in the office. Furthermore, museums and galleries all over the world are made possible by the work of the generations of artists, from the ancient times until today. Without the museums and galleries, men of modern age would not be able to improve their knowledge about past times. Therefore, education is also the important role of artists. The art enriches people's spirits and makes them more imaginative, while at the same time teaches them about historical events.

Scientists contribute to the society in a different way. Their influence is of more material, and less spiritual nature. For example, physicists try to determine the laws of nature and engineers then use that knowledge in order to make various devices and systems. Those products of joint efforts of physics and engineering make ordinary people's lives easier. Just think about the difference that was made by the invention of microwave ovens for example.

It is my opinion that science is more appreciated than art by the modern society. There are several reasons that lead to this conclusion. People find it easier to accept information in material, than in spiritual form. For example, using typical products of science, such as computers or TVs, doesn't require much mental effort, while art can sometimes be obscure and hard to grasp. Furthermore, in many countries, science receives generous financial support from the government, while art seldom does. This is because a country's military and economic power is dominantly affected by its science, not art. Therefore, scientists are paid much better than artists. In fact, having art as a sole profession is very unlikely to provide enough money to support a family, for instance. Even though some people become fascinated with art classes while in school, later in life they are usually forced to move towards more scientific fields of work, such as economics or engineering.

In conclusion, scientists and artists both have their ways of contributing to the society. Artists affect people's lives in the spiritual sense, by forming their life views, educating them, or simply by relaxing them when they are tired and exhausted. On the other hand, science affects material side of life, by creating inventions that relieve people of hard work, thus making them have more free time. Science is more appreciated than art in modern society, because science is more precise and easier to understand, while art can be obstruse. Also, science is more important for the country's economy and army, which makes it more interesting for the government.

Students at universities often have a choice of places to live. They may choose to live in university dormitories, or they may choose to live in apartments in the community. Compare the advantages of living in university housing with the advantages of living in an apartment in the community. Where would you prefer to live? Give reasons for your preference.

Students are often able to choose whether they want to live in a dormitory, on a university campus, or in a separate apartment in the community. Each of these environments has its advantages. In this essay I will present some of the facts that support both solutions, and I will argue in favor of living in an apartment.

Living in dorm offers a chance to improve communication skills, to learn to live with other people. For example, roommates must adjust their eating and sleeping habits according to each other's needs. Each one must arrange his free time in such way that he doesn't bother others while they are studying. Moreover, the social structure of the dorm community is in many aspects similar to that of a typical office, or workplace in general. Both environments require finding solutions to various problems and cooperation of the people in order to achieve that. Thus, by adapting to conditions of living in the dormitory, students actually prepare themselves for their future jobs. The environment in the dorm is more friendly and understanding, because it is consisted of other students, who often have similar problems and interests. The social life is more interesting, too. For example, if a students failed to understand a lecture as it was presented in class, he can ask his friends from the dorm for an explanation. Also, it's much easier to find a common topic to chat about, or a interesting activivty to practice in free time.

On the other hand, living in separate apartment usually means having less neighbors and roommates. In fact, it is not a rare case that a student has whole apartment for himself. In this situation, there is less distraction, so students can concentrate better on their schoolwork. As a consequence, their grades are better. Another advantage is that living alone means having more privacy. This aspect is very important, bacause everyone has personal secrets which he wants to hide from all other people, even the closest friends. Finally, students who live in the apartments can maintain contacts with their neighbors, ordinary people, and are not confined to academic community. This way, students are offered a wider variety of experiences from everyday life, which they may find useful in their future lives.

If I were in a situation to choose whether I would live in the dormitory or have a separate apartment, I would choose to live in separate apartment. It could be argued that living separately narrows one's circle of close friends, precluding him from having regular contacts with other people. This argument goes on to assert that such students are deprived of social experiences, and

therefore remain aloof and introvert. However, it is a fact that students can make enough friends even if they live outside of the university campus, especially if the apartment is shared between several students. Furthermore, friends can visit each other as often as they need to. They can maintain friendly contact in a way which doesn't effect their school performance. This can be achieved by careful planning and wise distribution of time. If a student assigns enough time for studying, his grades won't suffer, and he will still be able to spend the remaining time with his friends. Alternatively, students who live in a school dormitory are constantly surrounded with familiar people. They can't avoid excessive socializing, even if they want to. Therefore, they spend too little time studying and they get low grades.

In conclusion, living in the dormitory may be more interesting and socially challenging, but it's rather unsuitable for serious studying. Living in an apartment, however, allows a student to socialize, but only to the extent that doesn't affect his schoolwork negatively. This way, positive effects of living both in dormitory and in an apartment are obtained.

NUMBER 106

You need to travel from your home to a place 40 miles (64 kilometers) away. Compare the different kinds of transportation you could use. Tell which method of travel you would choose. Give specific reasons for your choice.

If I had to travel to a place 40 miles away, I would consider several ways of transportation, such as car, bicycle, or train. Each of these options has it's advantages and disadvantages. In this essay I will present advantages of each way of travelling, and I will argue in favor of traveling by train.

It would be possible to travel by car. Cars are reasonably fast and comfortable. They can accomodate more than one passanger, which is important when several people travel together. Most cars are spacious, so every passanger has enough space to fully enjoy the trip. Moreover, passangers can travel as fast as it suits them. If they are in a hurry or some kind of emergency situation, thay can travel very quickly. On the other hand, if the purpose of their trip is casual, such as visit to a friend or having a picnic in the nature, they can make occasional stops, in order to rest or enjoy the pleasant surroundings. Some mental effort is required by the driver, because he has to pay attention to the traffic in front of him.

Another option is travelling by bicycle, since 40 miles is not a very large distance. One important advantage of a bicycle is that it doesn't burn fuel in order to move, so it doesn't produce toxic output which would pollute the environment. Moreover, bicycles are healthier than cars. Riding a bicycle requires physical effort and sternngthens muscles. In fact, some scientist assert

that riding a bicycle is one of the most effective forms of exercise. Bicycles find their way through heavy traffic more quickly and easily than cars. Also, they use less space and are easier to park, which makes them useful for travels through heavily urbanized and crowded areas. Finally, bicycles are the cheapest conveyances, since they don't require expenses for fuel, and only minute amounts of money are needed for maintenance.

For my part, I must argue in favor of travelling by train, because it comprises some of the main positive properties of both previously discussed approaches. Trains are very comfortable, and they don't require any effort from the passenger, neither physical, nor mental. They are also very fast, sometimes even faster than cars. Finally, trains are environmentally clean means of transportation, since they use electric power, not fossil fuels, like cars do. The superiority of travelling by train is further confirmed by the corresponding price, which is significantly higher than those of car or a bicycle travels.

NUMBER 107

Some people believe that a college or university education should be available to all students. Others believe that higher education should be available only to good students. Discuss these views. Which view do you agree with? Explain why.

Some people believe that a college or university education should be available to all students. Others believe that higher education should be available only to good students. Discuss these views. Which view do you agree with? Explain why

Some people believe that a college or a university should be available to all students. Others think that higher education should be available only to good students. In my opinion, higher education should be available to all students. Why do I think so?

Firstly, to get higher education is a right of any person. If higher education is available only to good student, it will be infringement of human rights. We cannot say to man that she or he is not entitled to get higher education because it will be anti-constitutional. On the other hand, a college or university can have own rules for students who don't have a good GPA. For example, students can graduate from college if they have only "A" or "B". Another example, students can take several times the same exam while they won't receive a good grade. It is very important to give a right to get higher education to all students, because it will be their chance to change something in their life, get better job in the future or built their career.

Secondly, who gives us right to share people in good and bad students. Maybe they have good abilities for studying, yet, these students chose the wrong way ignoring learning when they were high school students. We have a lot of examples when people didn't have a good grade when they were a high school

students, however, they could graduate from college and became to work successfully. We know many examples about great people, Pushkin, Mendeleev, who weren't good students in all subjects, but they were very talented persons and whole world knows their names. To be a good or bad students are not the same to have abilities for learning. We should understand and remember it.

Some people can say that government and parents just waste money for education bad students. Nonetheless, the government also can change rules for those students. For example, not support financially if the student has a grade "C" or worse. However, our government sustains any students. I think that it is the right way, because we live in a free country and any man has the same right to get higher education.

In summary, in spite of colleges and universities are mostly interested in good students, I strongly believe that any students, good or bad, should have the same right to earn high education.

NUMBER 108

Some people believe that the best way of learning about life is by listening to the advice of family and friends. Other people believe that the best way of learning about life is through personal experience. Compare the advantages of these two different ways of learning about life. Which do you think is preferable? Use specific examples to support your preference.

My personal belief is that the best way to learn about life is through personal experience. But this does not mean that I totally disregard the alternative way of learning by listening to family or friends' advice. The truth is that now, at my age, I clearly see that the best way of learning about life would be a combination of the two (ways noted above).

The main reason I embrace the first way is because I find it more natural, it is our instinctive way to act and react. When we are young we are prone to experience than to listen to other persons advice and less to the advice coming from our family. This may not be a general case but I believe the exceptions are rare. I remember when I got engaged with my future husband both my parents and friends were very much against my decision. And in a way they were right. But I wanted to follow my heart and to have my own judgment even if people with more experience and even good intention were advising me to do the contrary. My reaction/action it was also influence by the wrong approach my family adopted. And my case is not an isolated one. From my above story can be inferred that I DO agree that learning by listening to the advice of well-intended people is a wise way. It would probably save us some grief and disappointment in life. But I strongly believe that even painful the experience we choose to have is helping us grow and builds our personality. I never regretted my decision to get marry at a pretty early age

even if eventually we (me and my husband) ended up divorcing. It was one of the best experience I ever had, though the most painful in my life.

I conclude by encouraging youngsters to try to listen both to their heart and to other persons advice and judge which way would be the best for them. Although I sound like my mother some years ago, when she tried to convince me that at my age the marriage is not the best choice in life, I strongly recommend to everybody to accept listening to any advice before making a decisive step in life and afterwards to filter all these information. I think it is wise trying to combine these two ways of learning about life.

NUMBER 109

When people move to another country, some of them decide to follow the customs of the new country. Others prefer to keep their own customs. Compare these two choices. Which one do you prefer? Support your answer with specific details.

When people move to another country, they may choose whether they will accept it's customs, or keep the customs of the old country. Accepting the new customs may help us overcome the cultural shock caused by the change of environment, while keeping old customs gives us emotional support in the new conditions, by maintaining cultural link with the old country. In my opinion, everyone should accept the new customs sooner or later, in order to completely fit in the new society.

Moving to a new country may present a cultural and social shock for some individuals. Accepting the customs of the new country is one of the ways to fit in the new environment and overcome the difference between two countries. After we start practicing the new customs, we feel closer to the new community. People from the new country may not look at us as on a stranger, but as on one of their own. We would be better appreciated by the new society. People would be more forthcoming, since they would not be alienated by the differences in customs. Therefore, it would be easier for us to make friends. Also, our employers and co-workers would see us differently. They would praise us for our high adaptability to the new conditions.

By keeping the old customs, we maintain a cultural and emotional link to our old country. It may help us relieve the pain that may be produced by the sudden change of environment. Practicing old customs reminds us of the old country and often recalls nice memories related to the part of our life that we spent there. This can help us in situations when we need emotional support. Moreover, some countries have rather interesting and unusual customs. Sometimes they can even be amusing and entertaining. By showing them to our new friends, we may establish closer relations with them.

Still, it is my opinion that old customs should be practiced only during the transitional period, while we meet new people and adapt to the new culture. After that, I think that new customs should be accepted, in order to completely fit in the society. Of course, we shouldn't forget the old customs. On the contrary, they should remain in our memory as a reminder of the particular period in our lives.

Based on all the facts previously stated, we may conclude that practicing old customs helps us overcome the difficulties of cultural change, by maintaining the connection to the old country. However, as we become more adapted to the new environment, old customs should be gradually replaced by the new ones.

NUMBER 110

Some people prefer to spend most of their time alone. Others like to be with friends most of the time. Do you prefer to spend your time alone or with friends? Use specific reasons to support your answer.

Due to our society's rapid progress, a human being has been able to survive without communicating with other people. In the last few decades, various machines have been invented and spreaded throughout the world. This sudden technological advance is the main perpetrator that made human beings extremely egoistic. Personally, I prefer to spend most of my time with my amicable, warm-hearted companions. In this essay, I will explain my opinion by offering several reasons.

My mom has always told me that intimate relationships with people are really important in one's life. A human being, in order to live a life without any regrets, needs another person to depend upon. It is a well-known maxim that every man has shortcomings. Through close friendships, a mortal experiences a variety of activities, and realizes one's shortcomings. At the same time, the person can make one's friend be aware of his/her faults. This mutual relationship will eventually result in mental development of two human beings.

An amiable relationship is not only beneficial for the realization of each other's shortcomings but also for their happiness. My friends and I often play soccer or basketball when we meet. These activities that we do together will be cherished as good lifetime's memory. Thus, a pleasant comradeship can be the main producer of pure joy.

Therefore, a companionship is wholesome in a lot of ways. First, we can become more advanced human beings through our mutual relationship. Second, we can receive mirth through the things that we collaborate on. I encourage all people to continue good relationships with their friends, because you will benefit from it in the long run.

NUMBER 111

Some people prefer to spend time with one or two close friends. Others choose to spend time with a large number of friends. Compare the advantages of each choice. Which of these two ways of spending time do you prefer? Use specific reasons to support your answer.

Some people like to spend time with one or two close friends, while others prefer being surrounded by large number of friends. Having a small circle of friends provides more familiar atmosphere, while big group of friends is probably more suitable for entertaining. I like to spend my time with only a few friends. The reasons for this, some of which I will explain further, stem primarily from my personality.

It seems to me that when only a few friends get together, quiet and familiar atmosphere is established. This kind of environment is suitable for serious or rather intellectual discussions. Also, when there are fewer friends, they usually spend more time with each other, and get a chance to know each other better. Therefore, relationships among them are closer. Because of smaller number of different opinions, it is much easier to reach an agreement. Thus, quarrels occur less frequently.

Having many friends also has it's advantages. It is often claimed that a party is better if there are more people attending it. Also, ordinary conversations about school, politics or sports tend to be more interesting if there are more different opinions.

My personal preference is to be surrounded by only a few friends. The main reason is that I like to be close to my friends and to be able to tell them almost everything. Also, I don't like to get into conflicts with people, although I don't expect my friends to agree with me constantly. Besides, it is my impression that large groups of friends are often based on false, insincere friendship, and are merely a product of the desire to keep appearances. For example, people who are often seen surrounded with many friends are more popular in the society, and are in a way considered better than others. In my opinion, this stereotype is wrong, but it makes many people create artificial friends.

In summary, I enjoy socializing with only a few closest friends because it creates a peaceful and intellectually stimulating atmosphere that suits my needs. This behaviour may appear antisocial, but it is the way that best corresponds to my social attributes.

NUMBER 112

Some people think that children should begin their formal education at a very early age and should spend most of their time on school studies. Others believe that young children should spend most of their time playing. Compare these two views. Which view do you agree with? Why?

Some people think that children should begin their education as early in their lives as possible, while others think that children should spend most of their time playing. Each opinion could be supported by a number of arguments. However, it is my opinion that playing is more important activity than learning for children during their early years.

It could be argued that it's important that some basic logical and verbal skills be learnt as early as possible. The argument goes on to assert that skills like basic calculus and foreign languages are much more easily accepted by the children when they are very young. Moreover, if children start their education early, they can have more time to perfect their knowledge later during their lives. This way they can become better professionals. Finally, when children are at school, their parents don't have to look after them. Instead, they can work and earn more money for themselves, as well as their children.

In contrast to these opinions, there are others who claim that children should at least have their childhood, since their whole life will be most probably filled with work and study. Furthermore, physical skills, which are developed by playing, are just as important as intellectual ones. When children are not forced to go to school at an early age, they can spend more time with their parents. In fact, it is often claimed that they don't need teachers other than parents, since parents know them best and are most committed to teaching them.

My opinion is that young children should spend most of their time playing. It seems to me that it's not natural for children to start formal education earlier than age 6, for instance. All the teaching they need can be provided informally, by parents. On the other hand, early physical development can't be compensated later, and it would suffer greatly if children were not allowed to spend enough time playing.

As we can see, certain types of information are more easily processed by young than by older children, which is why some people claim that this advantage should be exploited by making children study while they are still very young. However, I disagree with this approach, since I think that children should be above all allowed to spend their early childhood the way they like best, and that is playing and having fun with their friends.

The government has announced that it plans to build a new university. Some people think that **your** community would be a good place to locate the university. Compare the advantages and disadvantages of establishing a new university in your community. Use specific details in your discussion.

The people in our community welcomed the announcement of the government's plan to build a university. In fact, majority proposed that our community is a good place to locate the university. I whole-heartedly support their proposal.

Building a new university can offer a lot of opportunities to everybody. First, it will provide an excellent alternative to the existing university, which, unfortunately, cannot accommodate the growing numbers of students each year. Secondly, this will stop monopoly of education resulting to stagnation of the quality of education by creating a healthy competition to other institution to maintain and improve their standards of education.

Moreover, students can now have the options to choose which university they prefer and take courses, which they really like.

A new university also means more job opportunities especially for teachers, administrative staff and others who are in need of employment.

However, a new university can also create problems to the community, more universities in the community do not immediately mean better education. Sometimes, the quality of education suffers from quantity because school administrators tend to commercialize education to attract more students. The policies may become lax; the rules may bend to accommodate the whims of students in order to keep them.

A new university would also lead to an increase of migration of people who would like to avail higher education. This can lead to increased pollution and even crimes. The once peaceful community may become noisy and chaotic because of the increased number of people with different personalities.

In the end, all things in this world have advantages and disadvantages. In this case, even if building a new university can increase pollution, or even crimes, bring noise and possible chaos to the community, the benefits that it will give the people, especially the youth in providing them the means to finish their education and prepare them for their future life can outweigh all disadvantages.

Some people think that the family is the most important influence on young adults. Other people think that friends are the most important influence on young adults. Which view do you agree with? Use examples to support your position.

Adolescence is important in life because most people decided their majors and establish their values during this period. There are many factors that influence their decision and values. In my opinion, among them, family is the most important influence on young adults because they establish right values through the good advice and are helped when they choose the right path for their future.

First, the family could help young adults establish correct values. Because correct values influence on the way we look at the world and these are crucial, family's values have much influence on young adults. To illustrate, my mother is a volunteer for helping the disabled and always says we must help each other. I think, my mother's behavior and saying influence on me until now, so I'm making efforts to do like my mother. In this reason, the family is the best model of behavior.

Second, the family could lead young adults in choosing a right major. Because determining the major is the first step in selecting careers in my future, it is very important. However, not all young adults could make a right decision for their own course. If the family with wider experience and broader knowledge than young adults advises them, they could make a better decision. For example, when I chose my major, which is an electronics, I didn't know how it was difficult for me and what I would do after graduation. At that time, my brother was an engineer and he gave me much helpful information. I chose my major without hesitate, and I am satisfied with it. In this manner, the family is the best counselor to lead young adults in a right direction.

In conclusion, I think that family has the most significant effect on young adults because of establishing correct values and determining their major. If the family guides young adults to the right path, they could grow up as an essential member of society.

NUMBER 115

Some people prefer to plan activities for their free time very carefully. Others choose not to make any plans at all for their free time. Compare the benefits of planning free-time activities with the benefits of not making plans. Which do you prefer — planning or not planning for your leisure time? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your choice.

Everyday, as soon as we wake up, we are already busy planning all our activities for the day. As we go to bed, we continue to think and plan our activities for the following day. This routine continues day in and day out. That is why, some people prefer to plan their activities for their free time carefully out of habit or as an extension of what they used to do. However, for some people, free time means a time to relax and not make any plans at all, which I also prefer.

Nowadays, time seems to fly and no matter how fast we do things, we can't seem to have enough. Having free time becomes a luxury, and people intend to enjoy every second of it. Planning their activities carefully assures them they would not miss anything and no time will be wasted on unnecessary or trivial matters.

One good example is going for a long drive to another place. Planning which place to go through either on the internet or through brochure gives them a foresight of what to expect and do. Placing reservation on their intended hotel or resort assures them of immediate accommodation regardless of what time they arrive. Checking the condition of the car results to uninterrupted traveling and breakdown-free. Preparing a checklist and packing things the night before prevents situation of leaving out important things. In short, being prepared, leaves for very little possibility of problems and assures them of a worry-free leisure time.

However, as we wake up and go to bed, we always worry on things that we are supposed to do and accomplish. We hardly have time for ourselves. That is why, during free time, some people prefer not to make any plans. They would like to spend it to relax, forget about everything and enjoy the beauty of letting life and time pass them. Letting their mind relax and getting rid of all their worries, it allows them to appreciate things they do not normally see or value: spending time with their loved ones, doing nothing, seeing their children play with themselves, watching TV, appreciating the beauty of flowers blooming, watching the birds soar high, exchanging pleasantries with their neighbors, playing with their dogs, and being thankful for all their blessings. These things do not need planning at all, but these simple activities are the ones that give most people their greatest pleasure.

In summary, some people prefer to plan their activities carefully for their free time because they want to make the most out of it. Others prefer not to plan anything at all because free time is the time to reflect and enjoy life as it is, I could not agree more.

People learn in different ways. Some people learn by doing things; other people learn by reading about things; others learn by listening to people talk about things. Which of these methods of learning is best for you? Use specific examples to support your choice.

It may sound strange but my personal approach to learning things is a combination of learning by doing, by reading about things and listening to people talking about them. I consider that using all three ways (when given the opportunity) is the best way to gather as much information as possible about the respective thing.

Sometimes I do not have at hand all three ways of learning so I use whatever is best applicable for that specific case. If, for example, I have to learn about a theoretical subject that I need to use at my work, first I read all available bibliography on that theme, then I try to listen to other people's opinion on that matter. Combining the two methods, I compare my understanding and possible questions regarding that theme with others comments and approach. Another case would be when I have to learn a practical thing like playing squash. In this situation the most preferred way to learn is by doing. I would probably ask a trainer to show me how to play. After getting acquainted with the movements I may listen to others talking about their way of playing, in this way trying to use their tips and tricks of becoming a better player.

A case, in which I would combine all three ways mentioned above, is if I have to learn how to use a software. Firstly I read instructions and documentation that comes with the software, and then I try to apply what I read. If I have difficulties getting the program to work properly, I ask people with more experience in the matter to show me how to do it, which means I learn by doing. This would also be the case when I learn by listening how others have used the software, what problems they encountered and what solutions they found.

As described above, I consider the best way to learn things is to combine all the methods available for a certain situation and use all information at hand to make the most out the learning process.

NUMBER 117

Some people choose friends who are different from themselves. Others choose friends who are similar to themselves. Compare the advantages of having friends who are different from you with the advantages of having friends who are similar to you. Which kind of friend do you prefer for yourself? Why?

Almost everyone in the world has friends. Friends were found anywhere at anytime. Some of our friends can be similar to us, and some of them can differ

in many ways. Regardless of their similarities or differences, there are a few advantages of having such friends.

Having friends who are similar to us would be beneficial in which we can enjoy things together and share the same opinion. With friends who are alike, we can always enjoy going to mutual enjoyable places together such as going to clubs or watching movies. For example, Gee and I have no problems on finding a place to eat everytime we go out because we both enjoy eating and spend time at the local hawkers downtown. In addition, having friends of mutual interest would provide us with companion to share our opinion. I have a few friends who are similar to myself and I found that I can share my opinion with them on almost everything. We have a good time tossing view with each other either in fashion, movies or even life. I believe that having friends who are similar to us would provide us with a smooth plan on almost anything.

However, having friends who are different from us would have a few advantage of its own. People always say that, "Opposite, attracts". Friends who are different from us would be able to criticise and introduce us to something new and different. I realize that friends who are different from us would be able to criticise on our opinion. Of course, not all of our opinions are good. Hence, having a friend with an opposite thought would provide us with a different view on a certain matter. I have been friends with Nina for almost 5 years now. Despite of our differences in characteristic, Nina and I have never fight during our friendship. In fact, it was Nina who introduce me to things that I have never done before such as jungle tracking and eating sushi. Even though, neither jungle tracking nor sushi would be in my favourite list, it is fun and enjoyable to be able to experience such new things. Therefore, I believe that having friends who are different from us can provide us with unexpected experience in life.

Nevertheless, I would have prefer to choose a friend who are similar to me rather than friends who are different from me. I feel that friendship would be smoother and enjoyable by having friends who are similar to us. However, I never refuse a friendship offered by a friend who are different from myself.

NUMBER 118

Some people enjoy change, and they look forward to new experiences. Others like their lives to stay the same, and they do not change their usual habits. Compare these two approaches to life. Which approach do you prefer? Explain why.

I believe that life is a river, every destination with a unique purpose. Change is but a minor part of life and whatever the change, mine would be for the better.

People vary and that is why you often find various approaches to life. For those who are content with the direction their life is heading, the idea of change would probably send shivers through them. This is due to the fact that they are at a point where they are satisfied with the way they have maximised their God given potential, that is a positive reason for dreading change.

Others dread change due to the fact that they are too scared to try or adapt to new experiences. Taking into consideration that we are all human, fear to try is a normal feeling. The only disadvantage is the fact that unless you try, you never know what you could have accomplished or how well and capable you are to move on. No chance to discover the courage you have within to accept defeat but never stop trying. This is a negative reason for dreading change.

Habits can be addictive and so the main question here is whether they are positive beneficial habits or negative ones. By that I mean that the choice is all up to the individual. If the change is from the negative to the positive, then there is no reason whatsoever that should make one dread change. Doing right is never wrong.

In conclusion, change can either mould you or break you. I would rather try and change for the better than live my life knowing that I never tried. Within every human being, there is a hidden potential that only change can help maximise. The question however is, whether we will give change a chance. It is all up to you, the individual!

NUMBER 119

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? People behave differently when they wear different clothes. Do you agree that different clothes influence the way people behave? Use specific examples to support your answer.

People behave differently when they wear different clothes. Clothes certainly do have an influence on the behaviour of the people. I strongly agree with this idea because I myself have seen practical examples from daily life.

Everyday we see people wearing all sorts of clothes. Many people wear different kind of clothes for different occasions. For example, formal clothes are generally worn for interviews, seminars, official meetings, and most of the places its a dress code for the employees. People are supposed to behave formally in formal dress. It implies that the man or woman in the formal dress has proper manners, behaves gently and carries high standards. Anybody wearing the formals acts to represent the glory of the dress. It is expected out of him/her to behave decently and carry high standards. No matter if that person is not capable of representing the code of dress, but when he/she is wearing the dress, the feeling comes alive to him/her and the result is what we see as the their behaviour being different in that particular dress.

Same is true for informals or casuals as it is popularly known as. People like to be casual and carefree when they are inside an informal dress. The casual dress brings a feeling of fun and enjoyment with it. It let people to enjoy, play around and to be free from all the mundane activities.No one can notice the artificial act of a person when he/she is in casuals. People also know that they are not supposed to be what they are not inside a casual.

Let us take another example of occasions where the dress code commands people. Talk of marriages and festivals and the whole picture becomes clear in mind. One can see the bride carrying that beautiful smile mixed with shyness, not only because of occasion, but also because of the dress. She knows that she is wearing the dress which every girl aspires for and she knows how she has to act when she wears it. Same is applicable for the groom. He carries the dignity and charm with him because he knows that when he is wearing the wedding clothes, he has to act accordingly. He can not act in the same way as he does when he is wearing casuals or formals.

People get ready for festivals not only with great enthusiasm and anxiety, but also with their special dresses. In many countries there is a dress code for different festivals. People are supposed to wear it and when they are inside that special dress, thay have to be out of them and act as a person who best represents the dress. One can easily see the joy and charm on a person's face when he/she wears those special dresses. After all that is what is expected out of them when they wear it.

Different dress codes have been designed with the idea of making people act differently. The dress controls the person inside it. Hence I certainly feel that dress dictates the behaviour of a person wearing it.

NUMBER 120

Decisions can be made quickly, or they can be made after careful thought. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The decisions that people make quickly are always wrong. Use reasons and specific examples to support your opinion.

I totally disagree with the statement that decisions that people make immediately are always wrong. Some decisions need to be made after careful thought, while some decisions have to be made immediately due to the limit of time.

In the real life, people don't always have enough time to think about what kind of decisions they need to make and how many options they have in order to reach the optimum result. Time does restrain people from making decision after careful of thought. The first case happens in the stock exchange market. The price of stock changes every minute, even every second. The brokers need to make immediate decision to buy or sell. If they spend a long time on making decision, they will lose chance to make a lot of money, the stocks will never be available when they make final decisions. Even though quick decisions might make brokers to lose some money, but there are still 50% chance to make much money. If they don't make a quick decision and miss the chance, they will never make money. So from this case, we can conclude that immediate decisions are not always wrong.

Another case comes from sports. During the soccer game, the team members usually have been assigned duties and given strategies before the game by the coaches. But during the last 5 minutes, two teams have the same score, one of team must win this game so that they are eligible to attend the semi-final, at the same time the coach of this team has no more chance to give his team member more suggestions. Therefore, the team members need to change their old strategies on their own so that they will have chance to win. But if members take more time than 5 minutes to make decision, they might make a best decision, but this best decision won't work at all since time is up. They will absolutely lose the chance to win. However, if they make a quick decision, it is very possible for them to win this game and get into the semi-final.

From the above two cases, we can conclude that the statement that decisions that people make immediately are always wrong is not right. Sometimes people need to take the chance to make decision immediately so that they can gain something instead of completely losing.

NUMBER 121

Some people trust their first impressions about a person's character because they believe these judgments are generally correct. Other people do not judge a person's character quickly because they believe first impressions are often wrong. Compare these two attitudes. Which

attitude do you agree with? Support your choice with specific examples.

A judgement for a person's character is always something very delicate and quite complicated. There are people who are able to mislead almost anyone. Others are honest and naïve and unfortunately suffer from these in principal good qualities.

In general, there are two types of people. The first type are the people who believe that the first impression is the right one. To be honest I like this attitude and fully agree with it. I believe that a true and objective judgement can be made only when you don't know somebody, when you see him for the first time. In such a situation, people are more likely to be themselves than in any other. If you already know the person, you just couldn't be impartial. Whether you like it or not, deep in your heart you already have a conviction about the person's character. It's just that sometimes, without any specific reason, we don't like a person. But when we see him for the first time we have the opportunity to watch him talk to other people, see how he reacts, in order to get an impact of his real juice.

The second type of people believe that the first impression is always wrong. According to their ideas, the more you get to know somebody, the best you can evaluate his personality. But that couldn't be true. When you have already spent time with a given person, you already have some prejudices against him. Also, people often try to pretend to be someone they're not and will never be, in order to impress somebody. In my opinion that is the risk of getting to know somebody and then evaluating his character.

To be more concrete, I'd like to give an example. Suppose you are on a ball or some other kind of party let's say. If we assume that you are a famous or a rich person, everybody would be interested in talking to you. But when they don't know about you, they'll act more naturally and you can see the real people. As soon as they understand who you are, they'll immediately change their attitude, they'll try to be someone else. That's just human nature, it's inevitable. So my point is that only the first impression is the real one..

NUMBER 122

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? People are never satisfied with what they have; they always want something more or something different. Use specific reasons to support your answer.

"People are never satisfied with what they have; they always want something more or something different." I would have to agree with that statement entirely. No matter how many goals we have or how many things we own, as human beings we always want more, need more. Our lives would not be full if we weren't that way. The statement above applies to many angles in our lives such as material wants and needs, emotions, the need of achievements and etc'. In this essay I will give different reasons as to why I agree to the above statement, using some of the angles to which it applies.

The dissatisfaction and the permanent need, and want starts in a very young age. Even while we are babies we want this toy, and that doll and no matter how many of them we have we always ask for more. Scientists say that when a baby is given a familiar toy, he will play with it, but after awhile he will get used to it and become less enthusiastic. While on the other hand when a baby is given a new toy, he will have to play with it for a couple of days, he will be very interested until again he will get accustomed to it and a new toy will take its place. Things that we don't own or didn't see before look more attractive to us than the ones that we have.

Once we grow older our goals become a little less material. A daughter or a son might want to get their mother's approval and their father's pride. They may achieve that with high marks and good behavior. Though some children will be in need for attention and do just the opposite. As children or teenagers we all know the feeling of a proud parent, the satisfaction that we feel after we saw a parent's proud smile. That makes us feel happy and right away we want to feel that again. We crave to be successful and happy first and for most for ourselves, and second is to make people, which we love, proud. And through the years that craving becomes stronger and with every goal we accomplish, we reach towards a higher target for the simple reason of feeling needed, taken pride in, and respected. And no matter how many goals we achieve, we will always persist on finding new ones just to accomplish them all over again.

Some people say that a rich person has everything. That is entirely untrue. A rich person might have a very large amount of money, but that only means he has a bigger chance of getting what he wants for money. That doesn't mean that, that person doesn't have any needs or wants beyond objects, which he can buy for money. That person may want to loose wait but never succeeds, or he may want to get that beautiful girl, but she goes only for looks and not for money. For that person the amount of time to be happy may be much longer then yours. The bigger amount of things we have the more amounts of them we want.

In my opinion life will not be worth living without goals. It would be unexciting and that is why we always want something more and something different from what we wanted before. Otherwise all of our goals will be accomplished; imagine your life without any wants or needs, imagine your life when you have everything you ever wanted... I think such life would be very boring and dull. If you have no goals you have nothing to do, you have nothing to want, you have everything. Why would you do something while your life is "perfect"? The fulfillment will fade away and you will start looking for something different which will bring you to a new goal. Humans cannot live without any ambitions. And that should be a fact.

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? People should read **only** those books that are about real events, real people, and established facts. Use specific reasons and details to support your opinion.

Books are an important part of many people's lives in the world today. With such a wide variety of topics that books are written on; they can be broadly classified into fiction and non-fiction. These two types each have their own merits and it would not be fair to only read about 'real events, real people' when there can be so much to learn from imaginary events and people.

Non-fiction has greater practical value in the 'real' world and the information gleaned can be applied intensely at home, at work or in school. Various topics of interest can be researched easily and a greater knowledge level can be obtained. Yet the disadvantage of non-fiction lies in the fact that nothing happens to excite the mind and spirit. In short, many people find these books 'boring' since only facts are provided. However well written the book may be, in the end it leaves little room for the imagination. Consequently this is an area where fiction excels.

With various stories on different characters, places, fantastical storylines and evil villains, the journey through fictional books can be one filled with adventure and excitement. The reader may be left with ideas that will serve in many areas. Fiction provides great scope for the mind to think creatively. In fact, many of books written to portray 'imaginary' events or characters can educate and send a subtle message through the book. This effective technique has been used successfully by a large number of writers. Yet it is true that many people cease to enjoy fiction, as they grow older failing to see its importance in the world. This perspective is not entirely untrue because dragons, castles or evil aliens will not help an engineer in any way as it might help him spend the same time by reading about how a particular bridge was constructed in Germany.

Therefore, both non-fiction and fiction provide an equal number of opportunities for people to cultivate their mind. The best solution, it would seem is to read both fiction and non-fiction and have the best of both worlds.

NUMBER 124

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? It is more important for students to study history and literature than it is for them to study science and mathematics. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Some people think it is more important for students to study history and literature than it is for them to study science and mathematics. I don't agree with this point of view. To students, it should be no bias when they choose their

courses. Because by learning history and literature, they can not only master the social knowledge but also understand the world and their own countries; but by learning science and mathematics, they can acquire the scientific knowledge and do some research which will improve people's lives. So I advocate this viewpoint that students should study all kinds of knowledge with no bias.

On one hand, if students want to know social knowledge and understand the world and their own countries better, they need study history and literature very well. There is a good example, that is me. When I was a student, I thought the study of the latter was more important than that of the former, so I spent most time on them. However after I worked, the more people I contacted, the less knowledge I felt. Seldom, I could find a topic that was intriguing and I felt interested. It was difficult for me to talk with others deeply for this reason. I wished I could acquire more knowledge from them.

On the other hand, if students master the science and mathematics, they can benefit from them. For instance, because mathematics is an important method to other courses, it is always used to set up a model in order to solve problems. And having good scientific knowledge can help them live easily. When they encounter difficulties, they know what should do and how to do accurately. Even they can do some research and invent something to change people's lives. Maybe they will become Einstein or Newton.

So from the above discussed, I draw a conclusion that either history and literature or science and mathematics are equally important for students. In order to merge into the society, they need to learn history and literature; in order to live and study better and easily, they need to learn science and mathematics.

NUMBER 125

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? All students should be required to study art and music in secondary school. Use specific reasons to support your answer.

I don't think that all students should be required to study art and music in secondary school for the following reasons.

Nowadays students have things to study more than before. For example, it is essential to study information technology, especially internet. They should learn typing and other functions and how deal with moral and security problems related internet. Moreover, because such technology made it possible to for people all over the world communicate and exchange information, people are more and more going and coming to other countries. It means that we have to learn not only history, politics and culture in our own country but also those of other countries to get along with other nations. To

compare with old days students need to devote their time to learn such relationships between countries. Arts and music are less important than those.

Secondly, thanks for becoming a industrial society, in case of Japan, we can see arts and listen many kind of music at many places. When I go to department stores, they always have exhibitions of arts and often held music concerts. Even if students learn arts and music in secondary school, they have a lot of opportunity to see and experience them and surely exports of them are there.

Last, sometimes arts and music are not suitable to be taught at school where the importance of discipline and rules are stated and students have to observe them as group activities. To create Art works, compose songs and play the instruments are required more free mind and expressed freely. They tend to be done by each individual, not with group.

In short, I disagree that art and music are compulsory subjects. There are more important subjects students learn at school nowadays and art and music are sort of individual hobbies; students who are interested in them do. They can be put into optional classes which students can choose freely to enhance the pleasure of life.

NUMBER 126

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? There is nothing that young people can teach older people. Use specific reasons and examples to support your position.

Though it is true that age and especially old age accompanies itself vast knowledge, better understanding of life and its aspects, and the most important of all, real life experiences. As human being progresses towards his/her old age these valuable assets get accumulated and are surely a valuable resource to learn much about life. But at the same time sometimes young people too have many things which can be taught to even old people. New environment, fast moving world and its changing traditions and cultures, and new developments are some of things where young generation surely have an extra edge over the old ones.

Many things change as life progresses. Imagine the world fifty years earlier. There were no space shuttles, no fast moving locomotives, not many medical advancements, not much of technical breakthroughs, when compared to the present day. People could never think of something like internet which would allow people to be connected all the time. Such things can not be expected out of old people because they never saw it happening in their time. They surely can learn about such things from their younger generations. These are

some of the very important lessons which can be taught to old people by the young generations.

Young people can make old ones aware of the things happening around them. Many lessons learnt by old people become obsolete due to the change in situations. Those lessons don't suit any longer to the present scenarios. Young generation can surely help old people in this.

Old people do have many things to teach the young generation. And at the same time young ones can also help old ones to learn things necessary to acclimatize themselves according to the changing situations. Young ones can help the older generation to learn the new traditions, about new sports, new way of living, new medical advancements, new facilities, new discoveries and inventions, and about lot more things which change with time. They can make older people to help understand the world which might look alien to them. No one is perfect in this world and knowledge comes by learning. No one can be expected to be master of everything. Same is true with old people. They surely don't understand lot many new things which were never present in their school or college days. Hence when they want to learn about it, who else would be a better teacher than the ones who make it happen. Of course the answer is best given by young generations which made it, use it and know about it. Old people can always look upon young ones to get themselves acquainted of things which they don't know.

In nutshell, young people do learn many things which might be taught to old people. The advancements and technological developments along with many personal and culture changes can be well taught by young generation to the old ones because young people too carry the practical experience of their time and there is nothing wrong in learning anything new from anybody irrespective of age or any criteria.

NUMBER 127

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Reading fiction (such as novels and short stories) is more enjoyable than watching movies. Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.

I disagree that reading fiction is more enjoyable than watching movies. Of course I know the advantage of reading fictions. For example, I can bring my favorite book in the train to read during commuting or traveling. Also, it is a good idea to read novels to kill my time when taking a boring lecture. I can soon go into the world in the book and enjoy seeking what happens next with a lot of imagination alone. People often say that reading books develop children's creativity and I agree that. However, I enjoy watching movies more than reading something for the following reasons.

First of all, it is easy to have a fun with movies. Even if we don't watch a movie from the start, we will know soon what is going on in the story. Screens where characters act through a camera make audience pay attention easily because of the visual scenes and sound. The mixture of clear, beautiful or horrible pictures and its matched sounds have great effect on audience so that they will not forget the scenes.

Second, if you like a character in a movie, you can be excited in not only the flow of the story but also keeping watching the person. Moreover, I would like to get items characters in films use and imitate their fashions; we can get a lot of hints and ideas which make our daily lives more comfortable and enjoyable.

Watching one movie with friends is also a happy time. After watching it, we will chat about the stories, characters and what each of us felt. We talk and listen to them and give our own judgment. We can do such a thing because we can watch movies with more than two people at the same time, on the other hand, reading books tend to enjoy alone.

Thus, I prefer watching movies to reading fictions. Through movies, especially which we can see at movie theaters now, we can have a lively conversation and get to know today's popularity.

NUMBER 128

Some people say that physical exercise should be a required part of every school day. Other people believe that students should spend the whole school day on academic studies. Which opinion do you agree with? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

In my opinion, physical exercise or physical education is an essential part of children's education, for so many reasons. First of all, to maintain physical fitness of students, secondly, to promote sportsmanship and camaraderie among students and lastly to create a more disciplined behaviour of the students.

Exercise helps the body become healthy and fit. The movement coming from physical exertion due to exercise promotes circulation of blood to all parts of the body, thus, enhances the distribution of nutrients from different parts of the body and also it promotes oxygenation of the cells and burning of unwanted fats resulting to vigor and stamina. Also, exercise help prevent diseases and sickness like, heart attack, lung diseases and obesity.

Furthermore, exercise develops camaraderie and sportsmanship among student. This is specially when they play as a team. Students are able to identify their worth in a team and are able to develop their ability to work with a team to be able to reach their common goal, that is to defeat their opponent and come out victorious. They develop friendship with various people because they get to play with other people most of the time, thus, improving the social

aspect of their personality. Students become extrovert and active as I observed if they continuously join sports and other form of exercises.

Lastly, This is a good investment in their personality as they grow up because exercise and sports teach them to become disciplined, patient and friendly. Most of all they become result oriented with their work as they see to it that they persevere in every field that they get into. When they grow up to become matured individuals, it will not be hard for them to deal with other people and they will always see to it that they put their hearts and minds in everything that they do, as what they have learned in sports while they were still young.

While it is true that academic subjects should be put into priority, I still believe that physical exercise in school should be given the same importance, because it helps develop the emotional, social and physical aspect of a student, preparing him to become a great individual in the future.

NUMBER 129

A university plans to develop a new research center in your country. Some people want a center for business research. Other people want a center for research in agriculture (farming). Which of these two kinds of research centers do you recommend for your country? Use specific reasons in your recommendation.

It is difficult to decide whether to build a business research center or an agriculture research center. As for me, I personally prefer to construct the agriculture research center in my country, China. There are two reasons for my position; the agriculture is very important to my country and the less young people like to work in the agriculture.

First of all, the agriculture is very important for my country. The large population cause my country to have the problem that there are still lots of people cannot eat enough food. If we do not improve our country's agriculture technology, it will be hard to resolve the food problem. So building the agriculture research center can offer us more information about the development technology and help us to produce more food. We can learn lots of other developed country's advantages through researching and use these information to advance our country's agriculture. Thus, the agriculture research center can give us many benefits.

Another reason is that the young people begin to ignore the agriculture in my country. They do not like to study agriculture, because they think they cannot earn a lot of money by learning agriculture. The flourishing business attracts them. Especially in villages, everybody want to work in the city, and nobody care the crops. It causes only the old experts continue to study the agriculture,

no new persons can help them to think the problems. The old experts have limited knowledge. They are hard to get the new things. If more young persons can be volunteers to work for agriculture, more problems will be resolved quickly. There, the young people need to realize the importance of agriculture, because they can make more profits in agriculture.

In short, people have different perspectives on building a business center or an agriculture center. However, I am convinced that we need to build the agriculture center. Following my country's situation, the question that whether the people can eat enough or not is the most important things. Therefore, the ignorance of agriculture will make our country go to the famine country.

NUMBER 130

Some young children spend a great amount of their time practicing sports. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of this. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Sports have always been an inseparable part of a schoolchild's life. But does it really do so much good after all? This is the topic we are going to talk about today.

First the advantages. The most obvious one is probably the effect a moderate amount of exercise has on the child. Experience shows that children who exercise regularly are more attentive in class than children who never exercise. I remember that I felt a lot more concentrated in class when I was in fourth grade, when I was in a soccer team, than in fifth grade, when I dropped out and stopped exercising entirely. Exercise also has effects on a child's confidence, both in the means of shaping the child's body and giving the child a competition-conscious mind. For example, one of my best friends spent a lot of time on track when she was in primary school, ending up being among the tallest girls in school and having a somewhat superior feeling being able to run faster than anyone else.

But too much sport or improper guidance can be harmful. Being too involved usually ends up in the child feeling tired all the time or taking up too much time that was originally meant for study or play. Children can easily get too worked up in competitions and if this goes without steering, the child may develop wrong views towards winning and losing and life in general. It may also be harmful towards a child's body. Gymnastics, for instance, is known to be harsh towards the gymnasts, usually ending them up small and short. Many sports are dangerous, and children may be crippled when injured in the course of game.

So what attitude should we take up when we are facing such a question? As I see it, children's sports, despite the dangers, should be supported. After all, a moderate amount of sport is essential for a healthy child, and really getting

involved in a sport can help build a child's reflexes, skills in sports in general, not to say the understanding of teamwork. So young children spending a lot of time on sports should be a good sign. It means that these children are learning young what they will need to know all their lives.

NUMBER 131

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? **Only** people who earn a lot of money are successful. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Many people believe that a large income equals success. I believe, however, that success is more than how much money you make. Some of those measures of success include fame, respect, and knowledge.

Most people assume that famous people are rich people, but that isn't always true. For example, someday I would like to be a famous researcher. Few scientists are rich by today's standards. Still, I will feel myself to be successful if I am well known. Additionally, there are many famous humanitarians who are not so rich. Mother Theresa was one. Certainly, no one would say she was not successful.

I also believe that being respected by co-workers indicates success. Without that, respect, money means little. For example, I once did some work for a top attorney in a law firm. He made a very good salary, but he was not a nice man. No one ever did work for him willingly. He ordered everyone around, and we didn't respect him. In contrast, however, I had a wonderful band director in high school. He had to take extra jobs just to make enough money to support his family. However, his students had great respect for him and always listened to what he said. As a result, we were a very good band. In my opinion, my band director was more successful than the attorney was.

Finally, I think one of the most important indicators of success is knowledge. Wealthy people don't know all the answers. For example, in the movie Good Will Hunting, the only person who could solve some complex problems was the janitor. He knew a lot, and decided what he wanted to do with that knowledge rather than just think about money. In my opinion, he was extremely successful.

When we think of history, there few people that we remember simply because they were rich. Overall, we remember people who did something with their lives-they were influential in politics, or contributed to science or art or religion. If history is the ultimate judge of success, then money surely isn't everything.

NUMBER 132

If you could invent something **new**, what product would you develop? Use specific details to explain why this invention is needed.

Were I an inventor and had I the power or intelligence to invent things, I would surely choose to invent a machine that recycles carbon dioxide and other gases into oxygen. This most important invention would be instrumental in staying the degradation of our planet and would result in a better world for our children.

In our times, we have used up so much of the earth's natural resources, burnt so many fossil fuels that we are in danger of losing our most precious resource- air. A planet without this precious resource would be absolutely inhospitable to any form of life. In addition, a planet with depleted quantities will lead to an unimaginable catastrophe that would be unparalleled in human history. Our activities have resulted in the depletion of the Ozone layer and radiation that is at dangerous levels. Such a machine would lead to restoration of this most important resource.

We are in an unenviable position in our times. While we lament the relentless pressures upon the natural resources of mother earth, we have but no option to continue using these resources. This is because life, as we know it would be unimaginable without our continued use of these resources. Industry would come to a standstill without natural resources and we would be the sufferers. Thus, it is extremely important that we seek a delicate balance between using natural resources and over utilizing them. My machine would be influential in obtaining this balance. While it will permit the continued usage of our most precious resource, it will also to a very large extent nullify the damage caused to the environment by the continued use of resources. It will also help us to realize the significance of resources that we often take for granted.

Thus, I feel that a machine that converts large quantities of noxious gasses into oxygen would be the most useful invention for mankind, as it would control, to a very large extent, the damage to the environment that human activity is causing.

NUMBER 133

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? A person's childhood years (the time from birth to twelve years of age) are the most important years of a person's life. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

I wholeheartedly agree with the statement that a person's childhood years are the most important period of his or her life. It is very easy to underestimate the importance of these formative years but a careful evaluation will indeed convince any discerning individual that the childhood years are by far the most important period of one's life.

One reason that childhood is the most important period of one's life is that it is during these years that the basis of one's education is laid. Education is the backbone of any civilization and the role of primary and secondary education can never be understated while deciding the future course of life of an

individual. This period is extremely crucial because the child exhibits his aptitude for scholastics here and this aptitude decides what course his future will take.

Another reason that I feel that the childhood years are the most important is because an individual gets his first introduction to morals and the norms and values of society in this period. Morals are imparted at this age and if they are imparted in a proper manner by parents and teachers this will result in fine upstanding citizens that contribute towards to creation of a truly moral world. If we cast a wide net and analyze the childhoos of criminals, drug addicts and other such denizens of society we can most often see that the roots opf their problems lie in a disturbed childhood. An ideal childhood creates ideal citizens and a disturbed childhood only creates unwanted elements of society. Love and affection, understanding and education are all the positive inputs in this period and in the absence of these truly important inputs we can only expect very disturbed adults.

Childhood is also the most important period of life because it is at this time that the individual; formulates his own philosophy of life and decides his place in this world. There are hardly any examples of people who have formulated their world views in adulthood or adolescence. Childhood is when people thing about what they want to become in the future and what kind of person they would like to become.

Thus, I truly feel that childhood, due to the various reasons that I cited above, is the most important period in ones life and our planet would be a much better place if parents and teachers realized this fact and did not engage in any activities that would hamper the future of a child.

NUMBER 134

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Children should be required to help with household tasks as soon as they are able to do so. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

The issue that children should help with household tasks is one that is open to debate. On the one hand, some people think that children should not be required to help if there is not need for them to do part of the household tasks. Some people also say that is preferable for children to devote more time to playing, reading and watching interest things on TV. On the other hand other people support the idea of teaching children household tasks and make them help at home. I adhere to the latter point of view. I base my opinion on the following points.

First, helping in our houses when we are children teaches us of the ways of doing household tasks. This might be very useful in our future, even if we can hire someone to do those things for us. I have three sisters and my mom always explained to us how to cook, clean or iron our clothes. We also had a

maid to help us with most of the chores, but anyway my mom wanted us to learn. It is well known that is very difficult to correct the job of someone else if you don't know the job yourself. Thanks to this learning, I can now handle many of my houses tasks, and when my maid cannot come to my house I anyway manage to go to work with my clothes clean or ironed. Moreover, it helped me grow by learning that all of us have responsibilities at home, even if it is a minor one such as preparing toasts for breakfast.

Second, doing the household tasks helps you be more tolerant with others, put yourself in their situation and understand them more. Before I practiced this kind of tasks at home, I usually thought that keeping a house clean and tidy was a very simple and minor issue. Now, I don't. I've learnt to appreciate how energy consuming doing the household can be and how many things need to be done before we arrive at home and see everything in perfect conditions. This has helped me grow as a more considerate person. I value the job of those who work for me. I've felt how boring and exhausting cleaning a house can be, and I try to recognize through a fair pay this job.

Third, I believe that you can learn household activities and help at home without resigning to other activities. When I was a child I helped my mom with part of the chores, but however had plenty of time to read and play with my friends. Doing part of the household did not affect either my academic performance or my social activities. Hence, as my sisters and I helped at home, my mom could also have a personal life and spend more time playing with us.

To sum up, I believe that is a good idea to make children help with some of the household tasks even if there is no need to do so because someone else can handle it. In my opinion, doing part of the household promotes children to grow and mature as responsible and considerate people, and does not affect their academic or personal life.

NUMBER 135

Some high schools require all students to wear school uniforms. Other high schools permit students to decide what to wear to school. Which of these two school policies do you think is better? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

High schools should require all students to wear uniforms because of the several benefits that occur when all students are dressed in the same way. While there is a school of thought that stipulates that students be allowed freedom in what they wear to school, I firmly believe that uniforms should be made mandatory in school.

The first reason for my belief is that a sense of belonging and pride is developed when students wear a uniform to school. A sense of belonging is extremely important in these times because of the lopsided social structure

that modern society has given us. Broken homes and rocky parental relationships often result in young people feel like they do not really belong in society and are outcasts. Uniforms will go a long way in reducing these undesirable feelings.

The second reason for my belief is that uniforms remove any disparity between students. In a high school students from all ethnic, economic and social strata attend school for learning. While the parents of some of them may be able afford designer clothing and accessories the parents of others may not. This will create a feeling of inferiority among students who are the have-nots. This feeling of inferiority will affect them very adversely and may result in their feeling alienated. Thus, uniforms will go a long way in removing any such feelings and contribute to a feeling of similarity among all students. Lastly, I believe that uniforms will foster discipline among students because when students are dressed in a uniform they are less likely to indulge in destructive and abnormal behavior. A uniform instills in a student the sense that he is a student and thus, expected to act accordingly.

Thus, I strongly believe that students should indeed be required to be dressed in uniforms and this will go a long way in creating ideal citizens of tomorrow.

NUMBER 136

[Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Playing a game is fun only when you win. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.](#)

Participation is much more important than winning a game. Winning is incidental and even though we have, at a very early age, instilled in us the sense of competition, it is much more important to participate.

Cut to the 1936 Olympics and envision Adolph Hitler shouting from the rooftops that the Aryans were the supreme race only to watch Jesse Owens win all four events that he participated in. This proved once and for all that sport should be participated in the spirit of sport itself rather than to prove one's own superiority. Jesse Owens, by winning at the Olympics, proved that race and ethnicity were not the determining factors in sporting success. This also proves that victory is not all important but participation is a matter of pride.

If we look at the paralympics, the competitors are least concerned about victory but take more pride in the fact that they have overcome circumstances to participate in sport. This is an inspiration for all of us who play games even if we are just playing monopoly with family and friends.

A game is fun not just when you win but the competition is also enjoyable and the achievement is also enjoyable. If one plays only for winning that is a very mercenary spirit and has no place in sport. Cannot one enjoy a game of football that is a supreme contest of wills and physique even though one has lost that game? Sport for sport's sake is much more important than winning and thus, participation is much more fun than just winning.

The actual fun in sports is when you know that you have given your maximum and that you could not have done better.; There is also fun in knowing that you

could do much better and anticipate a better result the next time around. There is also fun in knowing that you have participated in an activity that was designed specifically to improve your talents and creativity and that you have gained as a result of participating in this activity. The most fun comes from the achievement within the game itself. Who does not enjoy sinking a basket or hitting a home run. The result of the game and whether one actually wins or not is at best secondary.

NUMBER 137

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? High schools should allow students to study the courses that students want to study. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

High school should primarily be a vehicle that will ease the transformation from a high school student to a freshman. High school curriculums should be geared around the objectives the individual student and thus, I believe that High Schools should let students study only courses that they want to study and that are geared towards the kind of career students have in mind. Tailored high school courses will be of great benefit to discerning students providing students have very clear objectives in mind. These students will be able to choose only courses that will be helpful in achieving their career and academic objectives. Extraneous study matter will be eliminated and thus the student will derive maximum benefit from what she studies. However, this kind of system will be fruitless without clear objectives. It is the duty of counselors to ensure that all students have an extremely clear idea of what they want to study and why they want to study it. Along with academic subjects, students should also be allowed to explore their creativity through courses like art and music among other things that they may be interested in. While most high schools in the world offer well-rounded courses, several institutions adhere to an outdated system that requires the potential Liberal Arts major to study subjects like Chemistry! High Schools should have courses that are tailored towards the future needs of the students in order to help him cope better with the demands of a further education and career. Education today needs to be streamlined towards producing focused individuals. While the positive aspects of a well rounded education should not be ignored, society needs more specialists who will drive it forward in a series of thrusts. While well rounded education can produce the worker ants, society also needs the specialists and specialists can only be created by a focused education. Thus, I sincerely feel that education should be geared around the needs of the student but then there should also be a great deal of attention on the formulation of ones objectives early on in life.

NUMBER 138

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? It is better to be a member of a group than to be the leader of a group. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

In this world, there are leaders and there are followers. However, one cannot really generalize and say that it is really better to be a leader or say that it is better to be a follower because it depends to a very large extent on the individual.

Each individual has his own mental make up regarding this issue. Some people feel comfortable following others because they do not feel comfortable with the responsibilities of leadership while others want to lead all the time. Yet others want to work individually and do not enjoy working collaboratively with others.

There are several advantages to being a leader and it requires special kind of person to lead others. With leadership, one can be in control all the time but then one also has to have excellent coordination abilities and good man management. Being a leader is not for the faint hearted, as one has to accept responsibility for failure but on the flip side one also gets most of the credit for success.

There are several advantages to just being a member of a group because one has limited responsibilities and all one is required to do is to follow the footsteps of someone else. However, the disadvantages of being just a member of a group are that one can never hope to be noticed as standing apart from the crowd. As just a member, one can also not hope to achieve great things, as one is always one step behind the leader.

There are also several people who don't like to work in groups because they have a strong sense of individuality. The advantage with this kind of viewpoint is that one is one's own master and one does not have to do anyone's bidding! So it really depends on the person as far as the 'leader versus follower' issue is concerned. A natural born leader will, obviously, say that it is better to lead while a born follower will definitely say that it is better to follow. As far as I am concerned, I love to lead groups and be in charge.

One thing that we must not ignore and which pertains directly to the issue on hand is that one should always be cast in the role that one is most comfortable in. If a leader is miscast in the role of a follower and vice versa, disaster will inevitably follow. One relevant example I would like to offer on this regard is that of my Aunt Matilda. She is a seamstress by profession and was recently offered a partnership in a prestigious firm. One of her responsibilities was to ensure the productivity of several workers and she was forced to take up leadership when she is more comfortable with coordinating with everyone. Needless to say, she opted out of the partnership in less than a month.

NUMBER 139

What do you consider to be the most important room in a house? Why is

this room more important to you than any other room? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Rooms are one of the many important factors in a house. Architects, when drawing the plan of a house consider these room-factors seriously. When we are buying a house, new or old, we place emphasies on the different types and number of rooms in the house, their conditions, seizes, general orientation and other factors of the very rooms like the windows, the height of the ceilins and so on. However, among the different types of rooms that can be found in todays modern houses, I consider the most important to be the siting room.

There is an adage or a saying that the siting room is the mirrow of the house. This is very right. For example if the siting room is always dirty, one can always expect the whole house to be dirty too. So the living room shows the hiegenic condition of the house.

Furthermore, the siting room is very important because when we have visitors, we rarely invite them to our bedrooms or to the toilet or to the bathroom. No. We invite them to sit in the siting room where we welcome them or discuss some issues. For sure, they look around to see how tidy is the room, how is it arranged and what we have in the house. That impression of the sitting room will always be with them about the whole house, about how we live and how tidy we are. In these regards, the siting room serves as the face of the house, a sort of the public relations manager.

Apart from the above mentioned reasons, the siting room is much more important than the other rooms for the very purpose it is supposed to be: for sitting. Having a place to sit in the house is very important. For example, imagine coming from a very hard days job, very tired. Sure the first thing one does on getting to the house is to head for the sitting room, most propable get a cold drink from the refrigerator and relax by siting down in the siting room, put on the television and for a moment forget about the hard days job.

In conclusion, the sitting room is very important in the house for the purposes it serves, mainly, it portrays and gives impressons to others about how we live, how tidy we are, that is, it is the mirrow and the public relation 'manager' of the house, and it is one of the best place where we can relax in the house.

140. Some items (such as clothes or furniture) can be made by hand or by machine. Which do you prefer — items made by hand or items made by machine? Use reasons and specific examples to explain your choice.

Division of labor and mass production are very modern concepts. They have resulted in amazing increases in productivity but often at the cost of quality. I feel that though mass production and mechanization has given us more choices it has a downside too because quality suffers and so I would prefer to own goods made by hand rather than machine made goods.

One reason for my belief is that people who make goods by hand pay greater attention to detail and quality. These people are heavily involved in the creative process and have a personal bond with what they create. On the other hand, workers in factories treat goods that they manufacture very impersonally and despite all the quality checks they do not really feel for what they have made. I would like anyone who disagrees with my point of view to compare hand-stitched boots with machine made one and let these products speak for themselves!

Another reason for my belief is that when people make goods by hand they impart a great deal of creativity into the creative process whereas mass production and mechanization just results in replicas! Innovation imparted by skilled craftsmen and artisans lends a great deal of novelty to the product and thus, factory produced goods cannot hope to compete.

Lastly, I would also cite variety as a reason for my choosing hand made goods. When one shops for machine made goods one has a limited variety to choose from. However, if one goes to a skilled artisan, one can order just about any design and see it executed well. One example I would like to give in this regard is of myself. Recently, I wanted to buy a barbeque set for myself but one that would be able to prepare Indian *Kebabs* in addition to all the usual stuff. Such a barbeques set was just not available so I went to a blacksmith's and explained the specifications to him and got what I wanted!

Thus, I hope that I have been able to convince everyone who reads this essay that hand made goods have several advantages over machine made goods and are definitely worth the money, time and effort spent on them.

141. If you could make one important change in a school that you attended, what change would you make? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.

I have very fond memories of the school I attended but there was one aspect of this school that I regret till this day. It was a boy's school and if given the chance to change just one aspect of this school, I would convert it into a co-ed school.

One reason for my choice is that I grew up a painfully shy boy in the presence of girls. In school we did not get to see many members of the fair sex except for the daughters of the faculty members in church. By the time I left this school I had very very limited experience of interacting with girls. In college, I remember that my heart would skip a beat if a girl spoke to me and I would be very nervous in the presence of girls. Had I been used to talking to girls, this would not have happened.

Another reason for my choice is that I strongly believe that adolescents should be given the right to interact with members of the opposite sex because this is the start and the basis of finding the perfect partner. This is what dating is all about- finding the perfect mate. I remember that I had my first date at the age of 20! I regret missing out on this important aspect of life till this date even though I have managed to find the perfect match for myself.

The last reason for my choice is that both sexes get a perspective of each other if they interact from a young age. They come to know each other better and form healthy relationships. Many people are unable to form healthy relationships because they view the other sex as merely a sex object. They think that it is impossible for a man and a woman to be just friends. This is an unhealthy trend in society and should be controlled immediately. Thus, though I love my alma mater, I would really like to make this one change in it so that the students studying in it now will benefit more from an education at my old school.

142. A gift (such as a camera, a soccer ball, or an animal) can contribute to a child's development. What gift would you give to help a child develop? Why? Use reasons and specific examples to support your choice.

If I were to gift a child something, I would gift her a book. I remember my own childhood and how much books contributed to my development. I think that toys, while enjoyable, can hardly compete with books because books are enjoyable as well as didactic!

One advantage with gifting books to kids is that one can foster the reading habit at an early age. I remember my first Enid Blyton at the age of 4. I was about a taxi driver in Toyland called Noddy. I was hooked from day one and soon devoured the whole series. By the time I was a teenager, I had read Plato, Stephen Hawking and everything else that I could lay my hands on. Fostering the reading habit from an early age has several advantages such as preparing one for the cognitive process and engraining in one the value of the written word.

Another advantage of presenting books to kids is that they can really increase their general knowledge. You come across a vast array of topics in books and one can learn a lot about them. One example I would like to offer in this regard is my encyclopedic knowledge of Africa. I know in detail about the culture and history of countries like Zimbabwe and South Africa. I have never visited these countries and neither have I studied them formally. All my knowledge comes from books by Wilbur Smith!

The last reason for my choosing books as gifts to kids is that books are the best and most constructive leisure activity. I prefer reading to playing any game, watching movies or TV or any other leisure activity. The enjoyment one derives from books is simply not there in any other media. I would prefer any day to curl up with a good book rather than watch the mind numbing fare on TV.

Thus, I truly think that books are the best presents for kids as the advantage of gifting books far outweighs the advantages of any other kind of gift.

143. Some people believe that students should be given one long vacation each

year. Others believe that students should have several short vacations throughout the year. Which viewpoint do you agree with? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

One needs vacations to wind down from hard work and put ones feet up and relax. This is especially true for students because they have to cope with enormous pressures at school and thus need the time to relax. As far as the question of one long vacation versus several short ones is concerned, I would prefer one long vacation due to several reasons that I will attempt to outline in the following paragraphs.

One reason for my belief is that one needs a long time to wind down from the pressures of school. Short holidays do not really rejuvenate you because your holiday is over almost as soon as it has started and all one is left with is the dread of going back to school. One needs to be away from pressure for a long time in order to recover from this pressure. A very relevant example in this regard is the dread with which Mondays are regarded after an extremely short weekend.

Another reason for my belief is that students often choose several leisure activities that can only be completed in a long time during their vacations. One cannot go to another place for a holiday and explore it fully if one has only as short holiday. One cannot also indulge in activities like camping etc. if one only has a short vacation. Thus, the whole purpose of the vacation is defeated.

Perhaps the strongest reason for my choice is that students often see the holidays as an opportunity to earn money so that they can meet the expenses of the next semester. This is especially relevant for college students who are paying their own way through college. Working part time during the semester and on short vacations is just not enough to earn enough money to pay all your fees. One needs a long summer vacation to be able to earn the fees of the next semester.

Thus, one long vacation is truly preferable to several short ones as the advantages far outweigh any benefits that several short vacations can add. It is evident that my choice makes the most sense because this is the model that almost all the institutions all over the world are following.

144. Would you prefer to live in a traditional house or in a modern apartment building? Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.

By far, a traditional house is what I would prefer if given the choice. Living in a traditional house is infinitely better than living in an apartment building due to several reasons.

The first reason I would like to put forward for my choice is that one has much more space in a traditional house. Apartments are made with maximum space utilization and economy in mind. One ends up living in a space that is confined and restricted. One often suffers due to this because of the lack of privacy apartment buildings have. In a traditional house one has enough space to be comfortable in and one can afford to be flexible with the way one chooses to utilize a space.

Another reason for my belief is that one can be closer to nature in a traditional house. One can have a garden and see an unrestricted view of the sky. It is very important to be close to nature and for me it is almost indispensable to my sanity! If I did not see the stars at night, if I were unable to sit on the grass and enjoy a clear day and if I were not able to breathe in the smell of flowers and grass, I think that my life would be the poorer for it.

Perhaps the strongest reason for my choice is that in a traditional house one can have better relationships with the neighbors and forge a sense of community. I once lived in an apartment building for a few months and at the end of this tenure, I did not even know my next door neighbor! Living in an apartment building is impersonal and social behavior is restricted. However, I now live in a traditional house and am on first name basis with all my neighbors. Recently, my daughter was involved in a minor accident several streets from my house. She was taken to a hospital by a neighbor and treated. This neighbor then informed me and told me that he had the whole situation under control! When my daughter was discharged from the hospital there was a deluge of visitors at our house who had come to show solidarity with us in this difficult time. This kind of community feeling is just not there in an apartment building.

Thus, living in a traditional house is far preferable to living in the anthill that an apartment building represents and I would advise all who are in the process of making such a choice to choose the traditional house because of the several advantages associated with it.

145. Some people say that advertising encourages us to buy things we really do

not need. Others say that advertisements tell us about new products that may improve our lives. Which viewpoint do you agree with? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Let us have a close look at the modern advertisement before we actually decide whether ads make us buy stuff that we don't need or whether they are making our lives better. Envision a room with one man in it who is looking extremely bored. He then reaches for a can of soda and the room is suddenly filled with bright and attractive people and the man is the center of attention. The message here is clear- buy X brand of soda and you will become popular! Sure, the man may have been thirsty and may actually have needed a soda but imagine yourself attracted to a person solely because he or she drinks a particular brand of soda. Ethics went out of the window a very long time ago in

advertising and all ads make us do today is to buy stuff that we could easily do without and actually be better off without.

Let us take the example of the most pervading influence in drawing rooms today- the TV. A decade ago, there was not much to choose from between different brands of TVs but today while one manufacturer peddles TVs that are flat the other goes further by peddling TVs that as flat and have plasma screens too. A third brand sells TVs with both the above 'advantages' in addition to having an LCD screen. Well, all I would like to say in this regard is that I can hardly notice the difference and no TV can make me feel like I'm actually experiencing what is happening on the screen. In order to lure buyers products constantly update themselves. What is 'in' today is history tomorrow! However, I would not mind this trend if there were significant improvements in quality but the 'improvements' are hardly discernable! Advertising is used like a tool that makes anyone who wants to be 'with it' spend more money on useless purchases.

In my country, toothpastes come in various flavors and with various additives. I would like to give the example of Colgate toothpaste in this regard. Different sorts of the same brand contain cloves, salt, mint, lime and a battery of other additives that supposedly whiten, strengthen, beautify and protect your pearly whites. However, my dentist strongly advises that I avoid this toothpaste because it contains abrasive substances! What is the credibility of the advertisements of this brand that exhort you to buy this toothpaste and become popular with girls or to use this toothpaste in order to dispose of a walnut with one crunch of the teeth!

Thus, advertising is more of a nuisance in our world and extremely unethical. All it succeeds in doing is to lure the gullible into purchasing things that are little value for money. At home, I have a barbeque set that I never use, a TV that is the 'latest' for the next month or so and many more such items. I've even discovered that Coca Cola is better than 'Harpic' if used to clean your toilet bowl!

146. Some people prefer to spend their free time outdoors. Other people prefer to spend their leisure time indoors. Would you prefer to be outside or would you prefer to be inside for your leisure activities?

The great outdoors beckon invitingly to me during holidays and I can think of nothing worse than being cooped up at home during holidays. Only in the worst weather or if there is a riot or if someone holds a gun to my head would one find me at home during the holidays because, circumstances favoring, I will either be hiking or camping somewhere and enjoying myself immensely in the process!

Being cloistered at home during the holidays and having only the idiot box for company is more of a suffering than a holiday for me. I love the great outdoors, the fresh smell of the grass and the rugged outdoors. I am a very

physical person and enjoy all kinds of outdoor sports and adventure sports. Recently, I attempted the world's highest bungee jump in Nepal and the adrenaline rush was something to savor for a long time. At home one has a very limited range of leisure activities that one can indulge in while the choice outdoors is excellent.

Being outdoors in the vacations is also very healthy. One actually gets a lot of exercise and breathes fresh air rather than canned air. One gets an excellent workout if one indulges in any sport or adventure activity. On the other hand people who stay at home are rightfully branded couch potatoes!

The great outdoors also enable one to experience nature in all her splendor. This is extremely valuable for all of us. To be close to nature is a blessing and to experience nature in all her beauty is a great experience. Compare this to seeing only four walls and there is really no choice! I love to see the undulating landscape close to my house and walk among the flora and fauna of the countryside. This also acts as a great stress reliever and thus ensures that I am ready for the rigors of the next workday!

Thus, I would truly prefer to be outdoors on vacation and not be cooped up by four walls because it is truly beneficial and enjoyable to be with nature outdoors.

147. Use specific reasons and examples to explain your choice.

Your school has received a gift of money. What do you think is the best way for your school to spend this money? Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.

If my school were to receive a sum of money as a gift, I would strongly advise the school board to spend the money on additional sporting facilities. While most schools have an adequate educational infrastructure and facilities, most schools lag behind in sporting infrastructure and this is a need that is often underestimated at most institutions.

The importance of sports should never be underestimated. Students need to be physically fit in order to study better and absorb more knowledge. A fit body is essential if one wants a fit mind and sporting facilities will go a long way in making this possible.

Sports also instill in us a sense of competition. This is extremely important in this modern world because of the ruthless nature of the rat race outside the school boundaries. Professionals compete for promotions, sales and many other things and a good sporting infrastructure in a school will be really helpful in preparing students for the ruthlessly competitive world that lies beyond the walls of the school.

Schools can also improve their reputations as a sporting power regionally and nationally with excellent sporting facilities. Successful sporting teams spread awareness about their schools and give others another perspective of the school.

Lastly, sports are also a great way to make a living. Sportspeople are very highly paid and respected. A school, by adding sporting infrastructure will be giving students a pathway to yet another career.

Thus, I would strongly advocate that all schools create good sporting facilities in order to avail of all the advantages above and contribute immensely to the lives of students. A good school is not just one whose students excel academically but one who is able to provide society with knowledgeable and healthy citizens.

148. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Playing games teaches us about life. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Yes, games do indeed teach us about life. A person projects his personality while playing a game and this is indeed a great lesson in life. Games are competitive and teach us about our lives in the future where we too will be required to compete. Games are also a test of character and tell us what our strengths are and what our weaknesses are.

I remember a game of Table Tennis that I played with a new friend a long time ago. Though I was much better at the game than this new friend, I was able to get an insight into his character and thus learn how to deal with him. While playing this game, this friend refused to give in and was diving all over the place to retrieve almost irretrievable balls. I learnt that this friend was a great tryer and years later recruited him in my company where he is doing an excellent job. Thus, what began as a simple game led me to make an excellent business decision years later and this proves that games are valuable to us because they give insights into others' lives and teach us about them.

I remember how ruthlessly competitive I used to be while playing table tennis in my youth. I would ensure that even obviously inferior players won as few points from me as possible. Once in the gym, I remember a younger competitor crying after he had lost a tournament game to me. This ruined the victory that I would have otherwise savored. I realized that I had humiliated him by winning the game too close. This made me realize that I should retain my humanity when I am playing or communicating with others. Thus, again, a simple game taught me a simple fact of life.

Sport has also made me realize that I have a very different personality from others. I realized this while playing doubles with others. The degree of cooperation needed was absent in my game of doubles, though I was an

excellent singles player. I realized that this weakness would hamper me throughout life and immediately set about remedying it.

Thus, games can truly teach us about life and the one incident that truly proves this, and that remains etched in my memory forever, is the incident when I started coaching kids to play table tennis. One day, a ward of mine came up to me and asked if he could play with my paddle. I agreed but later when I asked him why he wanted to play with my paddle, he replied that his parents were too poor to afford one. This served to remind me of how fortunate I was in life.

149. Imagine that you have received some land to use as you wish. How would you use this land? Use specific details to explain your answer.

If I were to receive some land that I could use in any which way I liked, I would like to use the land to make a meditation and retreat center. This would be a dream project for me and I would set about doing this in the most methodical way possible.

While materially we are better off than people in the last few centuries, spiritually we are much poorer. In this hectic world of deadlines and targets we have just forgotten that we owe it to ourselves to be peaceful. I disregard institutionalized religion as a way and means of restoring sanity to a world gone mad but meditation definitely works for me and a lot of other people. My meditation center would be an oasis of calm in an otherwise chaotic world. In this tough professional world that we live in, stress is also a factor that is contributing to a lot of problems. Work demands, mortgages, demanding family members all contribute to this phenomenon. My meditation center would be a panacea for this disease as it would be able to contribute significantly to lessening stress among those who visit it.

Lastly, I would choose the meditation center above all other alternatives because it will have certain rules that will make form, extremely healthy living and thus contribute towards the betterment of several lives. I will allow only organically grown food in the center and prohibit tobacco, alcohol and meat. I will also ensure that all kinds of alternative medical sciences like acupuncture, acupressure, reiki and ayurveda are also practiced so that we can give people an alternative to allopathic medicine.

Thus, a meditation center will be a good choice if I were to receive a piece of land that I could develop anyhow. I would also make all the facilities mentioned in this essay available to everyone free of cost so that I will be able to benefit more people.

150. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Watching television is bad for children. Use specific details and examples to support your answer.

What kind of television are we talking about here? Are we discussing mindless violence here or the escapades of Tom and Jerry? Watching television is indeed bad for children if they are watching explicitly sexual or violent content, but television can also help in the cognitive process with constructive programs. Thus, in my final analysis, I believe that bad content should be avoided and what children watch should be strictly monitored.

Violent content is extremely harmful because these are young and impressionable minds that we are discussing here. I would like to offer an example in this regard of my very young niece who enjoys watching professional wrestling on TV. Her favorite wrestler is 'The Rock' and she imitates his every move. Recently, I caught her trying to 'spear' her younger brother. This could have resulted in serious injury.

I am strongly in support of the issue that children's television should be censored strictly. There should be certain guidelines as to what movie and TV producers can make and what they cannot. While most channels are conscientious in this regard, many are not. We must realize that it is the future of the nation that is at stake and what we absolutely do not need is a nation of emotional cripples. However, I would not make a generalized statement like 'TV is bad for kids'.

151. What is the most important animal in your country? Why is the animal important? Use reasons and specific details to explain your answer.

According to me an animal could be considered important based on what it contributes to mankind. In India the most important animal is the Cow. It is important as it provides a source of food to people, it is an animal which can be used for labour, also the cow is religiously worshiped by the Indian people.

Majority of the people in India are Hindus. According to Hindu beliefs and customs, the cow is religiously worshiped. Temples are built in respect of the animal, and the animal itself is considered holy. These animals are allowed to wander freely anywhere they please, whether it be on the farm lands and fields, or the city streets. In Mumbai and other metropolitan cities of India one would find many cows roaming on the streets. People will very often buy grass and hay, to feed the animals. Although they do cause hindrance to vehicular traffic, but people would never harm them. Car drivers would patiently wait for a cow to move off the center of the road, without honking their horns or doing anything to scare the animal. This is because of the fact that they worship the animal, and they feel that the animal is important. According to the Hindu religion the god Shri Krishan happened to also be a cow herder, and hence the cow is also worshiped.

In India the main source of milk, happens to be the cow. Every day several million liters of milk are supplied by dairies all over India. They happen to be the cheapest supply of milk for the people, without which tens of thousands of babies would go unnurished.

Thousands of varieties of dairy products and sweets are made from fresh cows milk. Without the cow this would not be possible. Hence the animal is of prime importance to the nation. Also apart from milk, the cow also happens to be the main source of meat in the country. Beef is widely consumed throughout the country. The muslim community, which happens to be the second largest community in India, are forbidden by religion to consume pork or any other form of pig meat. For them and for other communities also, the cow happens to be the only source of meat, as goats and sheep are not reared in as large numbers and are not found as abundantly as the cow is.

Apart from being a source of meat, the cow is also used on farms for ploughing the fields, and for pulling the bullock carts. In India the farm lands are not consolidated, and hence are very often divided among family members. This makes the size of the farm plots very small. Also most farmers are not very wealthy. Due to these reasons automation is not feasible. Hence for ploughing the fields, for carrying the grains etc cows are employed on the farms. Cows are also considered as very docile and tamed, and loving animals which can easily be used as animals of burden.

For the Indian people, the cow is not just as an animal of worship, but also a source of food and milk. It is also a very useful animal of burden and can be tamed easily. Hence it has gained the most importance in India.

152. Many parts of the world are losing important natural resources, such as forests, animals, or clean water. Choose **one** resource that is disappearing and explain why it needs to be saved. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

Man's continuous exploitation of his natural resources has many a positive point as well as a few negative

Points. While we are obsessed with making our lives better we often forget that the resources we use may not be renewable. One resource that we are using up at an alarming rate are forests and even though forests are renewable, the rate of destruction far outstrips renewability. We use the forests for a variety of needs but at the same time we pay little attention to the potential damage that our exploitation could cause. Forests are disappearing fast and we need desperately to save them in order for future generations to survive.

In Latin America, Asia and Africa forests are disappearing at an alarming rate because the equatorial and tropical jungles are being cleared to make way for cultivable land or for timber. The jungles are the planet's lifeline as they

generate oxygen that is needed imperatively for us to survive. The equatorial jungles of Africa and Latin America alone generate more than 40% of the oxygen that we need. Once these forests are gone, we will not have a greater problem with the ozone layer (given the alarming rate of fossil fuel burnt each day) and no way to recycle waste products into reusable oxygen. Another reason why we need to save forests are the animals that exist in them. The planet survives due to a delicate balance in the ecology. All species in the food chain are interconnected and the extinction of one of them would spell doom for a lot of others. Let us take the example of the elephant. The elephant in its incessant quest for food eats more than 200 pounds of vegetation. This helps in clearing the way for smaller animals to graze and in turn creates food for carnivores. If the elephant were not to do the above, there would be a disaster for many species as well. Thus, to preserve the ecological balance of this world we must preserve forests.

153. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? A zoo has no useful purpose. Use specific reasons and examples to explain your answer.

I absolutely disagree with the statement that a zoo has no useful purpose because it, due to several reasons, this statement is absolutely false. Zoos exist for several practical purposes that serve to preserve life on this planet, as we know it.

The first reason for my belief is that a zoo is a great educational tool. Children can visit the zoo and learn about the richness of the animal life of this planet. It also helps by making children respect animals and treat them better. Learning about the biodiversity of this planet and realizing how each animal helps in preserving the ecological balance makes us aware of an extremely important fact that directly affects our life.

154. In some countries, people are no longer allowed to smoke in many public places and office buildings. Do you think this is a good rule or a bad rule? Use specific reasons and details to support your position.

I am of the opinion that restrictions on smoking in public are very appropriate as there are several benefits for smokers and non-smokers from these restrictions. Smoking is an undesirable habit and restrictions on smoking in public will go a long way in curbing this habit.

The first reason for my belief is that non-smokers will suffer less from the smoke emitted by cigarettes. It is just not fair if one has to suffer from the

activities of others and thus, passive smoking will be reduced. I remember my childhood and in particular the smoke I had to breathe in while traveling on buses and standing in cinema foyers.

The second reason for my belief is that smokers will have fewer places to smoke in and this will result in fewer options for them and thus will help to cut down on their intake of tobacco. If one has easy access to tobacco and if one can smoke just about anywhere one pleases, one will inevitably end up smoking more. Once, I visited Singapore with my uncle who is a heavy smoker. Because it is prohibited to smoke on most Singapore streets and in most public places there, my uncle first complained about this but when he realized that he could indeed survive on fewer cigars a day he started to cut down. Today, my uncle smokes only after meals and his life is much better than it used to be. The last reason for my belief is that such regulations are the beginning of the end for smoking. In the beginning of the last century, cocaine was a legal substance and was even used in many soft drinks but once the authorities realized how harmful it was they banned it and today the number of cocaine users had dropped drastically. Banning smoking in public places is perhaps the first step in banning smoking and this will be instrumental in bettering the lives of millions of humans and making the planet a more hospitable place to live in.

Thus, for all the above reasons, I believe that smoking should indeed be banned in public places and office buildings and this will go a long way in making our planet a better place to live in.

155. Plants can provide food, shelter, clothing, or medicine. What is one kind of plant that is important to you or the people in your country? Use specific reasons and details to explain your choice.

Plants are instrumental for the survival of the human race on this planet. They provide us with food, shelter and clothing. They also lessen the harmful effects of human activities like the burning of fossil fuels. In my country, rice is the most important plant because of several reasons which I will try to explain in the following paragraphs.

My country, Nepal, is a poor country and rice gives subsistence to most of its denizens. In an often hostile environment, rice is perhaps the only plant that can be grown everywhere in my country (except in the uninhabited permafrost regions). It is easy to grow and requires less water than other plants. It gives nutrition to people who, otherwise, would have nothing else.

Rice is also important in Nepal because it is the only food grain that can grow in enough quantities to support the entire nation. While millet, corn and wheat are also grown in Nepal, rice is the only grain that can be grown in sufficient quantities to meet the needs of the whole population. The fertile plains in the

south of Nepal grow most of our rice and this is more or less enough to ensure that we do not have to import large quantities of this important grain. Rice is also the staple diet of our nation. Our most traditional meal *Dal Bhat Tarkari* consists of Rice, vegetables and pulses. Rice is the most important part of this meal and without it our national meal would be incomplete. Thus, rice is truly the most important plant that grows in my country Nepal and it is hard to imagine a meal without this staple. While people in the cities eat foreign foods like Pizza and pasta, most people have access to only rice and life, as they know it, would be impossible without this important staple.

156. You have the opportunity to visit a foreign country for two weeks. Which country would you like to visit? Use specific reasons and details to explain your choice.

Were I given the opportunity to visit a foreign country I would most certainly choose to visit the India. I think that this is the country from which I would be able to benefit most from a short visit because I will learn a lot.

The first reason for my choice to visit India is that I will learn about cultural diversity and religious harmony. In India all the major religions coexist in harmony (despite occasional flare ups) and it will be fascinating to see how this works. In my own country, all ethnic factions and religions live in isolation from each other and often despise each other solely on the grounds of their ethnicity or religion and in India, I will be able to observe what makes religious harmony tick and will be able to implement this in my own country.

The second reason for my choice of India for a brief visit is that I would observe a multi layered and diverse culture much richer than my own. In India, influences of the British culture (due to the British ruling India for 200 years) can be observed in the Christian community and also in architectural delights like the Victoria Memorial in Calcutta can be observed. One of the wonders of the world, the Taj Mahal, a great monument to love, can also be observed and this is an influence of the Mogul culture in India. Great monuments of the Hindu religion, India being the founding place of this religion, can also be observed. The colorful collage that results will be a great experience and will be memorable for a lifetime.

The most important reason for my belief is that on my visit to India I will also be able to learn about the wonderful bio diversity that exists there. As a student of geology and Zoology, I will have a wonderful experience experiencing the Himalayas in the extreme north, the tropical jungles in the north, the plateaus in the south and the beaches of the west. It will present an encyclopedia of different geological regions. In addition, I will also be able to observe a vast array of fauna. The Indian elephant, the tiger and the one horned rhino are only a few examples.

Thus, I think that as a student of Zoology and Geology, my visit to India will be most beneficial and I will come back with a plethora of experiences that I can share with friends and colleagues for a lifetime.

157. In the future, students may have the choice of studying at home by using technology such as computers or television or of studying at traditional schools. Which would you prefer? Use reasons and specific details to explain your choice.

Learning is not a solitary activity to be imparted by machines. The degree of human interaction makes it imperative for us to learn in an environment where interaction is possible. Thus, I would prefer to go to a traditional school over learning at home through televisions and computers.

The first reason for my choice is interaction itself. Learning by oneself gives you a varied and rich perspective and it is this perspective that contributes to our intellect. Learning at home will only give one the perspective of a computer program or a television program and will be extremely limited in nature. Interaction has several other benefits also. It imparts in us a sociability that is extremely important. It teaches us the importance of brainstorming together because many minds are truly better than one. In school, we can also get the perspective of different teachers and enrich our own.

The second reason for my choice is that at school we can benefit from a plethora of resources like libraries and computer labs. These resources are not available in the homes of most students and access to them is extremely important to our development. At home, the very best resource that we can enjoy is the Internet and this is extremely limited due to the vast variety of information available that is virtually impossible to sift through. In a library, one can get more focus in the search for information and thus can achieve erudition more easily.

The last reason for my choice is that in school, one can also have a social life and get a more varied experience because of the large range of extra and co curricular activities that school students participate in. Thus, we will emerge from school truly social beings rather than the hermits we will surely emerge as if we study at home. The planet is becoming smaller day-by-day and social abilities are truly important in the present day context.

Thus, I hope that I have been able to convince who is contemplating studying at home that this is not a very good option because of the tremendous benefits of attending school.

158. When famous people such as actors, athletes and rock stars give their opinions, many people listen. Do you think we should pay attention to these opinions? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

If Eminem were giving an opinion on Quantum Physics, I would carefully evaluate that opinion before following it. However, if Eminem were giving an opinion on Hip Hop music I would respect that opinion because I think he would most definitely know what he was talking about. In the context of this

topic, I think that one should not blindly follow the opinions of celebrities like rock stars, athletes and actors because they may just have a very limited perspective of the world. However, if they were giving an opinion that pertains directly to their own fields, I would most definitely listen carefully and be respectful of that opinion. Thus, I think that the opinions of celebrities like rock stars, actors and athletes should only be blindly followed when they are talking about a matter that pertains directly to their fields.

Imagine getting a lesson in Basketball from the one and only Michael Johnson! Which aspect of basketball is this amazing human familiar with? Imagine listening to Santana talking about guitars! Who would question these greats about their expertise in their own fields? But then again, imagine Santana talking about the Renaissance! Who would automatically attach any credibility to what he says without listening to his take on the nuances of the renaissance first? I, for one, would listen carefully first and then decide whether to value to opinion or not.

There is not even one example of a human who knew everything there is to know. Even the smartest human being ever, Albert Einstein, who would be the first to confess that he did not know it all! Thus, attaching importance to any opinion of a celebrity is not derived from the persona or the success of the celebrity himself but from his expertise in the matter at hand.

So, in my final analysis, I would like to unequivocally state that it is a matter of examining the credentials of the celebrity in question and evaluating them against the field that the opinion arose from. After all, there have been plenty of people who have achieved success in films, athletics and music who were not even proficient in their own fields. One has but to look at the terrible histrionic abilities of a Marilyn Monroe to evince that!

159. The twentieth century saw great change. In your opinion, what is one change that should be remembered about the twentieth century? Use specific reasons and details to explain your choice.

There have been a great many changes in the twentieth century and most of them have contributed to the betterment of the world. However, the one change that has contributed to the betterment of the world the most is the development of Information technology as it has transformed the world in many ways.

One reason for my belief is that the IT revolution has truly made the world a smaller place. Communication has improved drastically and what, previously, used to take days can now be done in the blink of an eye. E-Mail has made it possible to correspond with a person halfway around the globe in a flash as optic fiber cable and wireless technology send e-mails from Asia to America in less than one second! File Transfer Protocols on the Internet have made the couriers virtually redundant except for when hard copy is necessary.

The IT revolution has also transformed the way we research things. There is more information available on the Internet than there is in any library in the world. One can easily access any kind of information and use it. Internet has

given students and researchers a plethora of options and thus, made the acquisition of knowledge easier.

Another way in which IT has benefited the world is to open up Commerce. Today, virtually anything can be purchased on the net with just a mouse click. There are much greater options than the ordinary supermarket. E-Commerce has brought buyers and sellers closer and thus it has given commerce a tremendous shot in the arm!

Perhaps the greatest benefit of the IT boom is in employment. In my country India, unemployment was more rampant before the IT boom but today there is a lack of qualified IT professionals despite millions of qualified professionals being created everyday. Thus, once when people had limited employment options, a good IT course is enough to guarantee a lifetime of employment! Thus, the IT revolution has truly benefited the world the most among all the developments that occurred in the last century and thus truly warrants its place as the most important development of the last century.

160. When people need to complain about a product or poor service, some prefer to complain in writing and others prefer to complain in person. Which way do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Were I to be dissatisfied with the quality of a service or a product and if I had a choice between making my complaint in person or through written correspondence, I would definitely choose to make the complaint in person due to several advantages of doing so.

The first advantage of complaining about a product or service in person is that one makes a greater impact when verbally communicating a complaint. A complaint is an embarrassing situation for a manager especially if it is done in person and thus also guarantees immediate action. Verbal complaints are taken seriously and are less susceptible to procrastination by managers.

The second advantage of complaining in person is that one can be more specific, detailed and articulate. Most communicators are more comfortable communicating in the spoken word rather than the written word because one can be more fluent in the description of the problem, more detailed in the description of the problem and also more specific. While complaining about a product, one can also take the product along (providing it is not too bulky or heavy) and demonstrate the problem to the manager.

In person, one can also demand immediate remedial action or replacement and refuse to budge unless a refund is given or a replacement made. This is an extremely effective strategy when one is seeking redressal. Managers are always nonplussed by this and usually end up sending a satisfied complainer on his or her way with a replacement.

Thus, complaining in person is the best strategy if one is not satisfied with the quality of the product.

161. People remember special gifts or presents that they have received. Why? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

A gift is something that gives the receiver great joy. It is a token of love or congratulations and thus is remembered always. There are several reasons why a gift is remembered and I will try to outline some of the most important ones in the following paragraphs.

One reason why a special gift is remembered is because a special gift usually comes along with a special gesture or emotion. This gesture or emotion is much more important than the gift itself and the purpose that the gift serves for the receiver is that it helps to commemorate the gesture or emotion. Special emotions or gestures are not an everyday occurrence and the gift is treasured always to remember the emotion or gesture.

Another reason that special gifts are remembered always is that they act as reminders of a special time and this reminder helps one to savor the happiness of the occasion again and again throughout ones life. In this world people try to cling on to the moments of happiness that they have enjoyed in the past and gifts serve an invaluable purpose in this. One example in this regard I would like to give is the first rose my dad gave my mom when they were teenagers. This rose exists till today in an embalmed form on our mantelpiece. It is a great conversation piece, but more importantly, I often notice mom looking lovingly at the rose!

Another reason people remember special gifts they receive is that special gifts are usually given by special people and special people usually have a permanent place in our hearts. One example I would like to give is a pickaxe I received from a beloved Sherpa friend on the successful completion of a climb. Though I had known this Nepalese Sherpa guide for only a week, the ordeal that we had gone through in attaining our goal bound us together and to this day I treasure this gift and remember the giver fondly.

Thus, there are many reasons why people remember gifts they have received and treasure always.

162. Some famous athletes and entertainers earn millions of dollars every year. Do you think these people deserve such high salaries? Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.

People expect to receive remuneration for their services and some famous entertainers and athletes earn millions for their efforts every year. I believe

that these professionals thoroughly deserve the amount they get paid for several reasons that I will attempt to elaborate upon in the following paragraphs.

One reason that I believe that an actor, singer or athlete deserves his multi-million pay packet is that we are discussing highly specialized skills here. It is not everyone who can sing like Luciano Pavarotti or Slam dunk like 'Air' Jordan! These performers and athletes have honed their skills to a point where they might just be the only people on the planet who [possess such skills. Thus, because these skills are highly developed, I think that they deserve their large pay packets.

Another reason for my belief is that the skills that performers and athletes have in very high demand. The reason for the high demand is that skills like these are also in short supply! How many quarterbacks like Greg Favre does the planet have? On the other hand, how many skilled managers does the planet have? While the skills of Greg Favre are indeed in short supply, skilled managers abound and it is universal law that the more of a thing there is, the less it is valued and vice versa.

Another reason I believe that performers and athletes are deserving of the money they are paid is that they literally have to go through hell in order to acquire those skills. I totally discount talent, as there are plenty of talented but unsuccessful people. Sweat, blood and tears is what makes a successful performer or athlete and the competition is much stiffer than in all other fields. Thus, I truly believe that athletes and performers deserve their high pay and so I would urge all to not be jealous of those high pay packets as these performers and athletes also add a lot of value to our lives for free!

163. Is the ability to read and write more important today than in the past? Why or why not? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

The ability to read and write is much more important today than it ever was. In this increasingly aware and educated world the ability to read and write is considered most basic and thus very important and any person without these skills risks being called illiterate!

One reason that the ability to read and write is more important today than in the past is that jobs are getting even more competitive and most jobs demand at least basic literacy. A person who does not have these abilities has fewer job options than he did in the past and thus cannot make a better life for himself. Literacy is the key to a good future more than ever in the past and thus reading and writing abilities are much more important than they were in the past.

Another reason for my belief that reading and writing abilities are more important today than they were in the past is that jobs that were done by people who did not read and write are becoming increasingly redundant today as mechanization takes over the globe. Today, blacksmiths, cobblers and the like are near extinct species because their jobs have been taken over by

machines. Today's blacksmith or cobbler is the person who operates the machines that weld iron into shape or make shoes. This person must have literacy in order to take trainings and read instruction manuals.

Yet another reason for my belief is that this is the information age and a person who does not read or write will miss out on the benefits of this age.

Today, information is at the fingertips of all people but one needs to be literate to be able to avail of the benefits.

Thus, reading and writing abilities are much more important today than in the past as the modern era demands that all its denizens have at least the basic reading and writing abilities.

164. People do many different things to stay healthy. What do you do for good health? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Many people do many different activities in order to stay healthy. Some adhere to a healthy lifestyle by moderating their intake of food while others jog or indulge in sport. I, however, play soccer in order to stay healthy and thus avail of the many benefits that this great game has to offer.

One reason for my choice of soccer as a health activity is that a game of soccer is a complete workout. One runs several miles in a standard game but also exercises muscles other than the leg muscles. Tackling, covering and heading one exercises all or most of one's muscles and in doing so gets a full workout.

Another reason for my choice of soccer as a health activity is that while playing soccer one also develops a sense of teamwork that one cannot develop in solitary health activities. One has to coordinate with all one's teammates while playing soccer and this gives one the benefits of better health along with important lessons in life- teamwork is the best way to approach a task and there is no 'I' in the word team!

Perhaps the most crucial reason for my choice of soccer as a health activity is that soccer is an extremely cerebral game and one needs not just stamina and strength but also vision. Soccer is a game where one can best learn that vision is also important in life and one can actually put it into practice physically before putting it into practice mentally.

Thus, for all the above reasons, I have chosen soccer as my favorite health activity and I hope that I will continue to play this beautiful game for many years to come and continue to enjoy it.

165. You have decided to give several hours of your time each month to improve the community where you live. What is one thing you will do to improve your community? Why? Use specific reasons and details to explain your choice.

I live in Nepal, a beautiful Himalayan country that is nestled in the highest mountains in the world. I live in a very traditional community in the capital Kathmandu. One thing that I would like to do to improve my community is to clean up the area of the community and install a waste disposal protocol for the residents.

I would like to improve cleanliness in my community because my community suffers from a chronic lack of knowledge about the ill effects of poor sanitation. People throw garbage right on the street in front of their houses. The sight of people spitting on the street is common and it is a fact of life that people often urinate into open drains at the side of the street. This lack of knowledge is what is causing our community to degenerate day by day. People do not associate the common diseases that they suffer from with the lack of cleanliness in our community. Thus, if I could educate them about waste disposal it would be helpful in improving the health of the community as a whole.

I would also like to tackle the problem of sanitation in my community in order for the community to make my community a model community that will be an example for all other communities in the city. If I succeed in my endeavors, it will result in other communities following suit and thus this will result in the whole city becoming cleaner and healthier. In our city, there are cholera, dysentery and malaria epidemics and this is all due to the lack of facilities for waste disposal and cleanliness. The sheer volume of the work ahead and the lack of funding and resources overwhelm the government. Thus, my effort will also be a great help to the government and will take a big burden of its shoulders.

Thus, I would really like to help my community in this way because every individual has the right to live an aware and healthy life. Society, as a whole will be benefited by my endeavors and I will be able to make a great impact upon people by improving their lives through my sanitation module.

166. People recognize a difference between children and adults. What events (experiences or ceremonies) make a person an adult? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your answer.

There is indeed a marked difference children and adults and there are several events and ceremonies that tell us that we have made the transition from adolescents to adults. This is an extremely important stage in life and these events and ceremonies that tell us that we have become adults make way for the boy to become the man and the girl to become the woman.

In my society, the first indication that a child has become an adult is the various coming of age ceremonies that are enacted. When a boy reaches the age of seventeen, in my society he is given his first glass of wine. I remember this happening to me as a teenager. I was taken by surprise when on my seventeenth birthday my mother offered my 'toju' the strong liquor that men drink instead of 'tefu', a sweet pseudo liquor drunk only by kids. My father encouraged me to drink it in one gulp and after I did, the whole room burst into applause as I coughed and spluttered. My father then announced that the boy was now a man.

Another event that makes a person an adult is puberty. Puberty does not occur all at once. I think that it occurs in several stages. The first changes are, of course, physical changes and then they are followed by psychological changes. The 'new' adults soon start becoming increasingly interested in the opposite sex and dating and relationships follow this. Puberty too is an important herald of adulthood.

The most important change that heralds the transition of a child to an adult is that of greater responsibilities. When a person exhibits maturity in age immediately his parents give him greater responsibility. In my community, after the initiation ceremonies, a young man is expected to contribute towards the family income and a young woman is expected to find a groom and marry him. These events and responsibilities indicate that true adulthood has indeed been achieved.

Thus, the above are the main events in my society that indicate the coming of age of an individual. Once these events have been crossed, an adult is expected to take his or her place in society and make his mark upon the world.

167. Your school has enough money to purchase either computers for students or books for the library. Which should your school choose to buy — computers or books? Use specific reasons and examples to support your recommendation.

The power of the written word has not been eroded despite the advances of Information technology and books are still the best way to gain knowledge and spend quality time. If my school, had enough money to either buy computers or purchase books for the library, I would strongly recommend that it purchased books.

One reason for my recommendation to buy books is that books are a much more focused source of knowledge. Of course, there are many who would say that one does not need to pay for books one can get all the information free on the internet. However, I feel that the Internet has too much information and the arrangement of all the information is very disorderly. I would like to give the example of Grammar on many Internet sites. Recently, I was searching for lists of Verb-Preposition combinations on the Internet and I came across several sites that had such lists. However, some sites had very inadequate lists while others were too comprehensive. It also took me a lot of time to find

these sites, as I had to sift through several sites that popped up after a word search. I got really fed up after some time and went off to the British Council Library and it took me just 15 minutes to find what I needed there. Another reason for my belief is that books are the healthiest for of recreation available today. TV is full of sex and violence and the Internet is a resource that is also full of pornography and unwanted material. Books, however, are very healthy and cognitive. They provide first class recreation and we learn a lot about many things from books. An example I would like to offer is the book 'Freedom at Midnight' by Larry Collins and Dominic Lapierre. It is a fascinating account of the events that led up to India getting its freedom from the British. It is not only great entertainment as it is unputdownable but it is also a great lesson in Indian history!

Thus, for all the above reasons, I would like to recommend that schools concentrate more on compiling excellent collections of books rather than spending all their money on IT infrastructure. I do not mean to undermine the importance of IT, but books are much more important than IT as they are the soul of knowledge and no other resource can hope to compete with books in this regard.

168. Many students choose to attend schools or universities outside their home countries. Why do some students study abroad? Use specific reasons and details to explain your answer.

In today's world students have increasing access to institutions all over the world. In my country Nepal, most students opt to study in neighboring India and many others opt to study in the South East Asian countries and English speaking countries. There are several reasons why students choose to study in foreign countries and I will attempt to describe some of these reasons. One important reason that students choose to study abroad is that today there are fewer restrictions on travel for study purposes. About two decades ago, visas were hard to come by and most students despite wanting to go abroad for their studies did not even try because visa procedures were complex and procurement rates abysmal. Today many countries are opening up their frontiers and thus, students have increasing options. Another reason for students choosing to study abroad is the increasing purchase power in my country. Previously, an education abroad was considered too costly but today students are going in for courses that cost a lot. This is due to the increasing prosperity among people here. Yet another reason people study abroad is that nowadays there is plenty of information about foreign institutions. The Internet has contributed vastly to this. Local institutions too represent colleges much more and thus all the information one needs about a foreign institution is easily available. In my country Nepal, there are only 7 universities and thus students have very few options. In addition, the education system here is archaic and almost decades behind the rest of the world. The main reason why students choose to

study abroad is that they will get a better quality education and will thus have better careers once they return. An American or British degree guarantees immediate employment in my country and a good career for those who deliver. One can climb up the corporate ladder faster and grow more. Thus, there are several reasons why students go abroad for studies and the above are some of the most important. I would like to advise all students for whom a foreign education is within reach to go for it as it will not only widen your perspective but also ensure your future.

169. People listen to music for different reasons and at different times. Why is music important to many people? Use specific reasons and examples to support your choice.

'Music is the food of life' is not a cliché. Music is very important in one's life and there are several reasons for people listening to music.

The first reason people listen to music is that it is the best kind of recreation. It lightens up your mood and makes you feel better when you are feeling blue. Music is available anywhere and is also portable unlike TV or Internet. Music is the best pastime because it comes in the shape one wants. I love rock music and always carry my MP3 player with me.

Another reason that people listen to music is that they often need to simmer down from hectic activity. It is the best way to relax after a hectic day's work and music relaxes you to a degree where you forget the pressures of work or study and just go with the flow of the music.

Yet another reason that people listen to music is that music comes packaged in a certain philosophy 'hip hop' and 'rock' are not just words they are a way of life. People often form their worldviews in accordance with the music they like.

The most important reason that people listen to music is that a love for music is inherent and generic in humans. Humans love melody and rhythm and both these play an important role in people's lives. I have yet to meet anyone who does not like music and such a person can, at best, be called a misanthrope. Thus there are several reasons why humans, through the eons, have listened to music. Music is an integral part of our lives that cannot be ignored and thus makes our lives much richer and better.

170. Groups or organizations are an important part of some people's lives. Why are groups or organizations important to people? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your answer.

Groups and organizations abound on this planet and there are several reasons for this phenomenon. Groups give people a lot of benefits and so, they are very popular. In this essay, I will attempt to identify the major reasons for the popularity and importance of groups.

Firstly, an individual can achieve little by oneself in this world but combined effort almost ensures closure. Many hands make light work and thus individuals seek out each other to carry out work that they want to do. Not everyone is a Mother Teresa who single handedly took on the poverty of the world. One example in this regard is that of my uncle who tried to clean up his

neighborhood by himself and improve waste disposal in just the area he lived in. It took him just one week to realize the impossibility of the task and then he approached a local social organization for help. His neighborhood is much cleaner now!

If one wants to give back to society what one takes from it, a group or an organization is the best vehicle to achieve this end. One can benefit from the infrastructure might of an organization, its funding and its funding to achieve whatever one desires. Resources of individuals pale into insignificance when compared to the resources of organizations.

Perhaps the most important reason for the popularity and importance of groups and organizations is the sense of belonging that groups foster. No one can live like a lonely island on this planet. We are social creatures and groups and organizations are the best way to bring out the sociability inherent in each of us.

Thus, groups and organizations are truly important for us and there are several reasons why they are so important. I too belong to several groups and the above reasons are all relevant as to why I choose to be involved with the groups.

171. Imagine that you are preparing for a trip. You plan to be away from your home for a year. In addition to clothing and personal care items, you can take **one** additional thing. What would you take and why? Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.

If I were to go away for a year and if I were allowed to take only one item in addition to all my personal effects, I would choose to carry my CD player with me. There are several reasons why I choose to take my CD player with me and I will attempt to explain them in the following paragraphs.

My CD player gives me access to all my favorite music and music helps to relax me. Traveling is a stressful activity and if you have an instant stress reliever along it becomes less stressful. My CD player will help to relax me when I get bored too as there is a lot of waiting involved too in travel. Waiting in airport terminals, waiting for buses and sometimes even waiting in a hotel foyer is a boring and stressful activity and my CD player will be able to relax me on my travels.

Another reason why I choose to take along my CD player is that I am at my most creative when I am listening to music. I am a writer by profession and while writing, I love to listen to music. My creative juices flow better when I am listening to my favorite sonata or even to my favorite rock band.

Perhaps the most important reason that I would choose to take along my CD player is that I will also be able to listen to recorded talks from my family members while traveling. One year is a long time to be away from home and I am sure I will start missing my family from day one. So, before I start off, I plan to record messages from all my family members and write them onto a CD. On my travels I plan to play this CD whenever I miss my family and then I am sure that I will feel a sense of fulfillment that will make me miss them less.

Thus, for all the above reason I plan to take my CD player along if I go on a year long trip and I am sure that my CD player will make my travels much easier.

172. When students move to a new school, they sometimes face problems. How can schools help these students with their problems? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your answer.

Students do indeed face many problems when they join a new school. Schools can do a lot to ease these problems and the following paragraphs outline some of my suggestions for schools in this regard.

173. It is sometimes said that borrowing money from a friend can harm or damage the friendship. Do you agree? Why or why not? Use reasons and specific examples to explain your answer.

I do agree that borrowing money from friends can damage a relationship. There are several reason for my belief and I am sure that readers of this essay will agree that you are treading on very dangerous ground if you borrow money from friends.

One reason that I think that borrowing money from friends can harm your relationship is that people tend to take friends for granted but friends expect their money to be returned at the earliest. If you borrow money from a bank there are certain responsibilities and rules that you will have to adhere to regarding repayment. On the other hand, if you borrow money from friends you tend to think that you can return the money whenever it is convenient and some people think that one can just sit back and relax and not worry about repayment because, after all, it is a good friend that you have borrowed money from. This is extremely destructive of friendships because people are often very possessive about their money.

Asking a friend for repayment is also a very sensitive issue. Often people end up thinking (after a friend has asked them to return money they have borrowed) that the friend does not trust them and thinks that they will abscond with the money. Friendship is a very fragile relationship and a situation like this can often result in a friendship being damaged forever!

Another reason I think that borrowing money from friends is destructive is that you end up making promises that you cannot keep upon borrowing from friends because you think that the friend will not ask you for the money back. People tend to promise to return the money sooner than is possible because they are dealing with a friend and not a bank. The deadline for repayment comes and goes and friend is left feeling hurt because his or her money has not been returned on time!

Thus, one should be very careful while borrowing money from friends because this often ends in damaged relations between friends and sometimes even ends the friendship.

174. Every generation of people is different in important ways. How is

your generation different from your parents' generation? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your answer.

My parents were the generation of the flower children and I am a child of the Information technology age. There are several differences between my parents' generation and mine and I will attempt to describe some of the most important ones in this essay.

Firstly, our choices in recreation are very different. Both my parents are big fans of the Beatles and Elvis whereas I cannot bear to listen to either as both sound really archaic. My parents like to go to classy restaurants where everything that is served is to be eaten with a knife and a fork. The places that I hang out in mostly serve food that you can eat with your hands. My parents love old Cary Grant movies and the modern movies that they watch will be the ones having 'substance'. I remember having to suffer through 'A Perfect Mind' whereas I would have preferred the mayhem of an Arnold Swazzenegger movie! Thus, their preferences of recreation are different from mine.

Another significant difference between both generation s is that our generation is very broad minded about relationships whereas my parents' generation is really very narrow minded in this area. My country Nepal, is changing for the better because having a boyfriend or a girlfriend today is accepted. In days past one often met ones husband or wife for the first time on the day of ones wedding. This culture has been steadily eroded by my generation. My parents felt scandalized when I told them recently that I was bringing my girlfriend over but over time they have accepted her!

Perhaps the most significant difference between both our generations is that our generation is much more comfortable with technology than our parents'. We were born in the tech boom and cannot imagine life without Internet or cell phones. My parents' generation has had extreme difficulty adapting tom these changes.

Thus, our generation and that of our parents is truly different. Is this whatn they call the generation gap?!

175. Holidays honor people or events. If you could create a new holiday, what person or event would it honor and how would you want people to celebrate it? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

If I were to create a new holiday I would name the holiday 'Free Tibet Day' and have it held on the birthday of the Dalai Lama. I would want to have this event celebrated in many different ways and the main reason this day would be celebrated would be to hold peaceful protests against the occupation of Tibet

by the Chinese and to honor the spiritual leader of the Tibetans- The Dalai Lama.

I would like to initiate this event because I am one of the people dispossessed of a country by the Chinese invasion. My family, for the last 3 generations, has not been able to return to our homeland because of the persecution there. We are forbidden to honor the Dalai Lama and to practice our religion. Instead, we have to salute the leaders of communist China and believe in the theology that China wants us to believe in. I would like to Dalai Lama to be honored on this day because he has been a great leader to us and has bound us together as a nation despite great adversity. Tibet is a land of [peace and all Tibetans are peaceful by nature. The holiday would also honor our peaceful nature and our abhorrence of violence as a means and an end.

I would like this holiday to be celebrated as follows: In the morning, I would like to have prayer meeting where we will pray for world peace and the support of our well wishers. These prayer meeting will be held wherever there are Tibetans and by all Tibetans. In the late afternoon I would like to hold peaceful demonstrations against the occupation by the Chinese. These demonstrations will proceed towards all the national seats of power and in America, I would like the demonstration to culminate at the White House. In the evening I would like butter lamps to be lit all important monasteries amidst chanting of our sacred hymns. I would also like this day to be a day of fasting.

The world has too long ignored the plight of the Tibetan people and this holiday will be a way of waking the world to our troubles. To us, there is nothing as important as regaining our homeland through peaceful means and this holiday will go a long way in achieving this ideal.

176. A friend of yours has received some money and plans to use all of it either

- to go on vacation
- to buy a car

Your friend has asked you for advice. Compare your friend's two choices and explain which one you think your friend should choose. Use specific reasons and details to support your choice.

Were a friend of mine to receive some money and were he had two alternatives- buying a car o going on a vacation- to choose between I would definitely advise him to go on a vacation due to several reasons.

While a car is almost a necessity today and is indispensable when one wants to get around, a holiday is more coveted for the simple reason that while a car is a necessity a holiday is a luxury to savor and enjoy. A car can be purchased at any time because of the easy finance options we have today, but one cannot go on a holiday anytime one pleases due to several constraints. I would imagine that my friend already has a car and does not need to update to a newer (and costlier) model but a vacation is the experience of a lifetime. One reason I would advise him to choose a vacation above a lifetime is that a vacation is for a lifetime while a car has a certain life span. One enjoys a

vacation most when one is actually in the middle of one but a holiday can be enjoyed and savored for all your life. Memories from a vacation rekindled by photographs almost make us feel that we are back there. A vacation is forever because it creates many happy memories and these happy memories stay with us for our lifetimes. Thus, a vacation is preferable to a new car.

Another reason for my belief is that a vacation will recharge the batteries of my friend and will get him back to work with renewed vigor while a care will just get him to work! Several studies have proven that productivity and happiness is increased after a vacation while the benefits of buying a new car are just short term. I would definitely advise my friend to choose a car due to this reason.

Another reason for my choice of a car above a vacation is that a vacation will get him away from the daily drudgery of his life and create a kind of escape. Cars-despite what advertisements will have us believe-are part and parcel of our daily lives and just contribute to that sinking feeling one has on a Monday morning while driving back to work and road rage!

Thus, my choice of advice to my friend would truly be a vacation because of the many benefits that my friend will enjoy from my choice.

177. The 21st century has begun. What changes do you think this new century will bring? Use examples and details in your answer.

The 21st century has indeed begun and I am absolutely sure that this century too will bring as many changes as the last. If asked what changes, in my opinion, this century will bring I would point to changes in communication and information technology, changes in space travel, and changes in our perception of national boundaries that will inevitably occur.

1 change that will definitely occur in this century is that communication and information technology will definitely take place. With the globalization of the mobile phone and the Internet, I am certain this trend will continue in this century and advance beyond our wildest dreams. I can envision the day when Information Technology and Communication will begin to play a vital role in areas that it has not touched before. Till now, these have been restricted to the 'haves' rather than the 'have nots' and the biggest change I foresee is that these technologies will be available to the poorest of the poor and the most downtrodden. Imagine a poor farmer in India receiving information about the weather directly from an American satellite! This will surely happen and the world will be a better place!

I also think that space travel by humans will not be restricted to the Moon or orbits near to our planet. I think that the space age will truly begin in this century because I envision a human landing on mars within the next couple of decades and further travel before the end of the century. I believe this is possible because the process has already begun and 'space tourism' has already made its presence felt.

The most important change that I believe will occur in this century is the setting of a new world order. I believe that we will soon see a global village with one authority and no boundaries. This is the most practical solution to the

hegemony that occurs when boundaries between nations are demarcated and travel is restricted. The world is beginning to realize that for mankind to truly benefit mankind must live in a unified world and man-made boundaries must be erased. What had led me to believe in this is the movement towards one world that we have already seen in the past century. With the formation of the EU, the ASEAN, CONCACAF and the African federations soon, one world will be a reality.

Thus, the above are the truly important changes that I feel will occur in this century and I sincerely hope that I will be around to experience them!

178. What are some of the qualities of a good parent? Use specific details and examples to explain your answer.

A good parent must have several good qualities and in the following paragraphs, I will try to identify some of the most important qualities that any parent must possess before he or she can be considered a good parent.

One important quality of a good parent is that one must have excellent communication abilities. To be able to communicate with your children on a common platform and in the language of your children is extremely important because it is this communication that forms the backbone of your relationship with your children. An example I would like to give in this regard is in my own society where many parents only talk to their children about their studies and their homework. This results in many dwarfed childhoods and creates only emotional cripples!

Another important quality of a good parent is that he or she must have it in her to become a child too sometimes. I have seen many families where parents do not play with their kids and thus take away a lot from their childhoods. In my family, as kids, pillow fights were common and my father would often play cricket with us and try to cheat as we all did! These are moments that I cherish and it is moments like these that have made me what I am and also a better parent. I think that parents should sometimes forget that they are adults when they are around their children and become like their children and add value to their kids' lives.

The most important quality of a parent is understanding. One should have this quality to truly empathize with your children and have better communication. One should be able to see things from the perspective of one's children and react accordingly. This is extremely important because it helps in the development of a child. A child should not feel alienated from his or her parents because they do not think alike.

It is not easy to be a good parent. I know this from personal experience because I am the father of several youngsters myself. However, parenting also

becomes easier if one has some or all of the qualities that I have mentioned above. Children also benefit if their parents are good parents.

179. Movies are popular all over the world. Explain why movies are so popular. Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.

Every individual I know loves movies for many reasons and movies are truly important cultural phenomena. They are probably the most popular entertainers in the world and there are several reasons why they are so popular.

The first reason that movies are so popular is that they are a respite from the rigors of life. They provide a respite from the drudgery of day-to-day living and thus are a welcome break from the harsh realities of life. On a hard day, one can just duck into a movie hall and sit back and enjoy a movie! Movies are the ideal way for escapists (this species is in a vast majority on this planet) to escape the reality of living.

The second reason that movies are popular is that they are great entertainers. Movies make us laugh, gasp in wonder and feel awed by the spectacle they present. Movies are larger than life and are meant to give us a wonderful time. One example I would like to give in this regard is the 'Star Wars' series of movies. They are great entertainers and the franchise has endured since the seventies because of the great spectacle they present and the enormous entertainment they provide.

Movies also make us think. We are, because we think and movies present several moral and social issues that remind us that we are also part of a higher order. They force us to contemplate the greater meaning of life and make us conscious of our role on this planet. One example I would like to present in this regard is that of the movie 9/11 Fahrenheit. It told us of the futility of the war and how human pettiness can be so destructive. It reminded us to not indulge in egotistical pettiness of any sort because, if we are in a position of power, our pettiness can affect the life of millions of humans. Thus, there are several reasons for the vast popularity that movies enjoy and it is my sincere feeling that movies will endure despite the advances in Internet and television.

180. In your country, is there more need for land to be left in its natural condition or is there more need for land to be developed for housing and industry? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

In my country, Nepal there is a greater need for land to be left in its natural state. Nepal is a mountainous country with most of the terrain covered by thick forests and permafrost. It is a rich ethnical diversity and varied flora and fauna. However, man-made depredations dictate that land should be left as it is because natural resources are the true wealth of a society.

Forests in its lower reaches till the end of the last century, thickly covered Nepal. These forests served multiple purposes. Firstly, they provided natural shelter for animals and secondly they supplied the atmosphere with vital oxygen. Today deforestation is resulting in the migration of several species further south and changing of the centuries old grazing patterns of several species. An example in this regard I would like to offer is that of the ancient Elephant trail in *Bhairawa* southern town in Nepal. Due to the clearing of the forest to make way for a railway line, Elephants were forced to change their trail in order to access grazing areas. The railway line also resulted in several elephants getting run over by trains! The depletion of the forest cover has also increased access for the poacher. Today, the black rhino and the elephant are increasingly poached and this has resulted in their becoming closer to extinction in the tropical forests of Nepal.

The tropical forests of Nepal also provide oxygen to the atmosphere and play an enormous role in preserving the pristine condition of the air in Nepal. This has been successful in combating pollution in Nepal but with deforestation, where is the oxygen going to come from? In Nepal, we are primarily dependent on fossil fuels and have little or no alternatives and us; we need tropical forests to convert emissions into breathable oxygen. An example of this is the capital city Kathmandu that has been getting increasingly polluted after nearby forests have been cleared to make way for cultivation.

I would also like to point to the mountains to make a vital point. Due to adventure sports like mountaineering and trekking, the mountains are getting increasingly polluted. An example is that of Mount Everest that is littered with waste and dead bodies. I do not understand the point of paying homage to this breathtaking natural wonder if one is going to leave all ones waste on it. Thus, it would be better to just observe it from a mountain flight rather than try to climb it and in the process defile it!

Thus, I truly believe that land should be left as it is because we should also give back to nature what we have taken from it. If we just keep on taking from nature, one day nature will have nothing left to give us!

181. Many people have a close relationship with their pets. These people treat their birds, cats, or other animals as members of their family. In your opinion, are such relationships good? Why or why not? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

I am in absolute agreement with the idea that pets like birds, cats and dogs should be treated like members of the family and that such relationships are good. This opinion is due to several reasons and observations that I have made in my own life as far back as I can remember, I too have lived in a household that was inhabited by pets.

One reason for my belief is that pets are good for you in that they are a positive influence on you and help you to maintain your equilibrium and lighten your mood. A household with pets is always a happy household and pets are responsible for spreading a lot of happiness. A pet loves you unconditionally (quite unlike humans) and asks for nothing in return. If you have a pet, I am sure you will be the happier for it.

Another reason for my belief is that pets also care for you in the same way that you care for them and thus, it is healthy for you to have a close relationship with them. There are numerous incidents where pets have shown their concern for humans they love. One example I would like to give in this regard is that of my Aunt who used to leave her infant in the care of her Alsatian while she worked in the garden. If the baby woke up and started crying, my aunt would not be able to hear it but the Alsatian would come up to her and act in a nervous manner and whine a lot and thus my aunt would realize that her baby was up. This goes to show that pets are truly concerned for our welfare and thus, deserve to be treated as family members and such relationships are good.

The last reason for my belief is that pets are beneficial for your health. Several studies have shown that people who have pets are less likely to develop Heart disease and Blood pressure, among other ailments than people who do not have pets. Thus, pets benefit us in another important way and should be treated as family members and these relationships are good.

So, I would like to advocate to all people considering owning pets that pets should not be owned just for the utilities they give, like guard dogs for example, but for the simple reason that they make our lives better and because they make our lives better, they deserve to be treated like family members.

182. Films can tell us a lot about the country where they were made. What have you learned about a country from watching its movies? Use specific examples and details to support your response.

Films are a reflection of the society that they originate in. Films echo the pathos and the angst of a society and thus, are an accurate gauge of the society that produces them. I would like to offer my perspective on Hollywood films to show what I have learnt about American Society.

The first thing that I have learnt from Hollywood movies about American society is that this society is much more liberal than my society but perhaps too liberal. In movies like 'The Graduate' and 'Basic Instinct' I have learnt that America is truly sexually liberated. This is in sharp contrast to my own society where it was only in the 80s that individuals were shown kissing on screen. Boys going out with girls and couples living together are also common in American movies and this shows that Americans are truly broad minded in this regard.

American movies also show that individual freedom of expression is truly valued in America. This is most strongly and explicitly shown by movies like 9/11 Fahrenheit which is a harshly critical take on the post 9/11 scenario and the events that lead up to it. In most nations, this movie would never have been passed by many censor boards because it is so harshly critical; of the establishment.

I have also learnt about American History in many movies. My favorite movies 'The Last of the Mohicans' and 'Forrest Gump' are more of a history lesson than actual entertainers. I have also gained a lot of knowledge about America's involvement in World War 2 in movies like Pearl Harbor.

Movies also show the downsides of many societies. One of my favorites "Boys in the Hood", the cult classic by Spike Lee shows the harsh realities of urban crime in America. However, it also shows the unlikely hero who actually becomes a hero (in my eyes) because he refuses to participate in the mayhem that is urban crime.

Lastly, I would also like to point to the several actors who have shown that they are true professionals because of the amazing commitment and linguistic flexibility that they exhibit on screen. This shows that Americans are truly professional and committed to their professions. One example in this regard is of Tom Hanks starving himself to play the half starved castaway in the movie of the same name while being portrayed as an overweight executive in the first half of the movie. The way actors change their accent for movies also shows how committed they are. Examples in this regard are Renee Zegweller in 'Brigitte Jones diary, Johnny depp in countless movies and Richard Gere's amazing Irish brogue in 'The Jackal'.

Thus movies do indeed show that a lot can be learnt from them about a society. I am also certain that an outsider will be able to make many interesting observations about my society after viewing some of its movies!

183. Some students prefer to study alone. Others prefer to study with a group of students. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

While some students prefer to study by themselves others prefer to study in groups. As far as I am concerned, I would like to study in a group because I find (for myself) that there is greater benefit in group study.

The first reason for my choice is that in group study there are often group members that are better students than the rest and the weaker students can benefit from them. Groups of students that study together are usually not homogenous so the weaker students can be tutored by the stronger students and thus can benefit greatly. One example in this regard that I would like to offer is when I was a freshman student at university. Our group of friends would often study together and one of the students was excellent in Calculus while I was pretty bad at it. I was able to gain a lot from the expertise of this friend and by the time I became a senior, I was almost good at calculus. Another reason for my belief that group study is better than individual study is that in a group one can often pool resources and everyone is the richer for this. In college, my group would often borrow books from the library and we would decide in advance who would borrow which book and thus, the whole group had better access to books than any individual could possibly have. More access to resources is not just restricted to books but access to equipment, access to research access to knowledge gained from interactions with faculty are also shared making every member of the group much more empowered.

The last reason for my choice is that one can brainstorm better in a group and come up with better ideas and concepts. Many minds are better than one and all the minds can benefit from ideas that evolve when a group brainstorms together. One example that I would like to give in this regard are the amazing presentations that my group used to think up when we were in college. Thus, I am of the opinion that group study is not just better for me but I would also like to urge all students at any level to form groups and to use the immense advantages of group in order to get better grades and emerge from school or university as a truly empowered human being.

184. You have enough money to purchase either a house or a business. Which would you choose to buy? Give specific reasons to explain your choice.

If I had enough money and were to choose between buying a house or establishing/buying a business, I would definitely choose to buy a business. I strongly feel that there is enough potential in a business to sustain me for the rest of my life and I feel that the business itself would enable me to buy a house later on in life.

The first reason for my choice is that having my own business will enable me to get the kind of freedom that is lacking when you work for someone else. The ability to make my own decisions matters greatly to me and I think that I will be able to be truly independent with my own business. I would be able to chart out my own course and thus, will also be able to decide all matters for myself.

The second reason for my choice is that having my own business will give me the ability work in the field of my own choice. Right now, I am working as a teacher in an educational establishment. It is my driving ambition to own a publishing business and if I were able to establish one, it will be

the fulfillment of a lifelong ambition. It will be the realization of a dream that will also lead to better reading matter for youngsters, as I would like to cater exclusively for them. I will be able to give them better reading matter and thus contribute to the resurgence of the written word.

Lastly, I would also like to open my own business because it will have immense potential and will improve my prospects highly. In today's world there are very good prospects for the entrepreneur because this is the world of the open market. Restrictions and boundaries are fewer today than in times past because the world is opening up and the concept of the global village is a reality today. I will be able to prosper through my business because of the open business atmosphere today and this will result in great prosperity for me and mine.

I would like to convince anyone faced with this choice, that opening or buying a business would truly be an ideal choice despite the benefits of owning ones own house. The advantages of buying a business far outweigh those of owning ones own house.