

# TOEFL WRITING (TWE) TOPICS AND MODEL ESSAYS

## WRITING TOPICS

Topics in the following list may appear in your actual test. You should become familiar with this list before you take the computer-based TOEFL test. Remember that when you take the test you will **not** have a choice of topics. You must write only on the topic that is assigned to you.

185 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.

184 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.

183 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.

182 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.

181 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.

180 Movies are popular all over the world. Explain why movies are so popular. Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.

179 What are some of the qualities of a good parent? Use specific details and examples to explain your answer.

178 The 21st century has begun. What changes do you think this new century will bring? Use examples and details in your answer.

177 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.

176 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.

175 Some students like classes where teachers lecture (do all of the talking) in class. Other students prefer classes where the students do some of the talking. Which type of class do you prefer? Give specific reasons and details to support your choice.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

164 164. People do many different things to stay healthy. What do you do for good health? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

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.

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.

161 People remember special gifts or presents that they have received. Why? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

151 What is the most important animal in your country? Why is the animal important? Use reasons and specific details to explain your answer.

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.

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.

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.

147 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.

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? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your choice.

145 Some people say that advertising encourages us to buy things that 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

132 If you could invent something new, what product would you develop? Use specific details to explain why this invention is needed.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

123 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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?

116 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.

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.

114 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.

113 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.

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?

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

105 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.

104 When you write your answer, you are not limited to the examples listed in the question. 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.

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 prompt.

102 Schools should ask students to evaluate their teachers. Do you agree or disagree? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.



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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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.

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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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.

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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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. 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

7 How do movies or television influence people's behavior? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.

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

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.

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?

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.

2 Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Parents are the best teachers. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

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.

---

## Topic: 1

People study in college or university for many different reasons. I think the most important reason is to gain more knowledge and learn more skills. Of course, there are also many other reasons that people study in college such as to get more friends, and increase one's self-confidence.

These days, most jobs require people who are educated and have good job skills. Therefore, the people who want a good job have to study hard and at least graduate with a high education. Furthermore, as technology advances all over the world, more and more education is required of people.

Some people who study in college or university want to make more friends and increase their interpersonal skills. They enjoy their lives in university or college and tend to socialize a lot. They can meet more people who have the similar interests with themselves. They can go to uni ball after school and make more friends who they trust.

The people who graduate from college seem more confident in our community. These people are more respected by society. Many people want to be respected and to be important by family, friends, their bosses, and others in their lives. They find that most of them can confidently talk and do their jobs as they are more educated. Therefore, most people want to get the confidence through the university or college study.

In today's society, people need more knowledge and skills to be adapted. The university and college study is a good way to achieve this.

(Essay ID: 316. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 1

In China, more and more people try their best to attend college or university. What are the reasons that make people long for it?

First of all, in my opinion, the most important reason is to gain competence to live a better life in the future. Competition of our days has become more and more drastic, and even a very simple job or low position will attract hundreds of candidates to apply for it. Only those who have a good education and general knowledge can gain better work. So, we should attend college or university for better competence.

Second, attending college or university can change our life. For example, to myself, I am a student from countryside. I am one of the few people who can attend college or university. Most of those who have not studied in college or university go to work early in a small factory in a small town or on a farm in their hometown. Just because I have taken higher education, I can get better chances to study or work in the capital of our country where a lot of people want to go to. Why? Good education gives me chances to change my life.

The third reason for attending a college is to increase knowledge. Study is a so interesting thing that it make our life rich and colorful. It expands our eyesight by informing us with lots of new things what we cannot gain from our common life or experience. On the other hand, by attending college or university, you can learn the knowledge or skill necessary for your future work.

People attend college or university for various reasons. Some may attend for new experiences, and others may think about other things. What I have mentioned is just very few of them.

(Essay ID: 404. This is a 5 point essay)

**Topic: 1**

Mr. Taoxingzhi, the most famous educator in China, once said: the biggest misfortune in one's life is that one does not receive a university education. Needless to say, a university degree often helps a person achieve his goal with more ease. However, do we attend university just in pursuit of a degree? Does a university only provide us nothing beneficial besides a paper-made diploma? As far as I am concerned, we enjoy a university education in the following aspects which attributes us to a university education:

Firstly, with the knowledge learned in a university, we will have a deep understanding with our society. It is true that genuine knowledge comes from practice, but it can not be denied that genuine knowledge, tells us how to practise. A thorough study in a college or university, of course, enables us to realize how the society works and how to cope with certain problems arising from it in a more efficiently, more skillful way.

Second, a university education usually makes it possible that we acquire a decent job. Because of an accomplishment of a four-year study, it is not difficult for us to find a good job in most cases. How can we imagine that a graduate majoring in astronomy has to be a vendor in the street! Undoubtedly, he/she should sit in his/her laboratory, making a research on aircraft on a computer. Obviously, a university education assures him/her a decent job.

Last, but not the least, we can help others much better if putting what we learn in a university into use. A university education corrects our values, enhances our skills, and broadens our horizons. With those, we are more capable of giving a hand to those who are in need of help than before.

"Knowledge is power". When achieving a degree in a university, we can get a better understanding of the society, find a decent job in an easy way, and help others better. All of those are due to the knowledge learned in a university.

(Essay ID: 230 )

**Topic: 1**

People attend a college or a university for the following reasons, to acquire knowledge which is necessary for a career, to contribute to the society, and to experience life.

Firstly, college education is a necessary step for a person who wants to start a career in science and technology areas. If a student wants to become a scientist, it is important for him to go to a science school; if he wants to be an engineer, an engineering school is the best place for him. There is no other place than a college where a student can get sophisticated education in order to be qualified to become a professional in a specific area.

Secondly, a college education can benefit both the society and the student. By attending college one can get himself prepared for and contribute to the society, which seems to demand advanced knowledge more and more. On the other hand, as knowledge plays a very important role in today's economy, it has also become the capital and asset of the person who owns it: a college education can bring wealth not only to the society, but also benefit the individual who possesses it.

In addition, college education is a wonderful experience in one's life. Only in a college one can be taught by the finest scholars and meet with the most intelligent people in the nation. Education can also bring happiness to the student. When a student has conquered a difficult mathematical

problem, he savors the joy which learning has brought to him, and feels that he is the happiest man in the world.

Of course, learning in a campus does not mean as much for everybody, but it does mean a lot to me. I was brought up in a knowledge-respecting family. My father is an engineer and my mother is a teacher in a primary school. They are both university graduates. My father, being the most influential person in my life and the son of a poor Chinese farmer, did change the destiny of his own by learning hard to earn a university degree. Therefore he firmly believes that “knowledge can change one’s destiny and university is the best place to achieve one’s goal”. Of course this influenced me. I strongly believe that attending university is the best choice for me. I do not have a bit of hesitation to attend a university.

(Essay ID: 72 )

## **Topic: 1**

Why do people need to attend colleges or universities? Different people have different answers to this question. I believe that the three most common reasons are to prepare for a career, to have new experiences, and to increase their knowledge of themselves and the world around them.

Career preparation is becoming more and more important to young people. For many, this is the primary reason to go to college. They know that the job market is competitive. At college, they can learn new skill for careers with a lot of opportunities. This means careers, such as information technology, that are expected to need a large workforce in the coming years.

Also, students go to colleges and universities to have new experiences. This often means having the opportunity to meet people different from those in their hometowns. For most students, going to college is the first time they've been away from home by themselves. In addition, this is the first time they've had to make decisions on their own. Making these decisions increases their knowledge of themselves.

Besides looking for self-knowledge, people also attend a university or college to expand their knowledge in subjects they find interesting. For many, this will be their last chance for a long time to learn about something that doesn't relate to their career.

I would recommend that people not be so focused on a career. They should go to college to have new experiences and learn about themselves and the world they live in.

(Essay ID: 73 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## **Topic: 1**

Now days, more and more people are trying to attend college or university. Different people do so for different reasons. Some typical reasons are new experiences, career preparation and increased knowledge. In my opinion, it is the fast development, almost explosion, of our world that make people to consider attending college or university.

People would usually get bored when they focus on one field for a long time. For this reason, they go to college to pursue experiences in new areas. We often hear that an electrical engineer went to a university to study art or music. With the new experiences, they expand their ken. Maybe some good ideas would jump out during their daily work.



As for the young, they attend college for career preparation. Not only could they get knowledge needed for their future work, they could learn how to think and how to solve questions. The projects students attended are very like their future work.

Some people, who have been graduated from universities for years, are also planning to go back to school. Most of them reattend universities to increase their knowledge. Technology is developing so fast that people could not keep up with them unless they keep increasing their knowledge.

All in all, people, who attend college or university, are preparing for their better futures.

(Essay ID: 238. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 1

College is a place that the students can learn more and new knowledge and experience in it. Of course, different people have different reason to study in college. For example, some people want to be to go on a further study after they graduate from the college; some people hope to find a good job after their studying in the 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 learn new knowledge and experiences from the studying in the college. There are many teachers, professors with abundant teaching experience who teach students lots of new knowledge and help them to solve the problems in their study. 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 the 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 life 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 ver important for their future work and life.

(Essay ID: 335 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 1

Today more and more people attend college or university. But why? As a student of a key university, I want to give my opinion.

Of course, we attend university to increase knowledge. University provides some basic knowledge for our research or our career in the following years. It provides basic information about the major we chose, such as what it research in. If you find that you are not interested in that major, u can change it, till u find one u are interested in. It also provides knowledge for all majors, such as advanced mathematic, English, physics, basic chemistry. Teacher there can help you to decide what you do in the future, to enter a graduate school or to take a job. We must do a lot of experiment during the school years, that makes us quite capable. We visit a factory in the second year to get a general idea about the work our major do. And we have a internship in the third year to do the real work.

Then, you can get new experience from university. You can join the student union or join a club. You can learn a lot from it. First, you can learn how to communicate with the different people. And u can learn how to organize a meeting or a party.

And also you can prepare for your career. There are lots of programs to let the students be trained for a job. University runs the program by cooperating with some very large company, some manager from the company will give us some courses which teach us how to run a company, how to lead your group to finish the work, how to cope with some problem, and how to be more confident. And they also tell us which kind of employee they want in the company. These things are quite useful for us, especially for those who want to get a job after graduation.

Now you know that university is quite useful, but the most important thing it teaches us is not the knowledge nor the experience, it is how to think and how to learn.

(Essay ID: 465. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 1

Nowadays, more and more young people attend the universities for different reasons. According to the survey, the main goal of what most of them do so is for career preparation.

There are many reasons to demonstrate it. The most primary reason is that is that university are the most suitable spot to absorb knowledge, which mostly determines your career development. With the development of the society, "knowledge is power" has been a rule: the more knowledge one possesses, the more easily he succeeds in his career. For instance, it is often reported that MBA graduates in famous universities, such as Harvard, will acquire high start payment when the companies employ them for the first time. After several works, abundant working experience and solid knowledge base will make them further develop in the manager class.

Another reason is that universities will provide one with not only knowledge but also many other abilities, including communication ability, corporation ability, and independency ability etc, which are beneficial to future career. At the same time, he can make friends with his schoolmates and deals with all kinds of people, who often become his colleagues or business partner in the future. Furthermore, in this way, his view will be widened and abilities will be improved. When he goes off the campus, he always has stronger competition ability than those who do not go to the universities.

Last but not the least one is that in contrast, history illustrates that people refused by the universities have few opportunities to succeed in their career development. Because of their low educational level, most companies would rather employ them as physical workers than mental workers. in this way, the development of technology and science will fall them into disuse. Such as in many manufacturing factories now, there are automatic machines as substitute for workers.

In a word, of many reasons for people to go to universities, career preparation has been the most primary. When education background becomes more important in career development, it will attract more people to do so for a long period.

(Essay ID: 389. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 1

There are many people want to go to university or college every year and they decide to do so for many different reasons. I believe there are three common reasons are to prepare for career, increase their knowledge and get new experience.

Prepare for career is very important for young people nowadays. In a competitive society, if they have not a good educational background, they will not get a good opportunity in their career or even cannot find a job, so college and university can provide them new skills to meet the requirements of career.

Also, students attend to university or college can increase their knowledge in subjects they interested, for many people, this is maybe the primary reason to go to college. There are many excellent professors and experts can give us a plenty of knowledge which including many areas. For many people this maybe their last chance for a long time to get knowledge that don't relate to their career.

Besides looking for knowledge, some people want to go to college or university because they decide to live a new life. University can support young people an environment where they can intercommunicate about many topics such as literature, goal of life, art and emotions which are hard to talked about after their university lives, so it is a special experience for young people to live and study in college or university.

All in a word, I prefer increase knowledge and get a special experience to prepare for career in university because getting good opportunities in career is partly depend on your knowledge and experiences on diverse areas.

(Essay ID: 260. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 2

Who teaches you to walk? Who teaches you to speak? It is your parents who teach you to do these basic things in your life. So don't you think that parents are the best teachers!

Firstly, parents know us very much. Parents give us life, and I think that we will spend large amount of time with them. So they know our merit and demerit in details. Meanwhile, they will help us to get rid of our demerit.

Furthermore, parents possessed many experiences. Since they are older than us, they have experienced many things. Sometimes, they are just like our models. And as the saying goes: "Example is better than precept." So we will unconsciously copy some of our parents' habits and styles of behavior, i.e. we can learn many things from them.

Finally, parents will teach us everything. Since schoolteachers can just teach us knowledge from the books, our parents can teach us everything. For example, I learn knitting, cooking and makeup from my mother, while learn fixing leaky faucet from my father. They are the persons who love me most, so they will teach me everything without reservations.

Just as the saying goes: "There is no place like home." And I think there is no teacher like our parents. They are the best teachers in our life.

(Essay ID: 276. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 2

Some people believe parents maybe a very important teacher for children, but will be taken place by teacher after children go to school, however, I believe parents always are the best teacher no matter how many knowledge children have acquired from school, the reasons why I think so go as follow.

First ,children always imitate their parents from birth, so the parents' influence on children is great. For example, researchers said that parents' expression can influence the growth of their children' character, if parents always smell and watch their child while he is playing, the child' confidence will be greater than other child whose parent always leave him alone at home.

Second, parents are also the best teacher for children in emotional area. For example, If a child feel oppression or feel frustrated in school, he always not talk to his teacher, at this time, parents can help him and child are also willing to tell his inner feeling to his parents.

Third, although child get many knowledge from teacher, basic skills in his whole life are come from his parents. For example, our basic language skill, basic realize skill and even basic sport skill are all acquired from parents. Because of this basic skill parents teach their child, the influence of parents will follow the child's whole life.

All in a word, the effect parents take on the child's education process is greater than any teachers in school, they are the best teacher.

(Essay ID: 261. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 2

Parents influence greatly their children for a lifetime. I think people are molded by two factors, family and the society that they are in. From birth, humans are influenced by the surrounding people for their characteristics. Parents take a big role in bringing up children, which affects their lives for a long time.

In early infanthood, babies are looking to moms and dads to learn basic manners to be accepted in society. Some of these manners include not running around in restaurants or hitting other kids. As they grow up, they learn more from parents about social etiquette, which makes them more suitable to live in society. Children tend to look to their parents for role models knowingly or unknowingly.

Besides, parents can also affect children's study habits. Children of doctors , lawyers, investment bankers, and other professionals see their mothers and fathers work a lot of time, reading books, and punching keyboards, even at home. They are showing their children how to study by their own behavior.

However, parents can also be a bad example for their kids. It is difficult for children who have abusive parents to lead a normal childhood and is possible that they may become similar to their abusive parents when they grow up. In this sense, the parents' negative role in shaping the children's personality cannot be emphasized more.

In conclusion, parents are the best teachers for their children. They leave big marks on their children's lives and are therefore more influential teachers than any others they may have in their lives.

(Essay ID: 324 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 2

Who are the best teachers in our life? In my opinion, 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.

The main reason for my view is that 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.

Also, 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 a families still makes our parents very good teachers and advisers at any time.

In short, 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.

(Essay ID: 74 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 3

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.

(Essay ID: 336 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

### Topic: 3

Nowadays, wherever we turn our gaze, we can see different types of food that are easier to prepare. For instance, we can buy frozen foods in a supermarket and just prepare it in a couple of minutes, whereas before it could have taken us maybe hours to prepare this kind of meals. I would accept that this so-called improvement has changed our lives, but I believe that there are some drawbacks as well.

It is true that these kinds of food do not involve hard work to prepare, but food that is easy to prepare generally has some artificial ingredients mixed in it that makes it "easy-to-cook". If we take time to read the ingredients, we would definitely come across words like preservatives or artificial flavorings. It was just a couple of days ago that I came across a newspaper article which stated that someone was poisoned because he ate this type of food. He was hospitalized for almost a month.

Not having to cook has also taken the fun out of cooking. Cooking is an art, but in today's world, this is no more true. People are so busy with their work that they just rely on this simple foods. The invention and production of this foods have made people lazy not only for cooking but also for a well family get-together. It was not like former times when families would sit together and eat freshly baked food. Instead, they are getting these artificial things with minimal nutrients in them.

Cooking in the yesteryears was much better than today's. People would spend more time in the kitchen, preparing the food in the way that they liked it. This brought families closer together and also contributed to the high quality and nutrition of the food. Granted, people are busier nowadays and do not have as much time as they did in the past, but I believe that people have forgotten the

importance of healthy, fresh food and of the time a family spends together preparing the food. So, I would say that having food that is easy to prepare has had many disadvantages.

(Essay ID: 325 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

### Topic: 3

It can not be doubted that our eating style has encountered a revolutionary change in the last few decades. It is the change in the type of food that has had the greatest influence. Not only have the recipes of certain food types have been altered, but also absolutely new ones have been created. Examples include yet are not restricted to beef hamburgers, potato chips, and cola drinks. All of these changes contribute to making food preparation as fast and easy as possible. It cannot be neglected that modern cooking facilities play a dramatic role in this trend.

Some people regard this trend as a spoiler of our lives. Their argument focuses on two main points. First, many newly emerged types of food have not the essence of a "complete meal" as defined by nutritionists. To add to the problem, these food types are often served alone. In fact, there are many medical reports warning people from depending upon such fast meals in their food. Other reports indicate a high potential of malnutrition among those who are "addicted" to the common duet of burgers and cola.

Second, the advantage of gathering family members around a meal at home is lost. Fast prepared food types are usually eaten outside home. With the absence of regular family meetings, relationships are likely to be weaker.

Others think that fast prepared food types do improve our style of life. This opinion comes especially from busy people, working wives, and younger people. They believe that we have many things in life more important than eating. Time spent on food preparation is considered wasted by them. Wives will have more time to take care of their families' souls not just stomachs. Family relationships will get stronger. Business men and women will have more time to concentrate on their business without worrying about food arrangements. In general, people will have a greater opportunity to take care of their minds and hearts. Reports estimate the time spent on food arrangements as a large percentage of our lives.

I agree with that food preparation should take its necessary time and care. Otherwise, the time saved in food preparation can lead to longer times of headache or even of staying in hospitals suffering from malnutrition.

(Essay ID: 328 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

### Topic: 3

The twentieth century has brought with it many advances. With those advances, human lives have changed dramatically. In some ways life is worse, but mostly it is better. Changes in food preparation methods, for example, have improved our lives greatly.

The convenience of preparing food today is amazing. Even stoves have gotten too slow for us. Microwave cooking is much easier. We can press a few buttons and a meal is completely cooked in just a short time. People used to spend hours preparing an oven-cooked meal, and now they can use that time for other, better things. Plus, there are all kinds of portable, prepackaged foods we can buy. Heat them in the office microwave, and lunch at work is quick and easy.

Food preparation today allows for more variety. With refrigerators and freezers; we can preserve a lot of different foods in our homes. Since technology makes cooking so much faster, people are willing to make several dishes for even a small meal. Parents are more likely to let children be picky, now that they can easily heat them up some prepackaged macaroni and cheese on the side. Needless to say, adults living in the same house may have very different eating habits as well. If they don't want to cook a lot of different dishes, it's common now to eat out at restaurants several times a week.

Healthful eating is also easier than ever now. When people cook, they can use new fat substitutes and cooking sprays to cut fat and calories. This reduces the risk of heart disease and high cholesterol. Additionally, we can buy fruits and vegetables fresh, frozen or canned. They're easy to prepare, so many of us eat more of those nutritious items daily. A hundred years ago, you couldn't imagine the process of taking some frozen fruit and ice from the freezer, adding some low-fat yogurt from a plastic cup and some juice from a can in the refrigerator, and whipping up a low-fat smoothie in the blender!

Our lifestyle is fast, but people still like good food. What new food preparation technology has given us is more choices. Today, we can prepare food that is more convenient, healthier, and of greater variety than ever before in history.

(Essay ID: 75 )

## Topic: 4

There are two main channels for people to learn knowledge –from books and from experience. Generally, knowledge gained from books is theoretical, that gained from experience is practical. It is difficult to answer which is more important to we people. It depends on the phases and events of our learning. Knowledge learned from books is instructive, which perhaps cannot learn directly from experience. We often hear thunders and see lightning in the sky, and we can easily find that lightning will be seen sooner than sound will be heard. According to our experience alone, we cannot tell why it had happened. But when we learn some physics in textbooks, we will find the answer clearly that because light travels faster than sound does, it takes less time for light to travel the same distance than for sound. Therefore, book knowledge can inform us some useful theories that can give us general ideas and help us understand the real phenomenon better.

In turn, practice knowledge check out the theories gained from books. There is an old Chinese saying that practice is the only criterion of inspecting the truth. So not all knowledge from books is credible, even false. When Aristotle wrote in his transcripts that the earth is the center of our planets, no one doubts this for centuries. However, when Galileo read about it, he did not suspect it at first, but when he made some observation and research, he found it is not the truth. Then comes the new theory—Sun center theory.

In our daily life, we can learn much information from practice. To learn swimming, it is useless to be absorbed in reading skills written in books. Only when you learn it in a swimming pool, can you make it. There are still a lot of things you must learn from your own experience, such as driving a car, riding a bicycle, operating a machine. And the most important is that it is often easier learn knowledge from practice than from books. As far as the average people are concerned, it is natural to learn from experience. Primitive people learned skills hand by hand which is the way they were handed down from one generation to another.

Modern people also learn things in practice. In workshops, leading workers teach apprentices carefully; in activity clubs, teachers teach youngsters to be familiar with their hobbies. It is



obvious that all of things considered knowledge gained from practice is more close and direct than from the books.

Therefore, two kinds of knowledge has importance. For research people , knowledge from books is more important, while for our average people, knowledge from practice is more important. As students, we must first learn knowledge from books well, and at the same time we must have the good sense to tell from what is right and what is wrong.

(Essay ID: 76 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 4

We gain our knowledge about the world and our life from two sources: from experience and from books. These two resources are both important, but which of them is more important?

Knowledge from books forms a very important part of our knowledge structure. In schools and colleges, we learn knowledge which is fundamental to our future career. We learn knowledge from books in order to make our contributions to this society in the future. A student learns mathematic equations and other scientific knowledge and become a scientist or engineer. We will be illiterate and ignorant without learning knowledge from books. Moreover, we acquire knowledge about life and the world by reading books, magazines and newspapers. This is also very important as we cannot experience everything all by ourselves. Therefore books are a very important source of knowledge.

On the other hand, we can't learn everything from a book. "Experience is the best teacher" is an old cliché, but I agree with it. The most important, and sometimes the hardest, lessons we learn in life come from our participation in situations. We learn how to get along with others or how to have self-respect from our experience, not from books. We cannot learn emotional feelings, such as love and care, through books; they come from our real life experience. Knowledge from experience is also a very important supplement to knowledge from books.

Needless to say both learning sources, books and experience, are very important to us. But in my opinion knowledge from experience is more important, because without knowledge from experience, it is impossible to get a real understanding of knowledge from books, and how to apply this knowledge to real world situations.

(Essay ID: 77 )

## Topic: 5

I have been living in a peace and quiet town for about 10 years. All people around here is so kind, and the landscape is so beautiful that I love this town very much. Recently I heard news that a company will set up a new factory near my community. I was shocked and I hold a negative opinion about this decision.

The main reason why I oppose this plan is that establishing a new factory will cause air pollution. As we know, a factory will give off a lot of waste air which is harmful to people's health. Even though the factory will take measurements to purify the air, it can not make the air as clean as before. It is no doubt that people's health will be affected by the air emitted from the factory. Another reason is that a factory makes too much noise. My community is always a quiet place and this is just what I like the most. A factory will cause the town to become too noisy. For example, every morning, we can be awake from our dreams by the noise of buses which take

workers to the factory. The noise of engines will also influent our temper, and may cause us susceptible to anger, and easily lose temper.

Furthermore, a strong reason to oppose this idea is that building a factory will destroy the landscape of this town. Most people living in this town make their living by cultivating and harvesting crops. The factory is inappropriate with the landscape of the town and it will occupy the land that is used to farming.

Of course, building a factory also has advantages to some extent. For example, it will bring more working opportunity for local people, and also it will help developing the local economics. But comparing with the disadvantages, I strongly oppose the idea to build a factory near my community.

(Essay ID: 79 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 5

I support the idea that a factory to be built near our community. I list my reasons as follows. Firstly, a new factory near our community helps to improve living standard of people in our community. The factory will employ a lot of workers. As a consequence, the unemployment rate will drop significantly. Many people in our community will find a job in the factory. As people's income increases, they will be able to spend more money on their food, clothing and leisure time, and the quality of life will be increased.

Secondly, a new factory will bring prosperity to our community. The tax collected from a factory is an important source of revenue for our town. As people have higher income, income tax collected will also be increased. The town will be able to spend more money on infrastructures and other development. Moreover, in order to accommodate more workers, more homes and stores will be needed. This will boost real estate development in our community.

Some people say that a factory would bring smog and pollution, and destroy the quality of the air and water in town. This is not the truth. Modern technologies have made today's factories technology intensive and brought pollutions to the minimum. There are also worries that the social structure of this community will be changed and the traditional life will be affected. We should understand that society needs to evolve and we cannot always stay in the old time.

Of course, there will be some drawbacks of building a new factory here. But in my opinion, the benefits outweigh the dangers. I strongly support to build a factory here, and hope that others feel the same way.

(Essay ID: 78 )

## Topic: 5

If a large factory is going to be built near your community, is it good or bad? It's a quite difficult question to answer. Because there are many aspects to take into your consideration, the advantages and the disadvantages. Let's talk about that.

First, a large factory, especially a large chemical factory is quite harmful to our environment when it is built near our community. It will affect our daily life a lot. All the chemical factories will produce a lot of waste and most of the wastes are harmful to the environment, including poisonous gas and liquid. Some of them can not be entirely broken down. If they are released into the air or the river, it will affect our health. And also the factory may produce a lot of noise. The

environment we want to live in is a quiet and peaceful one, so the noise will be quite boring. And yes, noise also affects our health.

Still one thing, a factory can be very dangerous. Because a fire or a explosion may break out in the factory. If it's very near our home, it's quite dangerous.

But in other hand , a factory may be a good news to us. It can provide more jobs for us, especially for the young people in our community. Since the factory is near, it's so convenient to go to work.. and the factory will get more chances to our area. It will help to develop our area. So if the factory can bring us a lot of chances, we will agree to build one. But the most important things are:

1. Build the factory in a safe distance from our community, not too near.
2. Make sure that the factory can deal with the waste properly. Do not release the poisonous gas into the air, and not release the waste water into the river nearby.
3. Make sure the security guard in the factory works very well.

(Essay ID: 466 )

## Topic: 5

A company has announced that it wishes to build a large factory near our community. To be frank, I have mixed emotions about this.

Obviously, there are some advantages having such a factory nearby. For example, it can provides more job opportunities and many people may work in the factory. What is more, it also gives a good chance for the development of other business in our community such as shops, theatres and restaurants. Furthermore, the products the factory manufactures will improve our quality of living.

On the other hand, there are some disadvantages building a factory here. First, it will disturb the quiescence of our community. Once the factory is set up, a lot of people will rush into our community to work, and the road will get crowded. To transfer the raw materials the factory needs, there will be many trucks coming and going through the streets, and the noise will disturb residents and it is unsafe for our children who always play freely in the streets before.

Second, the factory will produce many waste products each day, and there will be much waste water coming out from the factory and it will pollute our rivers. We do not want to have to see hundreds and thousands tons of waste piled near our houses, and we do not want to see our nearby rivers turning into black dishes either.

After weighing the advantages and disadvantages, I decide to oppose to set up such a factory near our community because we need quiet surrounding, blue sky and clean rivers.

(Essay ID: 423. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 5

Weather it is beneficial to build a large factory near our community is a prevalent topic undergoing serious debate. Two different opinions obviously exist to support and to oppose. After pondering the opinions from several aspects, personally, I agree with the idea that it is beneficial to build a large factory near our community.

By comparing the advantage and disadvantage they will get, people judge which role they should hold. In my opinion, the advantage in this case is superior than the disadvantage. we can see it below.

The main reason for my propensity for the choice is that the factory will supply lots of employment opportunities for society, especially the people of the community nearby. The unemployment will decrease and the people's standard of living will increase in some degree. so, no doubt, people will accept the factory willingly and rapidly.

Another reason why I prefer to the statement lies in the fact that with the developing of the factory, many other establishments will be founded around it. These establishments will make the lives of the people of the community more convenient. For example, drugstores, restaurants, even hospital, new bus stop will be built up. People here will enjoy the convenience the factory brings. It is undeniable that the factory will bring some problems, such as the noise, air pollution. Whatever, these disadvantage will be limited into a low level so that they can not contaminate the environment of the community.

From what has been discussed above, we can safely draw the conclusion that it is beneficial to build a large factory near our community.

(Essay ID: 496. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 6

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.

(Essay ID: 331 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 6

If I could change one important thing about my hometown, it would be air pollution problem, and I will give the following reasons to explain why I want to solve the problem.

The first and most important reason is that I hope that my hometown can become a beautiful city. As an old industrial city, my hometown has made a great deal of contribution for the country's economic development. As a result, the natural environment of the city has been badly damaged. The forest has disappeared; the mountains have become bald, and the most awful thing is that the air quality becomes more and more worse. People seldom see the blue sky during most time of year.

Another reason why I want to change my hometown's air pollution situation is that the city's development needs clean and tidy environment to attract investors. Nowadays people have come to know that the city's environment, which is so called "software facility of the city", plays an important role in the city's future. For example, due to the fact that the environment of the city is very poor, many local students who pursue their study out of the city would rather find themselves a job in other cities than coming back to their hometown after they graduated.

In addition, nowadays people have paid more and more attention to their health. If air pollution problem cannot be solved as quickly as possible, people's requirement for a healthy body will never be realized.

In my mind, changing air pollution will apparently be my first choice if I can change one important thing about my hometown. Fortunately people in my hometown are gradually aware of the serious problem.

(Essay ID: 80 )

## Topic: 6

If i could change one thing about my hometown, i would like to build up some useful and advanced facilities for their use. A modern library, an advanced broad band system and an integrated gym may bring a lot of changes to people living in my hometown and keep them up with the latest information and technology.

In my opinion, a modern library in my hometown can provide a good environment for the local people to study and upgrade themselves. There are a lot of newspaper, magazines and reference books for their use. They can know what happened around the world and keep up with the fastpace of this developing world. From lots of cultural books, they also can own a good habit of reading and learn to get knowledge from books. "Knowledge is strength". Knowledge can give us guidance to overcome problems we meet in the daily life.

To popularize the broad band at home also is a quick access to Internet and movie channel, which can give people much more chances to choose their entertainment. Because of the Internet, our lives have been changed a lot no matter whether we accept or not. We can read news, buy items from e-commerce companies, send a free e-card to our friends, mail our beautiful photos to anyone we like or watch the movies online. Anyway, Internet brings us obvious changes. Additionally, broad band also can provide movie channel to users. Can you imagine that you can watch the movies you like just by clicking one button? It provide different types of movie for you to choose. People have more choice to enjoy the life and advanced technology at home.

Besides important information we need to know and advanced technology we use, we also need to do exercise to keep our healthy life. This is the reason why i want to set up an integrated gym in my hometown. Through doing many various exercises, such as, swimming, jogging, playing

badminton or tennice, people can enhance their ability to resist the virus and enjoy the life happily. Furthermore, people who often do exercise have positive attitudes towards life although when facing difficulties. This is really what i hope to see.

In summary, i want my hometown to be a city equipped with a modern library, an advanced broad band system and filled with people liking exercise, loving life and possessing positive attitudes towards life. Thus, i want to build up above-mentioned facilities first.

(Essay ID: 270 )

## Topic: 6

With the developement of my hometown in the past few years, the population is expanding very fast. The city is expiriencing not only a higher birthrate than ever, but also waves of immigration. The streets in the city are crowd or even jamed during the rush hours. If I could change one thing about my hometown, I would develop an advanced public traffic system.

In order to hold such an exploding population, the city has extended miles by miles without much plan. It is common for people to travel from the southmost part to the northmost part of the city to go to work everyday. They have to spend three hours or more on the way they go to work and come home. Eight hours' work is a heavy burden, while people have to spend hours before and after the work. A subway running through or around the city can solve the problem. People could live further away from the downtown without worrying about spending too much time on the way.

Some people buy their own car or take a taxi to work everyday. It's really expensive for most of the people in the city. They can't afford paying so much on traffic fares. Many civil engineering experts advocate that sharing a public traffic system is the most efficient way. People could reduce their fares a lot by using the public traffic system, and they can spend the money on some other things.

Even there are more and more people who can afford buying a car or taking taxi everyday, It is still suggested to using the public traffic system. Because the road developement can never keep up with the demand of the increasing cars, the cars may jam on the roads during rush hours. Usually, the speed of the car in that time is no higher than a bycycle! And pollution is another concern. So many private cars running in the city will bring us an environmental problem. On the other hand, the pollution from the public traffic system is much lighter.

All in all, an advanced public traffic system time efficient, cost efficient, and pollution preventing. This is the trend of advanced cities.

(Essay ID: 256. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 6

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.

(Essay ID: 330 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 6

Have you been waiting for buses at bus station for an hour in an extremely hot day? Have you been staying in a car waiting hours for the heavy traffic? Have you seen the scene that tons of people are crammed on a small bus? Maybe you think that's incredible, but it's true in my hometown. So the thing I want to change most about my hometown is the mass transportation system.

Mass transportation system is a very important part of a city. It influences people's daily life, work and entertainment. An effective mass transportation system can save people's time so that people can do more work hence to increase the city's efficiency. If you were the mayor, would you like the people in the city to sit in the cars or stand at bus stations wait for hours or would you like them to sit in the offices or stand in factories work for hours?

Moreover, a city with bad mass transportation system can't be qualified as a good city, regardless how rich the city is and how big the city is. It's essential for a city to have a good mass transportation system to be qualified a good city. For example, big cities such as Toronto, Tokyo, New York all have very good mass transportation systems which can bring people anywhere they want in a short time. A bad mass transportation system would limit the city to grow and it would be a handicap for the city to develop in the future.

Finally, as we can see, if my hometown can improve the mass transportation system, people will appreciate it a lot. It will be a great thing which benefits everyone in the city and makes our lifes more convenient.

(Essay ID: 480 )

**Topic: 7**

Do movies and television affect our behavior? I believe that movies and television do influence our behavior, both for the better and for the worse.

Movies and television influence our behavior because they make us less active. Looking at films is a passive activity. If we watch too much, we become unhealthy, both mentally and physically. We stop using our own imagination when we see things acted out for us. Mental laziness becomes physical laziness; we'd rather watch sports on TV than play sports ourselves. We'd rather visit

with the characters on "Seinfeld" or "Friends" than go chat with our own neighbors. Imaginary people have exciting lives. Is it any wonder that some people would rather live a fantasy life than their own? Movies and television also can make people more violent. The more we see violent acts on television, the less sensitive we become to them: Eventually violence doesn't seem wrong. We may even commit violent acts ourselves. This is especially true because we don't always realize that violence has consequences. Actors can be killed and come back for another movie. Sometimes we confuse that with reality. We forget that killing someone is permanent.

Of course, watching movies and television can also be good for us. It can give us a broader window on the world. For example, seeing movies can expose us to people of different races and cultures. We can then overcome some prejudices more easily. Recently there have been more handicapped people in films, and this also helps reduce prejudice.

The best influence on our behavior is that movies and television reduce stress. Watching films, we can escape our own problems for a little while. Also, sometime movies show positive ways to resolve problems we all face. While TV and movies shouldn't be a way to hide from life, sometimes they can help us cope.

It is true that movies and television can influence our behavior negatively. However, I also believe that they influence our behavior in positive ways. How they affect you depends on how much you watch, what you watch, and how you respond to what you watch.

(Essay ID: 81 )

**Topic: 7**

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.

(Essay ID: 332 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 8

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 attractive 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.

(Essay ID: 339 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 8

When asked about what has been brought by television , different people have different answers. There is some people who don't like TV saying that television has destroyed communications among friends and family. however other people take a negative attitude on this issue. In my opinion, I disagree with the above statement . The reasons are given below.

Television is only one instrument for people to relax. There is many ways of amusement for people to select after the working time nowadays. You can select to meet your friends, to accompany your parents or to take part in some sports activities. Watching TV at home is simply one way to live. It is too narrowly to regard TV as one main reason to damage relationship among friends and family just because some people has spent a lot of time on it .

Another reason that I disagree with the above statement is that TV can provide some additional topics for communication among friends and family. Talking about the news, the soap drama or soccer game watching on the TV last night is also good communication ways to increase your affections with your friends and your family. Also sometimes, skipping one TV program could probably make you lose voices among your friends.

Last but not least, watching TV is one good medicine to cure the loneliness when your friends and parents can not accompany with you. I would not forget the warm which was brought by TV when along outside the hometown.

I can't deny that some people has ignored friends and family when they are addicted into watching TV. However, everything has it's two sides. All the factors mentioned above determined me to draw the conclusion that it is not reasonable to say television has destroyed communications among friends and family.

(Essay ID: 234. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 8

Some people believe that television has destroyed communication among friends and family. I think this is an exaggeration. In my opinion, whether or not television hurts communication

depends on what type of program is being viewed. More importantly, it depends on the type of viewer.

There are empty programs and educational programs. Empty programs do not challenge people. They have just enough storyline to keep them from switching channels. There are also passive and active viewers. A passive viewer will just watch television without thinking about what he or she is seeing. The combination of an empty program and a passive viewer makes communication unlikely. Passive viewers just continue to watch, actually enjoying the fact that they don't have to think. They won't break away to talk about programming with friends and family. Even with better programming, passive viewers still won't think or communicate much. They'll probably even prefer the empty programs because the better programming is too much work.

On the other hand, active viewers watching educational programming always want to share what they see with friends and family. "Educational" doesn't necessarily mean documentaries on PBS. They could be dramas with realistic relationships or action shows with clever plotlines. When active viewers watch programs, they have ideas and talk about them with others. Good programming inspires them to change their thinking and their lives. Unlike passive viewers, they don't want to watch more and more without thinking.

In short, television may destroy communication among passive viewers. Those viewers probably don't want to communicate with friends and family much anyway. For active viewers who already enjoy communicating, television is actually helpful!

(Essay ID: 82 )

## Topic: 9

I grew up in a small town and then moved to a big city, so I have experienced the good and bad sides of both. I never thought that I would like living in a big city, but I was wrong. After ten years of living in one, I can't imagine ever living in a small town again.

Small towns and big cities both have some problems in terms of transportation. In a small town, you have to own a car to ensure a comfortable living. You can't get around without one because there isn't any kind of public transportation. Big cities generally have heavy traffic and expensive parking, but there you have a choice of taking public transportation. It's not free, but it's often cheaper than driving when you consider gas and time. Especially if you don't have a car, you're better off in the city.

I love the excitement of big cities. Small towns have a slow pace. Large cities mean you have to adapt to a variety of situations, like finding a new route to work or trying a new restaurant. I enjoy that challenge very much. Another part of the excitement of city living is the variety of cultural activities available. There is a wide assortment of theatre, music and dance performances available in big cities. These things are rare in small ones.

The final thing I like about large cities is the diversity of the people. The United States is made up of people of different races, religions, abilities, and interests. However, you seldom find such a variety of people in a smaller town. I think that living in an area where everyone was just like me would quickly become boring.

Of course, security is a concern, and that's one area where small towns are superior to big cities. Still, I would rather be a bit more cautious and live in a large city than to feel secure but bored.

(Essay ID: 83 )

**Topic: 9**

Where should we live? Some may choose to live in big cities, while other like the natural and quiet surroundings in countryside. As far as I am concerned, I would like to live in a big city because living in a big city has more advantages than living in countryside.

To begin with, the city is the symbol of human civilization and there are a many facilities for living, recreation and health care. Therefore, living there is more convenient than living in countryside. For example, we can find a plenty of malls around our neighborhood, where we can buy everyday necessities at a low price. Furthermore, people concern more about their health and safety than other things in their lives. In big cities, medical facilities and emergency services are easily accessible than in countryside. Big cities also have convenient transportation and utility systems. They also offer faster Internet connections. These all make our life easier in big cities.

In addition, we can take part in a variety of events in big cities. Human being likes to live together and need to interact with each other. In a big city, the population density is high therefore there are always plenty of social activities, sports events and concerts. There are more recreational places in big cities, such as opera houses, movie theatres, clubs, and swimming pools. You will have many kinds of entertainment in big cities, and meet many people. In countryside, however, the life may be dull and quite, and you may only have a few neighbors. Living alone with few activities can easily cause mental diseases.

Some may argue that the pollution in cities makes people sick. However, with automobiles and modern highways we can easily take a break to expose to fresh air in countryside and sunshine on the beach.

In conclusion, I strongly hold that living in big cities is much better than living in countryside because of the advanced facilities and social activities in cities. Moreover, the autos and highways enable us to enjoy the natural and quiet surroundings in countryside.

(Essay ID: 411 )

**Topic: 9**

In English, there is a well-known fairy story about a poor country boy, Dick Whittington, who goes to London because he believes that the streets of that city are “paved with gold”. The story is a tale of “from rags to riches”. Dick eventually becomes the Lord Mayor of London. Like the hero of that story, I always find wonder and adventure in cities.

Cities contain a great assortment of people. Whenever I walk around a shopping precinct at midday on a weekend, I am fascinated by all the different types of people hurrying around the shops. Sometimes, I just sit on a public bench and simply watch the variegated streams of shoppers. Today, in the age of globe-trotting transport and communications, city life is more mixed than it has ever been. Capital cities are not cosmopolitan, and eager to attract foreign trade and currency. There is a contemporary English joke which tells that “you can never find an Englishman in London”.

Whether rightly or wrongly, governments and local authorities usually build public amenities in the big cities. Money is invested in transport, libraries, parks and museums. Often, countries will compete with each other for the best “show-case” building. Malaysia has built a skyscraper that is taller than is anything in New York. In large countries, region will compete against region: New York against Chicago, Shanghai against Hong Kong and Beijing.

All of this is good for the citizen. The magic of the Dick Whittington story is rekindled in me when I enter a library in a magnificent building. If a person is at university studying art or music, a large city usually offers galleries and public performances. Even as a teenager, I appreciated the worth of living in a city because two or three times a year there was a rock concert by a favorite band.

Architecture is the urban landscape. If a person has an appreciation of architecture, a city can be as visually exciting as the Himalayas. A modern metropolis is a mountain range of height, light and solidness. And then there are the old buildings: the quaint, unspoiled side-street or shops and homes from a distant age. If a person lived all of his life in one large city, he would continue to discover its architectural secrets into his old age.

Man is a 'social animal'. He talks, mixes and creates. Cities offer the libraries, universities and cafe bars for him to meet others of his kind.

(Essay ID: 489 )

## Topic: 10

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.

(Essay ID: 71 )

## Topic: 10

There is a humorous saying in English – “The grass is always greener on the other side of the valley”. The saying is used ironically to point out that there is a temptation in us all to insist that others are more fortunate than we are. This is nowhere more true than on the question of luck and hard work. When faced with the “bad times”, we often find comfort in the idea that we are special in our degree of misfortune. I feel that such an attitude is negative, and that it can bring only further misfortune.

Many famously successful people have begun from small origins. Mao was the son of a (modestly prosperous) peasant; the explorer Captain Cook was so poor that, as a child, he had to work by day and study by night; many of the affluent Americans of today are the children of the poor immigrants of yesterday. Beethoven, it should be remembered, became deaf before the end of his career. There are many, many more people who have also made genuine, though less spectacular, successes against the odds.

Within his own terms, a person who is born into poverty in India is a great success if he manages to own a house in later life. Poverty cannot be reduced by merely complaining and blaming others: no matter how guilty other people are, each individual must reach out to success for himself. Indeed, some economists believe that the world operates by what they call “the rule of the jungle”. They believe that in economics a person always attempts to gain profit from his neighbor: that given the chance the poor man would quickly make himself rich by trading to his own advantage.

Also, it is presumptuous to judge another according to his or her apparent fortune. No man can ever truly understand the sufferings of his neighbor. A man who appears comfortably rich may have suffered elsewhere in his life - through the death of a loved one, for example. Retired businessmen have often worked long hours in their youth. Surely, it must be wiser to respect achievement than to deny that anyone has achieved good in the world.

To rely on notions of luck - to believe that life is a kind of lottery - is an attempt to escape reality. Paradoxically, the only time a person can claim that luck is more important than work is when he reflects on his own success. Because of that modesty, the great man then becomes even greater.

(Essay ID: 486 )

## Topic: 11

In my point of view, sports activities are as important as, if not more important than, good libraries. So it is wise for universities to give the same amount of money to their students' sports activities as they give their university libraries. There are numerous clear reasons and I would explore some important ones here.

First, good health is the prerequisite for future success. Universities are not only the place for students to expand their minds, but also a place for student to build their body. A good health is very essential for study and future success. In our university, there are several middle-aged teachers and researchers suffer from diseases, some even died when they were at the acme of their academic achievements. This is a great loss for their families and our university.

Second, through sports activities, student can benefit both physically and mentally. Anyone who has played in a football game knows that the cooperation and competition are important for success. They are two basic traits for those who want to succeed, and student who can combine them harmoniously have better chance of success in the future.

Third, investment in sports activities can save money in the long run. In China, all of students' medical expenses are patronized by government and this is a heavy burden. If the students' health improved, a lot of money can be saved every year. With these money, universities can build more classrooms, laboratories and libraries.

Of course, good libraries are also important for universities. A good library with its large collection of books is the pride and symbol of a prominent university. Both libraries and sports activities are indispensable for university, so it is wise for universities give the same amount of money to their student activities as they give to their libraries.

(Essay ID: 464 )

## Topic: 11

I disagree strongly with the idea that the same amount of money should go to university sports activities as to university libraries. Although playing sports is a wonderful way to learn about teamwork, strategy and reaching your goals, it should not be the principal focus of a university education.

Students need the most up-to-date library facilities available to get the best education. Many of those facilities are very expensive to buy and maintain. These include computerized programs and access to Internet research databases that students can use to find information all around the world. If a university is only offering its students resources of a decade ago, it's depriving those students of a tremendous amount of information.

Even the book and magazine budget of universities has gone up tremendously in the last decade. More is being published on every subject, and every university wants to have this information available to its students.

It also costs money for universities to keep their libraries open. Students need to have access to all the libraries' research tools as much of the time as possible. Because students are young and can stay up all night studying, many universities are starting to leave their libraries open all night during exam periods. This costs money, because the staff has to be paid extra to be there. It also costs money to run the building (electricity, heat) during that time.

Students at universities are only going to benefit from their education if they can get to all the tools they need to learn. Sports are secondary to the resources that students need from university libraries. For this reason, libraries should always be better funded than sports activities.

(Essay ID: 90 )

## Topic: 11

Both libraries and sports activities are welcome in the universities. Students could study in the libraries to build up their knowledge. They could get the information that they cannot get in the class. But knowledge is not all for the students. They are willing to have sports frequently. Anyone cannot go on his study without a healthy body. Unfortunately, if we have limited resources to put on the construction and operation of libraries or sport activities, how could we

make a decision? I disagree with the statement that universities should give the same amount of money to sports activities as libraries.

The library is a necessary part of a university. We cannot imagine a university without any library. Students would like to find books in the library to facilitate their study. The time in the class is very limited. So they could get more academic information in the library. On the other hand, students could enjoy sports outside the campus. Many people just like running, which doesn't need any investment.

Considering the operation of the establishments, we should certainly pay more to run a library than the sports activities. With the development of the informationalization of the world, more and more books are published. In order to possess those books, universities must pay a lot of money on them. While running a stadium is much more easier.

Because university is a place to study, it is natural that more students go to the library. Whenever you go to the library, you will see diligent students studying there. Especially in the examination period, you can hardly find a vacant seat.

To sum up, sports activities are very important to students' health, but if there is limited money, we have to spend more money on libraries than on sports activities. Because libraries are necessities of a university, which need a large amount of money to run, and many students enjoy them.

(Essay ID: 271. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 12

When people travel to new places, they often choose the local museums as a must-see place. Sometimes the museums are even more attractive than the most famous place of interest. This phenomenon can be easily explained if the function of museums is taken into account. As we have known, museums can help us know the history, the customs and the most representative products of that place.

Different places have different history. And the most convenient way to know the history is to visit the local museum. Last year when I traveled to Xi'an, an old city, I went to the history museum to explore the course of its development. With the background knowledge provided by the museum, I found that it was easier for me to understand the city. So the museum can clear away the barriers between tourists and the city by making them familiar with its history. To a tourist, the most attractive part of a place is usually its customs, which can be demonstrated by the local museum. In the Beijing custom museum, the real life of typical Beijingers is vividly shown. A tourist can satisfy his curiosity by knowing the origin and characteristics of the courtyard, the most classical building in Beijing. With the help of museums, tourists can have a deeper understanding of the life of local people.

Every place has its own representative products, which are usually handcrafts. Tourists can have the access to a wonderful show of these handcrafts in the local museum. For example, in Jingde town, the most famous pottery-making place in China, tourists can be excited by the beautiful pottery products and the complicated making process exhibited in the pottery museum. It will be a pity for a tourist not to experience the wonderful show of the local products in the museum.

In a word, museums serve as a bridge between tourists and the place they travel to. That is why people are so eager to visit museums when they travel to new places.

(Essay ID: 469 )



**Topic: 12**

Museums are presents the whole world left to us, with which we can learn lots of things we did not previously know, be aware of what has happened in the past as well as what is going to happen in the future, or gain self-understanding. Personally, among countless factors which influence the reason for visiting museums, there are three conspicuous aspects as follows.

The main reason for my propensity for visiting museums is that more about local histories can be known in this way. Nowadays, many museums are mainly operating for responsibilities to collect, preserve historic treasures and exhibit fine art and antiquities. For instance, the National Museum of Chinese History, the first of these kinds to be established in China has over 300,000 items, including more than 2,000 first-grade pieces items, 100,000 photographs of cultural relics and over 200,000 professional books. As you walk around the General Chinese History exhibition rooms, looking at the cultural relics and imagining the past, you may feel that you are traveling along a path spanning the course of Chinese history.

Another reason can be seen by every person is that you can see something rare so much as unique in museums. For example, Emperor QinShihuang, the first emperor in Chinese history, is known as the Emperor Qin's Terra-cotta Warriors and Horses. Today, the Emperor Qin's Terra-cotta Museum, "the eighth Wonder of the world", is not only a treasure house where the tourists can learn histories, but also a main scenic spot of China. The vivid pottery figures, colorful uniforms and various weapons, acclaimed as the peak of perfection, are unique forever.

Furthermore, visiting museums can enrich our knowledge about various sides, such as preventive measures of a disease, the reason of earthquake, man's region, the latest development of the laser and so on. The inventive genius may be inspired in someone by making exhibits, because knowledge is acquired more easily in this way than being taught in class.

Still, people might list other reasons to explain why they always visit museums while traveling to new places, but the three points I have explored in the above discussion, I believe, are most relevant to the issue under discussion.

(Essay ID: 500 )

**Topic: 12**

Many people visit museums when they travel to new places. By visiting museums, one can learn as much as possible about those places where one visit in a short time.

First of all, one can learn about the history of the places in museums. Today, almost every town in the world has realized the importance to set up their own museums to exhibit historic items which belong to their past. When we visit a new place, we can get almost everything we need about its history in the museums. Last summer vacation, I and several classmates traveled to the city of Taian. At the foot of Mount Tai located a museum about General Feng Yuxiang. After visiting it, we knew a lot about Mr. Feng and what he did to the local people. He was respected by there people, and so did us.

Second, visiting museums gives information about local culture. After a long exhausting journey, what a good thing to sit in the museum theatre watching a performance about local culture. When we travel to a new place, especially for a limited time when you cannot go everywhere, so you can get as much information as possible about local culture by visiting museums.

What is more, visiting museums gives us a good chance to make new friends. Surely, there are a lot of people will visit museums like us. We can chat with them about what we see and what we hear. At the end of visiting, we sit together to have a cup of coffee and we become good friends. By exchanging telephone number, we can also keep in touch with each other late. What a good experience!

In a word, more and more people visit museums when they travel to new places because they want to get more pleasure from their journey.

(Essay ID: 429. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 12

People love to visit museums when traveling to new places. I think this is because museums tell them a lot about the culture of those places. Museums are also fun. It's almost impossible to get bored in a museum. Every museum will have at least one thing of interest to somebody.

When visiting someplace new, you can find out about the culture of that place in many ways. You can go to a movie or a place of worship or a nightclub. Another option is to sit in the park and listen to the people around you. The easiest way to learn about a-place's culture, though, is by visiting its museums. Museums will show you the history of the place you're visiting. They'll show you what art the locals think is important. If there aren't any museums, that tells you something, too.

Museums are fun. Even if you're not interested in art or history, there is always something to get your attention. Many museums now have what they call "hands-on" exhibits. These were originally designed to keep children occupied while their parents were looking at exhibits. However, museums have found that adults enjoy hands-on opportunities just as much as children. These exhibits have activities like pushing a button to hear more about what you're looking at, creating your own work of art, or trying on clothes like those on the models in the museum.

People also enjoy visiting museums about unusual subjects. For instance, in my hometown there's a museum devoted to the potato. This museum has art made out of potatoes. It also tells all about the history of the potato, and sells potato mementos like key chains and potato dolls. People enjoy visiting this museum because it's different. It's not something they'd find in their hometown and the museum's curators enjoy talking about the Great Potato.

Museums are popular because they are about us. They reflect our creations, our values, and our dreams. No matter who you are or what you like, somewhere there is a museum that will amaze and interest you.

(Essay ID: 91 )

## Topic: 12

Do you like to visit a museum when you visit a new place? I'd love to. Because it's an easy way to know the history, the custom, the people, the culture and natural environment there.

When you arrive at a place, ask which kind of museum they have. To do this you can know what the people there like. For example, if there are a lot of are museums, the people must like art very much. So you can enjoy an atmosphere of art there.

If there is a history museum, it's the best way to know the history of this area. It can tell you when the area was built, whether it has a long history, who came here first, what happened in this area—maybe a revolution or a war, what changed the people's life there, and so on. If you want to know the people there, you must know the history there. Because it's history what affect people's behavior, emotion and custom. If there is a special festival, maybe it's related with a historical affair.

Want to visit a nature museum? It's a good idea. There must be introduction about the natural environment there. Why to know that? We can get information about why people there eat this kind of food, maybe it's because of the weather. And where is the best place to visit in this area.

Go to visit an art museum. Which kind of art you find there? Modern art? Then it may be a modern place. Classical art? It may be a city with a long history. Maybe you can enjoy an old way of life there.

Don't forget the science museum. It can tell you how the people developed their technology, whether the science there is well developed. Do people use new technology to develop this area? If not, it's the best explanation to the question why people there fall behind with people in other areas.

So go to a museum, it can tell you about a new place more than you think.

(Essay ID: 478. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 12

It is an interesting phenomenon that, when traveling to new places they have never been to before, many people choose to visit museums. Why museums are people's common choice? Based on my personal experience and according to my observations, I think this is because museums tell people a lot about the culture of those places and give them pleasures.

It is easy to find out many ways to obtain knowledge about the culture of the place where people visit for the first time. You can go to a theater or worship or a nightclub. Another option is to sit in the park and listen to the people around you. Among various options, visiting museums might be the easiest way. Museums show you the history and art and those things that the locals think important by exhibiting objects and works, some of which might be unique in the world. On the other hand, the museums themselves are part of the landscape of the places. Many museums are designed and built based on the historical and artistic characteristics of the places where the museums are located in. The Forbidden City Museum is the most favorite tourist site because not only it contains a large variety of historical objects and art works but also it is the representative of Chinese history and the highest Chinese ancient architecture achievement. As a result, people are willing to select museums as their first destination to understand culture of the place they visit.

Museums also give people pleasure. Even if you are not interested in art or history, there is always something to get your attention. Many museums now have what they call "interactive" exhibits. The "interactive" activities were originally designed to keep children occupied while their parents were looking at exhibits. However, the interesting thing is that adults are keen to these activities as well as their children. It is fascinating to create your own work of painting in a art museum or to design an appearance of a robot by yourself in a science museum. People can be really pleased through performing the "interactive" works in museums, as well as gaining related knowledge.

Museums are welcomed by both local people and new comers because they are an essential part of our life. They reflect our history, our art, our values, our creations and our dreams. No matter who you are and what you like, somewhere there is a museum that will amaze and interest you.

(Essay ID: 401 )

## Topic: 13

Some people like to eat out at food stands and restaurants, while others like to prepare food at home. Often it depends on the kind of lifestyle people have. Those with very busy jobs outside the house don't always have time to cook. They like the convenience of eating out. Overall, though, it is cheaper and healthier to eat at home.

While eating in restaurants is fast, the money you spend can add up. When I have dinner at a restaurant with a friend, the bill is usually over twenty dollars. I can buy a lot of groceries with that much money. Even lunch at a fast-food stand usually costs five or six dollars for one person. That's enough to feed the whole family at home.

Eating at home is better for you, too. Meals at restaurants are often high in fat and calories, and they serve big plates of food-much more food-than you need to eat at one meal. If you cook food at home, you have more control over the ingredients. You can use margarine instead of butter on your potatoes, or not put so much cheese on top of your pizza. At home, you can control your portion size. You can serve yourself as little as you want. In a restaurant, you may eat a full plate of food "because you paid for it."

It's true that eating out is convenient. You don't have to shop, or cook, or clean up. But real home cooking doesn't have to take up a lot of time. There are lots of simple meals that don't take long to make. In fact, they're faster than eating out, especially if you think of the time you spend driving to a restaurant, parking, waiting for a table,, waiting for service, and driving home.

Both eating at restaurants and cooking at home can be satisfying. Both can taste good and be enjoyed with family and friends. I prefer cooking at home because of the money and health issues, but people will make the choice that fits their lifestyle best.

(Essay ID: 92 )

## Topic: 13

In the modern life now, more and more people prefer to eat at food stands or restaurants. They think that will save time so that they can have enough time to do their jobs. But I still prefer to prepare and eat food at home.

There several reasons. First of all, you can save money if you eat at home. In general, to get profit, the restaurants ask for more money on the same food you cook at home. That is the waste of money. To save money, you may prefer to prepare you food at home with less money.

The second, usually, the food in the restaurants is not what you are expecting. you may dislike the way the restaurant cook the same dishes as you do at home. For example, the other day, I asked for potato in a restaurant. After the first bite, I thought it was so awful. My mom never cooked such potato for me! The bad lunch even destroyed my mood in that day.

The third, if you prepare food by yourself, you will have a happy mood when you eat it, regardless of the real savor of the food. It goes a saying well "labor brings happiness". In addition, you can change your method of cooking considering your taste on that day.

The reasons above may can answer why I prefer to eat food at home. Cooking even has become my hobby now. Come back and have your delicious food, I'm sure you will like it! :)

(Essay ID: 393. This is a 5 point essay)

### Topic: 13

Nowadays, some people like to eat at home and prepare food for themselves, but others have a negative attitude that they prefer to eat out side in restaurant or at foodstands. As far as I am concerned, it is better to eat at home. There are numerous reasons why I hold on, and I would explore only a few primary ones here.

It cannot be denied that there is some advantage to the first points. Firstly, the condition of the restaurant is more comfortable and the food of there is more delicious usually. Then eating in restaurant become a good choice of getting together with friends. In addition, eat out side take people convenience and shortcut. For the people who are busy on working, prepare food for themselves will make troubles and waste time. For the young person who are not able to cook for themselves, eat at foodstands resolve the problem.

The main reason for my propensity for eating at home is that eat at home and prepare food for themselves can enhance the emotion among the member of family and bring pleasure to everyone. In modern society, everyday, parents are busy on working and sociality, and children are busy on study and playing. For convenience and saving time, they often chioce eat out side. Then there left so few time of them to share. Sharing the dinner at home is not only eating but also provide a chance to talking, making joke and exchange feeling with each other. Maybe someone think that make dinner is a heavy burden. But I believe prepare food with family is also a happy, likely have dinner with family is a pleasure. With your sisters and brothers help your mother do a meal in weekend, and enjoy the food ,and you will feel everything is so nice.

Another reason is that I think that eat at home is more economical than go to restaurant and save money. Using the same number of money you can buy more and better food from shop than from restaurant. You can do nourishing meal for your children rather than the junk food from foodstands. And you can spend the saved money on many the other way, such as buy new clothes and see a movie.

General speaking, eat out side is comfortable and convenience to our live, while eat at home can share happy with family. Taking into account of all these, I prefer to prepare food for ourseves and eat at home.

(Essay ID: 282 )

### Topic: 14

Nowadays, it becomes a heatedly debated topic whether a student should be required to attend classes or not. Some people hold the opinion that the university students should be required to go to classes. However, others have a negative attitude. If I were forced to agree with one of the two positions, I would stand behind the latter. My Arguments for this point are listed as follows.

I agree with the statement that going to classes should be optional for university students without reservation since I believe a student is supposed to attend those classes he or she is interested in. Naturally, interest is the mother of study. When attracted by a wonderful class, you will attend it unforcedly and immediately. Nevertheless, not all classes are so popular in reality and no one has interest in every class. Consequently, you should select the classes you like to attend for a higher efficiency of studying. It can be given a good example, in current universities, many excellent students almost have the record of skipping some boring and undesirable classes.

Another reason that can be seen by every one is that it contributes to build a university student's ability of learning by himself or herself. Obviously, by choosing good and meaningful classes, giving up those undesirable, or studying these classes you can not attend somehow by yourself, you will learn how to distribute your study time and acquire the capability of learning by yourself, which is tremendously important to modern university students. Many celebrities, such as Bill Gates, have such powerful ability by not attending some classes when they were in university.

Admittedly, being required to attend classes has advantages of disciplining the student, however, considering most university students can discipline themselves on their own, I believe it is sagacious to agree with that going to classes should be optional for college or university students.

(Essay ID: 93 )

## Topic: 14

Should university students be required to attend classes? There are two different opinions. Some people claim that attending classed is a must to students. Other people, however, argue that it should be for students to decide whether they want to go to class or not. As far as I am concerned, no matter whether students like it or not, they must attend classes.

Students who don't like to go to classes have their reasons. The main one is, they can learn knowledge by themselves. If they were asked to attend the class in which the professor teaches something they already have known, it would be a pain. Not attending class, students can control their time more freely and are likely not to waste time.

Although I agree that there may be one or two advantages to not attending class, I insist that the advantages of joining classes far overweigh them. In the first place, professors can teach students a lot of things that cannot be obtained from books. In Chinese dictionary, a university is defined to be a place where teachers forward what they know to students. In the book, normally there is just concentrated knowledge. How the writer gets and develops it is a question. How to answer this question? Go to the class. The professor will not only teach you some knowledge, but also let you know how to use and develop it. As a Chinese slang says, "Owning a key is owning a house." That is the most important reason people want to study in university.

In the second place, you will be benefited from discussing with your classmates if attending classes. Different people have their own special capability. One people cannot be good at every aspect. What is the best way to share your knowledge with others and learn from others? Go to the class. Professor always gives some topics for students to discuss. In the discussion, you will be surprised that so many great fresh thoughts are pushing to you from your colleagues and they are free.

In conclusion, I believe that students should attend classes not only because professors can teach you the method of how to master and develop knowledge, but also because students can learn from each other in the class. In short, attend classes if you select to attend university.

## Topic: 14

Some people may believe that going to classes should be optional, but I disagree. I don't understand how university students can expect to learn anything if they don't attend classes. Personal experience can help people learn about themselves and the world outside the classroom, but when it comes to learning about academic subjects, students need to be in class.

In class they receive the benefit of the teacher's knowledge. The best teachers do more than just go over the material in the class textbook. They draw their students into discussion of the material. They present opposing points of view. They schedule guest speakers to come, give the students additional information, or show documentary films on the subject.

Also, attending classes on any subject teaches more than just facts. It teaches students how to learn, how to absorb information and then apply what they've learned to other situations. Their teacher is the best one to help them with these skills. They can't learn them just by reading the textbook.

Going to class also teaches students how to work with the other members of the class. Many times students will be given group assignments. This is different from what they did in secondary school. Here they're with people from different backgrounds and experiences. In this situation, they learn how to handle working with people different from themselves to achieve a common goal.

Going to class also teaches students responsibility and discipline. Having to be at a particular place at a particular time prepares them for getting a job. Being at that place on time with an assignment completed prepares them for a career.

In short, by going to class students learn more than just information from the teacher. They also learn how to learn, how to work with others, and how to work responsibly. These are not optional skills in life, so attending classes should not be optional in college.

(Essay ID: 94 )

## Topic: 15

If you have a good neighbor, you are a lucky person. You have someone who cares about your needs and your property, who is helpful in the little day-to-day situations that come up, and who is supportive in times of crisis.

A good neighbor is someone who, for instance, understands that your children may occasionally run across his lawn,- even though you tell them not to. He'll realize that children can be careless about things like that, and he won't make a big fuss about it unless it becomes a regular thing. In the same vein, he knows that you'll understand if some of the trash from his trash cans blows across into your yard. In other words, he is sensitive to the unintentional things that can happen. He doesn't make a big deal about them.

A good neighbor is also respectful of your property. For example, she asks your permission before doing anything that interferes with what's yours. This means she wouldn't plant a huge tree in between your houses without asking how you felt about it. If she wanted to put up a fence, she would let you know first. She might work with you to decide where it should be placed. Maybe the two of you would even split the cost.

A good neighbor would lend you some milk if you ran out. She'd give you a ride to work if your car was broken, and let your children stay at her house in the evening if you got stuck working overtime. You would do the same for her. Both of you would help make the other's life easier.

When something really awful happens to you, like a death in the family, a good neighbor will volunteer to help in any way he can. This could mean something small, like making some casseroles to put in your freezer to feed visiting relatives. Or it could mean something big, like helping you get through the sadness of the funeral.

I think only someone who has experienced a bad neighbor can really appreciate a good one! A good neighbor can be a good friend. He or she can make all the difference in the world to your life.

(Essay ID: 95 )

## Topic: 15

Neighbours are the people who live near us, and their behaviour influence our daily life. Good neighbours can make us feel comfortable and give us many help, and everyone will benefit from a good relationship among neighbours. In my point of view, these are three conspicuous aspects of the qualities of a good neighbours.

One of the most important characteristic of good neighbours is that they have a good living habit and are friendly to others. A person with bad habit will affect your daily life. For example, children are most likely to be influenced by bad neighbors and carry on bad habits. On the other hand, being friendly is also an important nature of good neighbors. If neighbours are unfriendly, they are hard to approach and difficult to get along with.

Another important aspect of of good neighbors is that they should be willing to help others. In our daily life, emergency situations may happen, and we may encounter difficulties which can not be resolved by ourselves. At this time, the quickest help we can get is probably from our neighbors. To some degree, neighbours are as important as relatives to us, because they could provide the immediat help. In the same way, a neighbour who likes to help others will get help in return. Help each others can form a friendly and harmonious relationship among the neighbours.

All in all, a good neighbour is someone who have a good living habit, is friendly and is willing to help others. Taking into account of all these factors, we may reach the conclusion that a good relationship among neighbours need the maintenance from us.

(Essay ID: 354 )

## Topic: 16

I can see both advantages and disadvantages to having a new restaurant built in our neighborhood. I'm worried about traffic and how it will affect our neighborhood. However, I think that it will benefit local businesses and increase appreciation for our neighborhood. Overall, I think it is a good idea.

Traffic congestion is always a concern when you build something new. Our streets are narrow, with parking on both sides. More cars traveling through the neighborhood could cause a lot of congestion. Traffic means parking problems, too. Our neighborhood has very few garages attached to the houses. Most of us depend on finding a space to park on the street. If the new restaurant is built, we'll be competing for those spaces with the restaurant's patrons. Plus, if the



restaurant offers valet parking, it'll be even worse. Valet parkers work in teams to grab every possible space available on the street.

I'm also concerned about the type of patrons this new restaurant will bring into our neighborhood. A family restaurant wouldn't be a problem. However, if it's going have a bar and dancing, then there could be problems. The restaurant would stay open later, and people leaving the restaurant might be drunk. Who wouldn't worry about rowdy customers staggering around our neighborhood in the early morning hours, looking for their cars?

I have to admit, though, there are advantages to a new restaurant. Our neighborhood could certainly use the jobs the restaurant would provide. Not only that, the money neighborhood residents would earn there would likely be spent at other neighborhood businesses. This would give a boost to those businesses and make our neighborhood more prosperous.

A new restaurant would also attract a lot of people to our neighborhood. They could see what a nice area this is to live. That might attract new residents to the neighborhood. That would be a good thing, because we've been losing residents to the suburbs the last couple of years.

There are a lot of details to consider, but all in all, I support the idea of this new restaurant in our neighborhood.

(Essay ID: 96 )

## Topic: 17

Most of us can learn how to do something simple on our own with just a set of instructions. However, to learn about something more complex, it's always best to have a teacher.

Teachers bring with them varied and useful backgrounds. They've been trained to teach individuals in different ways depending on their style. For instance, some students learn better by discussing a topic. Others learn more by writing about it. Teachers can help students learn in the way that's best for each student. A textbook or a manual can only give you one way of learning something. Plus they're only as helpful as your ability to understand them. A good teacher can adapt her teaching to your needs.

Teachers help you focus on what you're learning. If you're learning something by yourself, it's easy to become distracted and go on to other activities. Teachers keep your attention on the subject. They also approach a subject logically, taking it one step at a time. On your own, it's tempting to skip parts of the learning process you think you don't need. That can hinder your ability to really understand the subject.

Learning a subject on your own is a very narrow way of learning. You can only use the information you get from the textbook. With a teacher, you get the information in the written materials as well as the teacher's own knowledge of the topic. Teachers can also provide extra materials to broaden the scope of what you're learning.

There's nothing wrong with studying on your own, and a learner can always benefit from some quiet study. For the best possible learning, though, a good teacher is the biggest help you can have.

(Essay ID: 97 )

## Topic: 18

Even though job situations can be very different, there are several qualities that all good supervisors have in common. A good boss treats all her employees fairly. She doesn't single out one employee for better (or worse) treatment than the others. A poor supervisor has favorites. Sometimes she'll even use her favorites to spy on other employees. She expects them to tell her what the others are saying about her. This can cause a lot of bad feelings among employees.

A good supervisor gives clear and understandable directions, She doesn't constantly change her mind about what she wants employees to do. She also doesn't get angry with an employee who is confused and needs her to explain the directions again or more fully. Delegating authority well is another quality of a good supervisor. She knows how to use the skills of her employees to best advantage. A poor supervisor insists on doing everything herself. She is unwilling to give any authority to others.

A good boss evaluates her employees on a reasonable set of criteria, not on how she feels about them personally. And she lets the employees know what those criteria are, so they have a fair chance of meeting them. She gives both praise and criticism in a straightforward manner. She also offers guidance when needed. A poor supervisor will criticize without giving any suggestions on how to improve.

Most importantly, a good supervisor sets the standards for her employees by her own behavior. She works hard and treats employees like valuable assets to the company. This promotes good morale among her workers, and this is of great benefit to her business.

(Essay ID: 98 )

## Topic: 19

Should governments spend more money on improving roads and highways or on improving public transportations? There seems to be a difficult problem since many reasons should be involved. However, after carefully pondering it, I buttress the last one, spending the money on improving public transportation. The reasons are presented below:

There is no denying that improving the public transportation will surely alleviate the pollution given off by enormous cars. If a city has not a developed public transportation, the air will be polluted more heavily. What a dirty environment we will live in! Every day breathing into the air filled with the fumes of the gasoline, seeing the sky with the dull color will be the title of our life. So the essence of environment has been realized by an increasingly number of people, to the governments, the protection of environment is especially an undeniable mission.

Another reason I agree with it is that developed public transportation will decrease the frequency of the traffic jams. Perhaps no worse word than "traffic jams" exists, to the businessmen who believe in "Time is money". Traffic jams not only cost the people time and expense, but also create a bad mood for work. It greatly decreases the efficiency of the whole city. I imagine how can a city whose avenue full of traffic jams develop its economics?

Finally, I want to say that improving the public transportation provide a great number of ways of transportation for most of the poor people who can not afford to buy a car. It is known that our citizens is not made of only people who has the ability to own a car, but the very poor people are also included. I believe that however the technology is improved, the public apparatus should not be ignored, because it serves the people all over the city.

Nevertheless, the private transportation has its own advantages, for instance, it can save a lot of time in some cases, provide some convenience for people. But improving on roads and highways

is advantageous only conditionally. Based on the above discussion, I agree with the opinion that the government should spend money on improving public transportation not only it can protect environment and save time for people, but it also can create a convenient environment for all the citizens.

(Essay ID: 530 )

## Topic: 19

Governments should definitely spend more money on improving all forms of public transportation. These include buses, subways and trains. This is the best way to preserve natural resources and reduce pollution.

As a planet, we're dealing with a finite amount of natural resources. Once they're gone, they can't be replaced. They can't fill our need for oil and gasoline forever. But we seem to forget that and consume them at an incredible rate. In wealthier countries, some families have two or three cars. As soon as teenagers get their driver's licenses, they're given cars so their parents won't have to drive them places.

Public transportation hasn't been sufficiently developed. Because of this, suburban areas surrounding cities have been allowed to sprawl more and more widely. This means that people can't even go to the store without having to hop into the car. Everything is too far away from where they live. If there were better and more frequent public transportation, people would be able to give up their cars for local driving.

As a result of all the cars being driven, we're dealing with terrible pollution problems. In big cities, there are days during the summer when the elderly and people with respiratory problems are advised not to leave the house. Ten years ago this was unheard of! Now it's the norm. Public transportation would cut down considerably on air pollution.

Public transportation also encourages a sense of community. People who travel to work together all the time get to know each other. Cars isolate us from our neighbors. However, people feel they need to drive because they can't depend on public transportation to fit their schedules. If more money were available, buses, subways and trains could run 24 hours a day. Then they would be available all the time to the people who need them.

I always try to take public transportation whenever possible, and I encourage friends and neighbors to try it to. I think we must support public transportation in order to create a better world.

(Essay ID: 101 )

## Topic: 20

With the development of the transportation system and some residence institution, the world is getting smaller and smaller, and people are not restricted in only one area. In addition to the convenient condition, because there are different places with different cultures, living standards, education environment and other disparity, they are inclined to transfer from one place to the other. Is it better to move around than stay in one place? I believe there are no uniform answers, but in my opinion, I do agree with the claim that to move around is better than to stay in one place.

Most people's growth comes with the transfers in their life. As for me, when I was young I lived in a small county. Because the school in there was not suitable to me, I transferred from my little county to a city to get a better education. As soon as I got to the city, I was amazed that the world here was so different here as my hometown. If I still lived in my hometown, it was impossible for me to make the wildest guess at what the real world looked like. The first transfer has made me to imagine my own life and spur on me to go further. With the confidence, I went into a university which I would never think of it before. The university is located in a different city so that I have to come into another world. Compared with my living city, the one is more complicated in which there are different people, more convenient transportation, more competitive environment. I love all of this very much. Communicating with different students and teachers, I have learned much from them which will benefit me throughout my life and my lifestyle. Now I am in a graduate school also so beautiful that I will never regret my selection of leaving my hometown because the transfer has given me a splendid life.

Also, like we students, there are many adults transferring their work place in order to grasp better opportunities. No matter in industry, in agriculture or in service, workers have rights to choose their work companies which leads them to work from place to place and then they accumulate precious experience and skills to get priorities to others.

People not only transfer in their own country, but also go abroad to get education, work or live through the rest of their life in appropriate countries. We can see that many students including me want to go to the foreign countries to study further and forge ourselves, and that many parents send their little sons or daughters to foreign countries to study. After all, diverse circumstances give persons new experience and broaden their narrow sight, even help them get more comprehensive understanding of the world, the society and our life itself.

However, some people may say that if people move around, they will pay for much such as money, time and energy. It is right to say that it takes one person some time to get used to his or her new environment, new personal relationship which indeed influences the growth of children, the efficiency of our work and the stability of our society and family. And I have to admit that people should make considerate plans before changing their places and may not transfer aimlessly and frequently. But I think sometimes it is just all the friction that has made the world wealthier and more beautiful. Therefore, I still think it is better to travel around than to live in one place.

(Essay ID: 102 )

## Topic: 20

There are advantages and disadvantages to a childhood in either the country or a city. It's hard to say which is better. Growing up in the country means a certain amount of isolation. You're in a small town or on a farm and not with a lot of people. Even more important, the people you meet every day tend to be just like you. Most will be the same race as you, have the same background as you, and will have gone to the same schools as you. In the city, the people you meet are all different. There are different races and different cultures. You get a more interesting mix.

City people tend to come from a lot of different places and move around a lot. So, there isn't the sense of community in the city that you have in the country. People in the city can live in the same apartment building for twenty years and never get to know their neighbors. In the country, everybody knows everybody. For a child, this means the country is more secure. A child can get lost or hurt in the city and have no one to turn to. In the country, everyone's a neighbor. People in the country feel connected to each other.

A child growing up in the city has the advantage of a lot of interesting and exciting places to visit. He or she can go to the zoo, museums, art galleries and concerts. There are a lot of restaurants with different kinds of food. It's easy to see every new movie that comes out. Children in the country don't have a lot of these activities nearby.

All in all, I think a childhood in the city is better because it prepares you more for what real life is like.

(Essay ID: 103 )

## Topic: 20

Where is a better place for children to grow up, the countryside or the big city? The answer to this question differs from individual to individual. As far as I am concerned, it is better for children to grow up in a big city.

Some people argue that the countryside is an ideal place for children to grow up. For one thing, it is less polluted than the city. The air is fresh in the countryside. The sky is bluer and the water is clearer. Living in such a place is good to the children's health. For another, as children like playing, only the countryside can satisfy them well. They can run everywhere, play games in the field, swim in the river. On the contrary, the city cannot provide such places for children. Maybe they can only stay at home and watch TV.

Although I do agree that growing up in the countryside has one or more advantages, I insist that it is far better to choose the city as the right place for children. To begin with, living in the city can broaden their horizons. They can meet a lot of people and hear a number of things that will never happen in the countryside.

In addition, city means more chance to receive better education. In most countries, it is no doubt that the education level in the city is higher than that of the country. As a result, children can meet better teachers and receive high quality of education in the city.

Last but not least, children can also develop many hobbies in the city. They can learn to play the piano, draw and so on, which are impossible in the country.

In conclusion, I believe that it is better for children to grow up in the city not only because it can broaden their horizons, but also because they can receive better education and have a chance to develop many hobbies there.

(Essay ID: 416 )

## Topic: 21

With the development of human society, people are living longer now. Many factors interacting together to enable the longer life. There are three most important causes: the quality of food has been greatly improved; people could have medical services; more and more people realize that regular sports benefit their health.

The improving quality of our food is the most important factor of the longer life. We could have not only enough food as we want, but also the healthier food. When we preparing food, we no longer consider the cost, but pay more attention to the nutritions of the food. With the development of transportation systems, inland people now could also enjoy seafood and tropical fruit.

Furthermore, governments are paying more and more money on medical establishments. Citizens could have medical services more easily. Because of the convenient medical service more illnesses could be detected at an earlier stage. Also, many illnesses that had been considered fatal could be cured today. The better detection and curement enable people's longer life.

Last but not least important is that people care more for their own health. Every morning you could see people doing sports outside. More and more people have realized the saying "life is locomotion". Regular sports build up a strong body. Naturally, people with stronger body could resist more diseases.

To sum up, the development of our society causes the longer life of people. People have better food and better medical services. And people spend more time on sports to build up stronger bodies. As we could predict, people are going to live even longer.

(Essay ID: 364 )

## Topic: 21

Nowadays, more and more communities for old people are founded everywhere all over the world. When you walk in a department store, you will find that more and more products for old people have been put on the shelves. The population of old people in the world is growing rapidly, and the reason is people are living longer now. There are several explanations for this phenomenon.

First, under the development of science and technology, it's obviously the standards of living have been improved a lot. People work less and relax more these days than ten years ago. More entertainment has also been provided, hence people have more chances to entertain and keep a good mood everyday, which is essential for being healthy and living longer.

Moreover, highly developed health system is another significant factor for people to live for a long time. As the governments put more fund for health expenditure, more people are saved from the torture of illness.

Further more, the improvement in medicine also plays an important role. There's an undeniable fact that after people discovered the mysteries of gene, more and more newly developed medicine cured a lot of illness that can't be cured before. Besides all these explanations we discussed above, there are also many other reasons. But the main causes of people's longer life is the development of science and technology, efficient health system and improvement in medicine.

(Essay ID: 479. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 21

With the development of modern medicine, people are living longer now. There are many factors why people can live a longer life. In my opinion, there are three most important reasons: the quality of food has been greatly improved; people benefit from improved medical services; and more and more people realize the importance of regular sports and exercises to their health.

The improving quality of our food is the most important factor for a longer life. With the convenience of modern transportation and food processing technology, we can find any food in the market; and as our standard of living and income increases, we can afford to buy any kind of food we want. We no longer worry about the cost, but pay more attention to the nutritious balance of the food. Better food and better nutrition give us a healthier body.

Furthermore, the development of medical technology and methods ensure a longer life for people. Many fatal diseases which were considered incurable before can now be treated and cured. Governments are paying more and more money on medical care and training of doctors and nurses. People can access medical services easily: regular physical examinations ensure that diseases can be found earlier and therefore can be treated in a timely fashion.

Last but not least, people care more about their own health and realised the importance of exercises to their health. Every morning you could see people doing sports outside. More and more people have realized the saying "Life is locomotion". Regular sports build up a strong body. Sports like hiking, jogging, and swimming can all benefit our health. Naturally, people with stronger bodies could resist more diseases, and therefore can live longer.

To sum up, the progress of our society is the reason why people live a longer life now. People eat food and have access to better medical services. And people spend more time on sports and exercises to build stronger bodies. As we could predict, people are going to live even longer in the future.

(Essay ID: 350 )

## Topic: 21

Today people are living to be much older than ever before. Some of the main reasons for this are the improved health care and better nutrition available to everyone.

Medical care is more available to people. Although not everyone can get the best health care, everyone can get basic health care and advice. When people are seriously ill, they can go to a public hospital and be taken care of. Years ago, health care wasn't available to everyone. Some people didn't live near a doctor or a hospital, and others couldn't pay for the care they needed. They made do with herbal medicines or folk remedies. Of course, some of these worked, but not for the more serious diseases.

The quality of medical care has improved. That's also a factor in longevity. Doctors know more now about what causes disease and how to cure it. Years ago, doctors only knew about the most basic diseases and cures. Medicine was not very advanced. You could die from something as simple as an infection from a cut. Now we have antibiotics and other medicines to help cure infections.

People are also living longer now because of better nutrition. We're eating better and more healthfully than we used to. That's reduced the number of people with heart disease and cancer. We try to eat low-fat foods and eat more vegetables and fruits, which are now available year-round.

Improved medical care and healthy eating habits has greatly expanded our life spans. What we need to do now is make 'sure that everyone in the world has these benefits.

(Essay ID: 104 )

## Topic: 22

We spend more time with our co-workers during a week than we do with our family. Thus, it's important for our co-workers to be people we can get along with. I've worked in a lot of offices, and I've found there are certain characteristics that all good co-workers have in common.

A good co-worker is very cooperative. She does her best to get along with others. She tries to keep her end of things flowing smoothly to help others in the office. She realizes that if one person doesn't get her work done, it can hold up everyone else. She has a positive attitude that creates a pleasant working environment.

A good co-worker is adaptable. She is not stubborn about changes in schedules or routines, and doesn't object to having her job description revised. That can make life miserable for everyone around her. A good co-worker is willing to change her schedule to accommodate another worker's emergency. She has no problem with new procedures and welcomes changes when they come. A good co-worker is helpful. She pitches in when someone falls behind in his or her work. She's willing to do whatever it takes to get the job done. She doesn't keep track of how often she has to finish another's work or take on extra work. Some co-workers do their own job, period. They have no sense of office community. They only want to do their work, get paid and go home.

A good co-worker is a sympathetic listener, and never uses what she learns against people. She doesn't gossip. A bad co-worker uses negative rumors to take advantage of others.

Being a good co-worker isn't too hard, but some people just can't seem to manage it. Wouldn't it be a wonderful world if everyone could?

(Essay ID: 105 )

## **Topic: 22**

We all work with many different kinds of people. Different co-workers have different personality. To me, my co-workers should have some important characteristics such as independence, optimism, and teamwork spirit.

I think a good co-worker must have his own opinions. A co-worker should dare to propose his own opinions. He should not say the same as others and hide his opinions. Only everyone tries his best to analyze every aspect of a thing, it can be done best. So independence of thinking is important for a co-worker.

An other important characteristic is optimism. If we have some difficult problems, he must be brave and should not fear them. He should encourage others to find methods to solve problems. This point is very important because one's mood can influence others easily. Once a co-worker shows a little fear of difficulties, others may become discouraged soon. So a good co-worker should be optimistic.

In addition, teamwork spirit is an important characteristic of a co-worker. Although a co-worker should be independent to analyze a thing, he should be tolerant to the different people and their ways of working. He should be willing to dedicate his energy, time and knowledge to reach the goal of whole team.

Independence, optimism and teamwork spirit are important characteristics of a co-worker. If everyone in a work group has these characteristics, the group can overcome difficulties and reach its goals.

(Essay ID: 460. This is a 5 point essay)

## **Topic: 23**



I don't think it is a good idea for teenagers to have jobs while they are still students. It can interfere with their studies, it can disrupt their home life, and it takes away part of their childhood that they can never replace.

Education today is very complex and difficult. In order to learn and get good grades, a student must work very hard and concentrate. This means attending classes from early in the morning until late afternoon, then doing research for projects, then going home and doing homework. It's a busy schedule for anyone. For someone trying to hold down a job, it's even harder. Students need all their energy for their studies. If they're working after class at night, they're going to be tired the next day. They won't be able to concentrate. This will have a negative impact on their learning, and eventually on their grades.

Having a job can also disrupt a teenager's home life. Families spend less and less time together. If a teenager has a job to go to after school, he won't be home for dinner. He won't be home after dinner, either, and may not get home until late at night. This means he doesn't have a lot of time to spend with his family. If he doesn't have a car, it can mean changes in his parents' schedules, too. They have to drive him to work and pick him up.

The main drawback of a teenager having a job while he's still a student is that he's missing out on the fun of being young. He has a whole lifetime in which he'll have to earn a living. This is the last free time he'll have. It's the last chance he'll have to hang out with friends and just enjoy himself. Soon enough he'll have to worry about paying the rent and buying food.

Jobs bring money, but money isn't everything. A teenager with a job gives up too much. No one should spend all his time at work, and especially not a teenager.

(Essay ID: 106 )

## Topic: 24

If a person I know is planning to move to my city, what this person would like and dislike about living in my city? It is an interesting question for me. Frankly speaking, living in my city - Taipei for a long time, I never thought of such a question before I started to write this essay. In my point of view, there are many good sites about this city and my friend will enjoy living here.

First, Taipei is a city where have lots of job opportunities. Job opportunities is very important when an outsider wants to start a new life in a city. Taipei, as everybody knows, has many factories, companies and international headquarters. With superior urban environment and infrastructure, Taipei not only attracted many foreign institutions, but also many domestic investors to set their offices and build their factories here. Therefore, you can find many job vacancies on the web or newspapers in Taipei.

Second, Taipei is a place where you can learn what you want to learn. There are so many colleges, schools, training classes in Taipei. The learning opportunities is available all year round. If you want to learn English composition, there are a lot of schools and classes for you to choose. If you want to learn dancing, you can join one of many dancing clubs in the park, where teachers teach people dancing for free.

Last but not least, you never feel bored in Taipei. There are so many places where you can go, and so many activities that you can do. When you get up in the morning, you can go to the nearest coffee shop and enjoy drinking a cup of coffee. Or you can choose to eat Chinese foods. There always have a variety of thing for you to choose. If you feel upset, you can go to night pub, listening some tender music.

Take what I have mentioned above into consideration, living in my home town is a great pleasure. I think my friend will like living in my home town.

(Essay ID: 349 )

## Topic: 24

A friend of mine from college is moving to my city, so I have been thinking about what she would and wouldn't like about it. I'd say the quality of life here, as far as fun and activities are concerned, is very good. The quality of life isn't very good, though, in other important ways..

Living in a large city is exciting, but you pay a price for it. There are lots of interesting things to do, and good restaurants with food from around the world. There are museums, art galleries, and lots of movie theaters. However, the crime rate is high, and people have to be careful about where they go at night. There's a lot of traffic most of the time, and finding a parking space can be a problem. There are also a lot of people living here. Sometimes it feels too crowded.

In a big city like mine, housing is very expensive. It costs a lot even if you're just renting an efficiency apartment. The good side is that there's a lot of choice about where you want to live and how you want to live. You can find apartments of all sizes in different settings. Houses of equal variety are available for sale or rent.

If my friend likes the great outdoors, she might be disappointed. Unfortunately, my city doesn't have a lot of wide open green spaces, and there aren't a lot of trees on the streets. We're not near the ocean, and the mountains are a day's drive from here. Still, we do have some natural areas. For example, we have a beautiful big park. It even has a lake in the middle that's used for ice skating in the winter. There's a different kind of beauty in the city.

Thinking about it, I suppose whether my friend likes my city will depend on whether or not she likes exciting places. I hope she likes a lot of variety as far as housing and activities are concerned. If she does, then this is the place for her.

(Essay ID: 107 )

## Topic: 24

Recently one of my friends will move to Shanghai from New Zealand and she asked me which aspects she might not adapt in Shanghai. I think that it is as follows:

Firstly, she may think that the air pollution is very severe in Shanghai. As everyone knows that New Zealand is a developed country known for its beautiful natural environment. There are fewer industry plants in New Zealand than in Shanghai. So New Zealand is a very clean and beautiful country, just like a garden. However, in Shanghai the air pollution is still out of control. When you come back home from your company every day, you will find that your shoes are covered with dusts.

What is more, my friend may find that the streets in Shanghai is very crowded with traffic. The population of Shanghai is 13 million, which is much more than that of New Zealand. She might find uncomfortable travelling in the streets of Shanghai During rush hours.

Finally, I think that she may complain about some other small things about Shanghai. For example suppose she walks on the pavement and will find that there are too many bicycles

parked on it which block the sidewalk. Sometimes she has to walk on the street. I think having lived in New Zealand for a long time, these small things in Shanghai may bewilder her.

In a word, I think that my friend will dislike the air pollution, crowded transportation and other aspects of Shanghai. As a Shanghaiese, I think we all should try our best to make Shanghai a better place to live in the future.

(Essay ID: 359. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 25

There are both advantages and disadvantages of establishing a shopping mall in our neighborhood. I am worried about traffic and how it will affect our community. However, I believe it will benefit local business and increase appreciations for local area. All in all, I think it is a good idea.

For those what I am worried about, traffic congestion and parking problem are obverse. First of all, traffic congestion is always a concern when building something new. Our streets are narrow, with parking on both sides. A shopping center will certainly bring more traffic than ever before, and heavy traffic means big congestion. At the same time, parking is also a problem in this area. There are few garages attached to houses. Most of residents depend on finding spaces on the street for parking. If a shopping mall is build, we must compete with customers and patrons for those parking spaces. Furthermore, if the shopping center offers valet parking service, it would be even worse because valet parking works in terms to grab every possible spaces available in street.

On the other hand, building up a shopping center will give this neighborhood more opportunities and benefits. Residents in this area could certainly take the job that shopping center offers. People would earn more money and spend on other business, such as entertainment and education, which are operating in our neighborhood or adjacent communities. As a result, not only local business but also inter-community business boosts up and a prodigious amount of fortune will be accumulated to our neighborhood. A shopping center can also attract people to visit our community. When they drive to the shopping center, they will see what a nice place this area is to live. Therefore, we would have an increasing number of residents in the next couple of years. It is very important to introduce new numbers because we have lost many residents to suburbs during recent years.

In a short, there are several details to consider when planning a shopping center. In my part, I support to have a new shopping center in my community because its advantages outweigh disadvantages.

(Essay ID: 502 )

## Topic: 25

There would be both advantages and disadvantages to having a shopping center built in my neighborhood. One advantage would be the convenience. I would like to have all those stores close by. Shopping would be much easier and faster because I wouldn't have to drive great distances to get to the stores.

A shopping center, would mean more choices, because there would be more stores selling different products. I might have a movie theater nearby, because so many shopping centers these days include movie theaters in their plans. Most shopping centers also have restaurants and a food court. That means a greater variety of places to eat in our area.

Having a shopping center built in the neighborhood would also mean more jobs for the community. Initially, these jobs would be in the building of the center. Later the jobs would be in the stores, theaters, and food establishments.

Of course, there would be some disadvantages. Probably the biggest problem would be traffic. A lot of people would be coming to the shopping center. They'd drive through our neighborhood to get to the center. In addition, if there wasn't enough parking at the center, they might look for parking spaces near our homes.

A shopping center might also invite more crime into our neighborhood. Parking lots after dark are a big temptation to robbers. They know people are there with money to spend. The shopping center might also become a place where unruly teenagers would gather. This could cause trouble. Our town would need a community center for them to go to instead.

On the whole, though, I think my neighborhood should support having a shopping center built here. It would bring more variety to our shopping, give us the opportunity to amuse ourselves at movie theaters and restaurants, and bring more jobs into the area.

(Essay ID: 108 )

## Topic: 26

I know from the media that a new movie theater may be built in my neighborhood. Going to see a movie is one of the most common ways of entertainment. With the movie theater nearby, I could go to see a movie more convenient. However there are more reasons to oppose the building of a new heater, especially near our community.

If the movie theater is built in our neighborhood, it certainly provides us the convenience to see a movie. We no longer need to drive downtown to see it, but walk to the movie theater after dinner without any haste. It will save a lot of time on the way to the theater. And we will never worry about finding a parking lot.

However, the movie theater nearby will also bring some problems. First, the noise of the people going to the theater will bother other people in the community. The movies usually end very late. People who enjoy the movies will certainly discuss it when stepping out the theater. Some people will argue or even cry for the movie. Furthermore, the noise of the cars' engines will make the condition worse. The people who live in the community nearby will suffer from the noises of people and cars.

Another disadvantage of building a movie theater nearby lies that it will cause traffic jam during the hours people going home. People who live far away will drive to the theater. These cars together with the cars of the people after work will pose a heavy burden on the traffic system of the town. The traffic jam will not only make many people late for the movie, but also bring us who live nearby bad moods before going home.

Considering the advantage and disadvantage factors above, I oppose to build a new movie theater in my neighborhood, because the problems outweigh the benefits. We usually see movies once a month. I cannot afford suffering from the traffic jams and noises in the late evening throughout the month except for the day I amble there to see a movie.

(Essay ID: 396 )

## Topic: 26

It has recently been announced that a new movie theatre may be built in my neighborhood. However, as far as I am concerned, I do not support this plan. The argument of my view goes as follows:

To begin with, people seldom go out to watch movie nowadays. With the development of science and technology, people have a lot of methods to enjoy themselves. They can watch TV at home, go to watch the soccer game, play basketball and so on. In my hometown, fewer and fewer choose to watch movie in a theater. They prefer to watch movie on TV at home, which is more comfortable.

In addition, I think there are enough theatres now. As I know, it is only fifteen minutes' walk between the two theaters in my community. As a result, it is obvious unnecessary to build the third one. If we do build another theatre, the average persons per theater will decrease, which makes every theater earns less money.

Last but not least, it is, to some degree, a waste of money. Nowadays, we must use money in quite a number of fields. For instance, there is only one primary school here. It takes some children half an hour to go to school from their home. If we can build another school instead of the theatre, students will spend less time on their way, which is safer because there are many buses and cars on the road.

In conclusion, it must be explained that these three reasons sometimes intertwine to form an organic whole and thus become more persuasive than any one of them. Then any thinking person must agree that it is not necessary to build a movie theatre.

(Essay ID: 447. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 26

Some people will say that a new movie theater in our neighborhood would be a bad thing. However, I fully support the plan to build one. I feel that a movie theater would bring more opportunities for recreation, reduce teenage delinquency, and lead to several improvements in the town.

As it stands, there is little to do in my town. There are no parks here, and there is certainly no nightlife. Additionally, the nearest movie theater is more than thirty minutes away. That is inconvenient for everyone here. Many movies end late at night. Who wants a long drive home at 11:30p.m. or midnight?

Building a new movie theater here will reduce juvenile delinquency. Like everyone else, teens here are bored. They need activities to keep them busy and out of trouble. The jobs that the theatre will provide will help teens, too. We need more businesses that are willing and eager to employ young people.

Overall, the new theater will bring many improvements to the town. For example, it will help other businesses. That is because the movie theater will attract customers from neighboring towns. Those neighbors do not have a reason to come to this town now. However, if they are coming here for a movie, they will be more likely to stay here to shop. If we get more visitors, we'll need better roads. While this may be costly, it will also make travel easier for people living here. We will be able to get around faster. Safety will be improved with the new roads, because they will be in better condition than many that we have now.

I believe that our town needs a new movie theater. Again, I support it fully. I hope that others in our community will join me to convince residents and local government.

(Essay ID: 109 )

## Topic: 27

I agree that people should sometimes do things that they don't enjoy doing. This is a basic part of being an adult. Plus, some things that aren't "fun" are still good for us in the long run.

Take personal tasks. Who enjoys going to the dentist? Very few people enjoy having their annual check-up with the doctor. Not a lot of people enjoy changing the oil in their car or mowing their lawns. These are all things we do because we have to, not because we want to. We realize that taking care of our physical health is the sensible thing to do. We know that if we don't change the oil in our cars, our cars won't run. We understand that grass grows and if we don't mow it, our lawns will look like tropical forests.

Professional tasks are another part of the same equation. No one likes to be stuck with a boring assignment or to be told we have to work with someone no one else gets along with. Sometimes we have to put up with unfair criticism from a supervisor or resentment from those we supervise. If we're in management, we may have had the unpleasant task of having to fire someone. None of these are fun things. Unfortunately, they're all part of earning a living, something the majority of adults have to do.

On the other hand, sometimes doing something we don't enjoy doing can lead to enjoyment. Simply by trying it again, we may decide we like doing it. For instance, we may have convinced ourselves we hate to dance. We agree to go to a club only to please someone else. Yet, for some reason, this time we enjoy dancing. We've been cheating ourselves of enjoyment without even knowing it. The same can be true of trying new foods or going to a new type of museum. Doing what we don't enjoy doesn't always have to be a bother, does it? It's just part of life.

(Essay ID: 110 )

## Topic: 28

I think the media pay too much attention to the private lives of famous people. Television, newspapers, magazines and web sites dig up all kinds of past bad actions. They say that these are true reflections of a person's character. This may be true if they occurred only a few years before, but some of these are things people did as teenagers. People in their forties are expected to explain something they did when they were fifteen. If they killed someone, obviously that's more than a youthful mistake. Usually, though, these incidents involve experiments with drugs or being reckless in a car. They're not something that the public needs to know.

The media love to say that the public has a right to know. That's not true. We don't need to know if a movie star or politician has had an extramarital affair. That is something of concern only to the people involved. We do need to know if someone we're electing to public office has been involved in shady business deals, but we don't need to know if he or she defaulted on a loan twenty years ago.

It seems the media dig up these facts without giving thoughtful consideration to what might happen. It has an effect on the celebrity's family, especially the children. A celebrity's good name and credibility may be ruined before he or she can prove that rumors are false. If a case goes to

court, paying a lawyer can use up all their money. Even if it doesn't come to that, they may find their career ruined.

When are we, the public, going to make it clear to the media that we're tired of having to watch this kind of thing on the news? Wouldn't it be better if they would concentrate on more important issues?

(Essay ID: 111 )

## Topic: 28

Santa told a famous man in front of a flashing, well decorated christmas tree, "You could make three wishes, and just only three best wishes for the coming new year." Would you be eager to know what are the three wishes? Then, he wished : "firstly, may God send me my own calm and tranquil personal life without any interevasion; Secondly, I want to keep myself and my family away from spotlights and all the media focuses as far as possible. Last but not least, all what I have wished is the very secret between God and me.

To think a well known man standing high above the masses, to our surprise, was making such a hard and transparent living. It is certain that everyone has their curiosity, and in their image- nation famous people are so perfect that there should be no flaw in their lifetime. But how could that be? As an old saying goes, "No man is infallible." In my opinion, therefore, media has negative effects on their personal life.

I feel that this phenomenon suggests that those who are interested in famous people's personal life are, in fact, jealous of their achievements. Almost every successful figure has experienced failure, rubs and what they have owned today proves that their efforts are paid off. A winner has a zest for life, work, play, food, other people and the world of nature, also enjoys his own accomplishments without guilty. Why do they soar when others sink? It depends on your own effort and diligence.

A celebrated public figure has ever said, "Winners have different potentials. Achievement is not the most important thing. Authenticity is. The authentic person experiences the reality of himself by known- ing himself, being himself and becoming a credible, responsive person. Indeed television, magazines and other media needn't pay so much atten- tion to the personal lives of famous people such as public figures and celebrities.

Please never rehearse another tragedy of Diana, a beloved British princess who now may enjoy her calm life in the paradise. What most deeply impressed me in Diana's eulogy is----- How great she suffering is, we cannot even imagine...

(Essay ID: 510 )

## Topic: 29

People have been living on the Earth for thousands of years. Human activity influences the Earth. Some people believe that the Earth is being harmed by human activity. Others feel that human activity makes the Earth a better place to live. In my opinion, the earth is being damaged by human activity. There are many statements supporting my opinion.

Human activity has damaged natural environment and almost exhausted natural resources. Modern industry needs more and more resources, including minerals, fuels and water. So we confront of the serious problems such as the lack of fuels and water. Ecological balance is damaged because factories occupy many places where animals and plants live. More and more buildings are

constructed and forests become less and less. If we cannot recognize these problems and solve them soon, we would finally lose the environment suitable for our living.

An other serious problem is "the green-house effect." Human activity decreases forests and increases the usage of fuels so that the gas of carbon dioxide is output more and more and there are not enough plants to absorb it. The green-house effect is more obvious and more sensible these years. Due to the effect, icebergs in the south polar and north polar melt and the sea level becomes higher than before. I am worried about the cities nearby the sea and hope scientists find an effective method to eliminate the green-house effect.

Although we have advanced machines and our life seems more comfortable than before, we have less chances to approach natures and less spaces to act. The cities become bigger and if we want to have a picnic with our friends, we have to drive a long distance to find a natural place. In fact, the spaces of human activity are being damaged by the skyscrapers and factories.

From the above statements, we can conclude that human activity brings the Earth many damages. Fortunately people have recognized the point and I believe that the Earth will become a better place to live with our ceaseless efforts.

(Essay ID: 378 )

## Topic: 29

Nowadays our Earth faces a number of serious problems, such as the environment pollution, the increasing population, the fatal effects of nuclear weapons, and so on. So some people believe that the Earth is being harmed by human activity. But as far as I am concerned that human activity makes the Earth a better place to live and also makes some negative effects in this process. My arguments for this point are listed as follows.

Even though we face so many crisis, no one can deny that Earth are more suitable for human habitation. That is the result of the efforts of generations of people. If without that, we might also live in caves and eat the crude food just like wild animals. If that is true, we must haven't time and energy to think over the problems of the Earth because we have to look for food and avoid becoming the food of other animals. At that state, whether the Earth were harmed is not important for human because some certain crises can annihilate the total population, such as some infectious disease or the a change of climates.

It is inevitable to produce some positive aspect functions when human are struggle to improve the survive abilities and from the experiences of history we also have make great effort to resolve this kinds of problems. For example, most of people hope to limit the scope of nuclear weapons and the protection of environment is accept by almost every one. Most of problems are controlled by ourselves and some of them have the hope to be resolved in years. We are finding the balance between the development and the protection of our Earth. So it is unnecessary to deny the advancement of human.

For the reasons presented above, we admit that there are some problems in the process of the human development, but those problems are resolving and as a whole we make the Earth a better place to live. Human evolved in the mode of continuing to correct their mistakes and making a better progress.

(Essay ID: 287. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 29



The quality of human life has improved greatly over the past few centuries, but Earth is being harmed more and more by human activity. As we develop our technology, we demand more from our planet. Eventually, this will harm people as well.

Our planet gives us everything we need, but natural resources are not endless. Strip mining devastates whole regions, leaving bare and useless ground. Deforestation removes old growth trees that can't be replaced. Too much fishing may harm fish populations to the point where they can't recover. We are too careless in taking what we want without giving anything back.

There are more people than ever, living longer than ever. So is it any surprise that many areas suffer from too much development? Anyone living in or near a city has experienced "urban sprawl." There is a new shopping area on every corner and new houses, townhouses and apartments everywhere. Traffic gets worse and worse because planners can't keep up with growth. Keeping up with human demand is hard enough. Environmental concerns come in last.

With growth comes pollution. Companies and communities dump waste into water. Landfills are full of trash. Emissions from factories pollute the air. Barrels of industrial waste and worse, radioactive waste, have no safe place to go. If we're not careful, we can harm our planet beyond repair.

People need to respect the Earth and try to preserve it. If we don't, what kind of future will we have?

(Essay ID: 112 )

## Topic: 30

I oppose having a new high school built in my neighborhood. Although I know there's a real need for a new facility, I have to say that I don't want one built so close to me. I think it would cause a lot of problems.

First of all, there are very few teenagers in this neighborhood, or in our suburban subdivision, for that matter. Most of the residents here are either retired or are just starting out with young children. This means that the kids coming to the new high school wouldn't be walking. They would come on buses or would be driving to the school. Either way, this would mean a lot more traffic on our streets.

In addition to the traffic on school days, there also would be traffic whenever there was a sporting event, such as a basketball or football game, or activities at the school. Would there be enough parking in the school lot for everyone attending those events? Probably not. Consequently, those extra cars would end up in our neighborhood.

My neighbors and I would also be upset about the loss of the park, which is the site that's been selected for the high school. Mothers with young children gather there every morning for their kids to play together. People my age like to take a walk after dinner. On weekends, that park is a place for picnics and relaxation. We'd be sorry to lose our neighborhood park.

I also have some concerns about all those young people being in our neighborhood. Would there be problems with drugs or fights? Could the school district guarantee us that security would be a priority? These are concerns that I don't think can be addressed sufficiently for me to support a new high school in my neighborhood.

(Essay ID: 113 )

**Topic: 31**

Even though I have lived in the same house, in the same neighborhood, in the same city my entire life, I know I would be happy living in a variety of places. Moving would expose me to new people, new weather, and new housing.

Even if I were to move to another part of my city, I would encounter new people. Each neighborhood has a distinct personality. When I move to that neighborhood, I would meet the shopkeepers and residents that shape that personality. I may even adopt part of their manner as my own so I could be recognized as part of that community.

If I want to encounter different weather patterns, I would have to move beyond my city. Where I live now, it is the same temperature all year. I would like to go to a place where there are four seasons so I can experience really cold temperatures. I would like to walk in the snow and perhaps go skiing. I could learn winter sports if I lived in the north.

Now, of course, I live with my parents in their home. It is a one story house built around a courtyard where our family spends a lot of time. If I were to move, I would like to live in an apartment on a very high floor so I could see all around me. I could also meet my neighbors in the elevator and we could get together for coffee in my apartment.

The more I move the more I would experience change. I would meet new people in everyplace I lived; I could move to sample countries with four seasons or even a continent like Antarctica which only has two. Wherever I lived, I would experience living in housing particular to that area. I would then be a citizen of the world, wouldn't I? Could you call me a foreigner if I called everyplace my home?

(Essay ID: 114 )

**Topic: 31**

Some people spend their entire lives in one place. Others move many times throughout their lives in order to looking for a better job, house, community, or even climate. As far as I am concerned, the latter is more enjoyable than the former. The reasons for this view go as follows:

In the first place, some people have found a better job far away where they live currently. In this kind of situation, do you move for the better career or do you still live in the old place where you are already familiar with everything nearby. Absolutly, I will choose moving not only because it gives me a good career but also because moving is very exciting.

In the second place, moving is very exciting. Fining a new house, buying the new furniture, all of these are wonderful thing. For example, if I move, I want find a single house instead of the town house, which I live now, because a single house can possess more grass, which my son love very much. Moreover, I want choose a big kitchen that all my family can sit a big dinner table and have dinner together.

In the third place, living in a place in all my live looks like too boring for me. Moving to different place, I can enjoy different community and different climate. For example, I can enjoy the mild tempareture in the sournth America, and also I do not miss the beautiful snow in the northern.

From what I have discussed above, moving is exciting not only because it gives me a new job opportinutire but also because it can let me enjoy the beach of south and the snow in the north. Therefore, I prefer moving in search of another place instead of staying in one place.

## Topic: 31

Some people hold the opinion that living in one place is superior to moving in search another place. Others, however, contradict it. Personally, I would like to vote for moving to another place. There are no less than three advantages in it as rendered below:

First and foremost, moving to another place may contribute to one's development. People always choose a better place than their present ones to be their destination. That way, they can learn some new knowledge, communicate with new friends and find some more chances. Those who change their majors may learn even more. There will be a new world open to them. So, moving to another place is really good for us.

There is another factor that deserves some words here. Changing their characters or habits may be one of lots of reasons for some people's moving. For instance, if you do not like your present statue, you should try to move to a new place which you have not been to. Certainly, your mood and attitude will change with the new circumstance.

In addition, if you like to make friends, moving to a new place will be fit for you. When you come to a new place, you will communicate with some new friends, and you can help each other. So, changing a place will make you more sociable.

It is undeniable that staying in one place has its own merits. You can do your work step by step. You will spend lots of time with your old friends, and you can feel comfortable in the place with which you are very familiar.

Nonetheless, I still prefer moving to another place constantly. Because I can make new friends, look for some chances and become more experienced. I love changes.

(Essay ID: 462. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 31

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.

(Essay ID: 340 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

### **Topic: 31**

Moving a number of times throughout their lives, looking for a better job, house, community, or even climate, are the right attitude to the life. I prefer this opinion.

For somebody who spend their entire lives in one place, they can only know the outside of hometown by television, newspaper and books. They may live with unhappy environments such as cold, sand storm and pollution. Only know somebody who is old classmate and have a few people can talk with. So, their knowledge is less than some body who like to move.

If you would like to move from one place to another you can find one that is your choice. you will happy with the climate and enjoy the fresh air and sun shine. It is easy to keep your body healthy. you will be feeling fresh and getting new friend with. you will get different new idea about the life. The new culture will give you more knowledge, more interesting. Furthermore, you can make more new friendship to help each other.

So I prefer to move and search another place rather than spend my entire lives in one place. One of the famous man says: the tree will be died after moved, but man alive.

(Essay ID: 516. This is a 5 point essay)

### **Topic: 32**

"Save it for rainy day," That's my motto. When I have a choice between spending my money or putting it in my savings account at the bank, I always put it in the bank. I will have a lot of expenses in the future like my education, travel, and unforeseen emergencies. I need to have money set aside for these expenses.

Education is expensive. I can't depend on my parents to pay all my bills. I have tuition, room and board, books, and incidental expenses to pay for. I'll try to get a scholarship to cover some of these costs, but I know I will be responsible for a lot of the expenses. If I spend my money now, I won't be able to pay for my education. I need to save money for my education.

Travel is also very expensive. I don't mean vacation travel. I mean travel to get to and from school. Transpacific airfare costs a lot even special reduced fares. I first have to get to school and then, of course, I want to return to my family for important festivals and occasions. Going back and forth will be costly, but worth it. I need to save money for these trips.

Emergencies could arrive at any moment. I might have an unexpected illness while I am at school. There might be costs that aren't covered by the school insurance. One of my family members may need help. I will have to send them money. You can't predict emergencies like this, but you can be prepared. I need to save money for these emergencies.

When you are not rich, you cannot spend your money carelessly. You must plan ahead. I know in my life, I will have expenses for my schooling and for traveling to and from my home. I know that I will also have unexpected expenses related to unforeseen emergencies. I must be prepared. I need to save money for these events.

(Essay ID: 115 )

## Topic: 32

When faced with the decision of saving your money for some time in the future or enjoying your money when you earn it, quite a few would claim to enjoy their money, but others, in contrast, deem to save their money as the premier choice and that is also my point. This quite different view is based on the every possible reason.

Fore most reason for saving the money for future use is when you need a lot of money to deal with some emergent things that happen to you, you should not worry about the fund or lend some money everywhere at that time. For example, two years ago, I spend my summer holiday in a famous scenery pot, after a wonderful trip of the first day, I lost my wallet unconsciously, then I took out some money in the bank to finish the trip. If you did not have some deposit, you can imagine how embarrassed you are.

Second, I have finished my college study, and I am going to go abroad to get a master degree to enhance the ability to face the challenge in the society. Plenty of money is very important to me, so I have to save all the money that I economized for future use.

Third, the economy condition of my family is not so good that I decide to earn enough money to buy a big house for my deeply loving parents.

This is arbitrary to judge saving money for future use according only to the excuse I mentioned in the above paragraph. But I do not deny that enjoying the life is also important to everyone because of brief life. That is to say, I will enjoy my money if I deposit enough.

(Essay ID: 342. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 33

The choice between spending money on tickets to a concert or spending money on jewelry is an easy one. Given this choice, I would buy jewelry. The reasons are obvious. Jewelry is an investment; it is permanent; and it is fashionable.

Jewelry like a gold bracelet for example is a very good investment. It is important for women (and for men, too) to have gold jewelry. If you have some serious financial problem, you could always set your jewelry to help you over any rough spots. You could not sell your used concert ticket.

Jewelry, unless you sell it, is permanent. You always have it to wear. Each time you put it on, you will remember the day you bought it. It will give you pleasure for years and years. You could not wear the ticket stub from the concert.

Jewelry is very fashionable. I would feel very smart wearing a beautiful gold bracelet or diamond pin. People would comment and tell me how much they loved my jewelry. They would compliment me on my good taste.

I would feel very rich with my jewelry. I would have a good investment which is permanent and fashionable. Then, when someone invites me to a concert (and pays for my ticket), I will have something beautiful to wear.

(Essay ID: 116 )

## Topic: 34

There are many advantages and disadvantages to off 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.

(Essay ID: 117 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

**Topic: 34**

Should business hire employees for their entire lives? My answer is no. A business has the responsibility to take care of the right and interests of its employees, therefore it should keep them as long as it can. But it is not realistic that a business can hire its employees for their entire lives.

Firstly, on the business side, in order to survive and thrive, a business, like a human body, needs to constantly bring in new ideas and fresh minds into the corporation, and eliminate those positions which are not needed any longer. Although this might sound cruel, but it is for the survival of the business. If the business itself cannot continue, every employee will lose his job. People generally think big companies like IBM or Nortel are the kind of place where people can keep their jobs for ever, but these days we often hear about the news that these companies also lay off hundreds and thousands of people due to economic situations.

Secondly, on the employee side, securing a life-time job in one company is not good for his personal advancement. He tends to be satisfied with his current job, and make no plans for future career advancement. This is harmful for both the company and himself. In fact, it is those hop around among different companies who can get a big increase in terms of salary and benefits, and bring new experiences and skills to their new employee.

In conclusion, I think it is not a good idea to hire employees for their entire lives. It is both harmful to business and its employees, and therefore, also harmful to the society.

(Essay ID: 118 )

**Topic: 35**

Some people like to attend a live performance while others think that watching the same event on television is more enjoyable. To me, I choose watching an event on television because it is easier and not limited and you have choices and can know more details of the event.

Watching an event is easier than attending it. You need only a TV set in your room. You do not have to buy a ticket or drive to the place where the event is performed. You can drink some coffee or tea when you want. But if you attend a concert or a play, you have no the freedom to drink or do something else. In addition, you do not need to worry about the traffic jam and being late for the event, so you have light mood to enjoy the event.

The other advantage of watching an event on television is that you can enjoy it at any time and you can choose what you like from many channels. But if you attend an event and find you have no interest on it, you would regret and waste time and money. Watching it on television can avoid it. If you are interested in the play, you can stay on it; if you are bored it, you can change the channel to find some interesting.

Watching an event on television has an other advantage that you can get more details of the event from the interpretation. You can know the background, the present situation and such information of the event. But if you attend it, you cannot learn more knowledge about it.

So I choose watching an event on television. I think it is more enjoyable than attending a live performance.

(Essay ID: 403 )

**Topic: 35**

Do you like watching TV? Do you watch it regularly? If a living performance is available what, do you think, will you choose, watching TV or attending the performance? But if I were you I will prefer the latter.

Watching TV is boring and exhaustive. Just sitting before the grey box will make you sleepy. You can not feel the atmosphere in the auditorium which makes the audiences feel refreshed and excited. You can appreciate all the programs through your own eyes not through the square glass screen.

There are many other audiences as well as you sitting there and watching the performance which makes you feel accompanied. And you can communicate with others about what you have just seen or thought. This gives you an opportunity to express your opinion. And you know you are not alone then.

Going to see the performance out of your house is also good to your body. For you may have a walk after the activity even go to a good bar and find something to drink. You can also see some friends after the show. Though I am not very sure about others I will commonly do such things after a concert. It makes me feel great.

So, to take part in a living show is my favorite choice. Instead of watching TV I would like to have some performance publically. It is better than the program in TV I think.

(Essay ID: 528. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 35

Some people like attending live performance rather than watching the same event on television. They think that will be enjoyable. Others like me, however, do not think so. There are no less than three disadvantages in attending a live performance rendered below:

First and foremost, people who will go to a live performance may not see or listen to clearly. Not all seats there are the best place. Maybe you will feel disappointed after attending it, and you must think the price for ticket is not worth that.

There is another factor that deserves some words here. The quality of the performance will depend on some external factors. Suppose that you go to a concert outdoors. Before you leave home, you have to consider how the weather will be. It is likely that audiences are wet because of rain during the performance. So, even though the performance is in high quality, you may not feel comfortable more or less.

In addition, attending a live performance may waste your time. You must go there ahead of time, and you have to park. That will spend much time.

I can not deny that attending a live performance has its own merits. Nonetheless, based on the above discussion, I strongly disagree with the opinion that attending a live performance is more enjoyable.

(Essay ID: 472. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 35



I do not agree with the statement that attending a live performance such as a play, concert or sport event is more enjoyable than watching the same event on TV, because there are many disadvantages in attending a real performance.

Firstly, there is too much trouble in attending a real performance. You have to buy tickets, sometimes stand in a long queue; you have to plan the trip and set out a few hours before the show started. After arrived at the theatre or stadium, you will have great trouble finding a parking place. During a sport event, your personal safety might be jeopardized: the sports fans might get too excited about the event, and throw bottles. Many people might have heard the news that a girl was killed by a puck during a hockey game. If you take public transport or a taxi home after the show, you might find it very difficult to catch a bus or call a cab.

Secondly, the seating arrangement can greatly affect the comfort of seeing the show. If your seat is far from the stage or playground, you can't even see the show clearly. People's heads and cheers will distract you from viewing the show, and in the end you don't even know whom you have seen in a play, or who wins in a sports event!

Thirdly, there is no flexibility in a real show. After you have been through so much trouble and eventually start to enjoy the show, you might find that you are quite disappointed about the show after all. Unlike watching TV programs, you neither simply change channels nor leave the theatre in the middle of a concert or play. You might spend a lot of money to suffer from a show that you do not like.

On the contrary, watching TV at home, where you can make yourself a cup of coffee, sit back comfortably and relax, watch the show closely, and enjoy the realistic image and sound from your SONY home-theatre system. Besides, you can watch programs whatever you like, and go to bed right when the show has ended.

Although many people enjoy the excitement of watch a real show, I think nothing is more convenient and comfortable than watch TV at home.

(Essay ID: 119 )

## Topic: 35

To many people, attending a live performance, such as a melodrama, a concert, or a sporting event is so incredibly attractive that they will go all out to get a ticket, regardless of the expense or the difficulty involved. But why not enjoy the performance on television while you can comfortably lie in your sofa or couch with popcorn at hand? That is because attending a live performance provide you with far more enjoyment than watch it on TV.

In a live performance, you will feel that you are in the company of many friends who are indulged in the same interest, who can share your sorrow or pleasure or excitement. This kind of resonance at heart is so rarely sensed in our daily life that this one reason itself is sufficient enough for many people to attend a live performance. While watching it on TV, we certainly find it hard to feel the emotion-sharing, and our loneliness is hardly mitigated.

Furthermore, attending a live performance gives you a sense of participation which cannot be achieved by watching on TV. Live performance is an intercourse between the audience and the performers, and both parts of the performance decide whether it will be a wonderful one. In this way, You may lament or laugh, may sob or smile as you are so influenced by the misfortune or happiness of the characters. You may fall into the indescribable intoxication while listen to a favorite piece of music. And correspondingly, the performers will receive the response of their

audience and act accordingly. So the final success of the performance results also from the participation and interaction of the audience, of which you are a member.

With these foregone advantages, we may say that attending the live performance is definitely much more enjoyable than TV watching.

(Essay ID: 415 )

## Topic: 36

An airplane is a form of transportation that has changed people's lives. Thanks to the plane, our lives are now faster, more exciting, and more convenient than before.

You cannot deny that a plane is fast. For example, the Concorde flies at supersonic speed. A businessman can leave Paris at 11 a.m. in the morning and arrive in New York at 8 a.m. the same morning in time for a day's work. Many business people in Europe will fly to London for a noon meeting and then return home to Rome or Madrid for dinner.

It is always exciting to take a plane trip. When you take a trip by plane, you know that you might cross many time zones, many oceans, and many countries. When you get off the plane, you could be in a place that speaks a different language. A plane is like a magician's trick. You get in a box and you come out somewhere totally different.

Nothing can beat the convenience of a plane. In the old days, it might take you days to do what the plane can do it an hour. Boats, for example, only leave on certain days of the week and take a long time to get to their destination. Planes give you the option to leave several times a day and get you to your destination quickly.

Although other forms of transportation may be more comfortable, none has changed the way we do business and live our lives more than the plane. Thanks to the speed, excitement, and convenience of the planes, our lives are richer.

(Essay ID: 120 )

## Topic: 36

The modern society have been changed by the enormous impact of the invention of the transportation, such as the automobile, which has become indispensable in the daily live. The automobiles are so popular that almost every family or even everyone has one. Since the function and effect of automobile is known by everyone. In this essay, I would discuss another invention of the transportation that is as important as the automobile in the modern society, the plane. As far as I am concerned, these are three conspicuous aspects as follows.

The main reason for my propensity to choose plane is that plane is the vehicle used by people most frequently. Usually, people drive car in short way, while they take plane in long travel. The most important reason people choose it for long distance is that the speed of plane is much faster than others. The invention of plane create a completely new live. Nowadays, we can travel around the earth within twenty-four hours, that is something say we can reach any place of the word in one day. And there are many people who live in a place and work in the other city even the other nation, for the plane can bring them go home in weekend.

Another reason can be seen by every person is that plane is known as one of the most safe and convenient vehicles. It is reported from the relative data that the accident ratio of the plane is far

under that of the train, the ship, the automobile and any other else. With the developement of the hi-tech, faster, safer and more comfortable plane are made. Since the supersonic plane appears, both speed and security rapidly improve. Furthermore, new type plane provide various of the equipments to alleviate the fatigue of the passengers and improve the degree of comfort.

In addition, the charge for taking plane is affordable to common person. Similar to the most family can take enough money to buy a car, most people have enough money to buy a ticket of plane.

Especially, there are so many discounts for students, old men and children by the airline company.

General speaking, the new technology has brought many invention to us in the modern society. Taking into account of all these things, we may reach the conclusion that as a important transportation vehicle the plane changes our daily live and at the same time brings the enormous influence to the modern society.

(Essay ID: 280 )

### **Topic: 37**

Who would disagree with the statement "progress is good"? Without progress, there would be no change. Without progress, there would be no change in our economy, our standard of living, or our health.

Progress is required to keep the economy moving forward. New products need to be developed; new services need to be created. Without progress, our economy would standstill. There would be no change. Without progress, there would be no supermarkets with fresh produce brought in from all over the world.

Progress is required to improve our standard of living. Our homes today are more efficient and use less natural resources thanks to improvement in home construction techniques. Our clothes are warmer and safer thanks to developments in textile manufacturing. Our educational system is better thanks to the use of the computers and the Internet.

Progress is required to improve the health of the world population. Without progress, there would be no vaccines against deadly diseases like smallpox. Without progress, there would be increased infant mortality. Thanks to progress, our lives are longer and healthier.

Progress is a natural state. Without it, we would not evolve. Without it, our economy, our standard of living, and our health would deteriorate. Who could deny the necessity of progress?

(Essay ID: 121 )

### **Topic: 37**

Is progress always good? Scientific progress brings us many conveniences and advanced machines, such as computers, automobiles, and so on. Progress seems to have made life more simple and more comfortable. But if we analyze it carefully, we will find that progress is not always good.

Modern industry brings us more convenient life. But at the same time, some problems appear. For example, "the green-house effect" is a very serious problem that scientists try to solve it as early as possible. It increases the earth temperature and some icebergs melt and the sea level becomes higher and higher gradually. Maybe someday the sea will swallow some big cities nearby the sea.

Progress enhances the product efficiency, but it also brings us another serious problem-pollution. Pollution is so serious that ecological balance is damaged and many animals and plants lose their living environment and become extinct eventually. The air is polluted and it is not suitable for people. The water is also polluted and people are facing deficiency of drinking water in some countries.

Progress makes the speed of life faster and faster because of the usage of computers and automatic machines. People have to work faster than before and it makes them nervous. More and more physical and psychological problems disturb people's life. Many people do not have time for recreation.

From the above statements, it can be concluded that progress is not always good. It has its own negative influences on our life. Maybe those problems can be solved by more progress.

(Essay ID: 367 )

### Topic: 37

All over the world people are welcoming progress into their home, their business and their education. Large corporations use progress in technology, industries use progress in their manufacture process. However, when we think about in larger picture, it is clear that progress can be damaging in some cases. We as a society have to check ourselves once and a while to make sure, that the progress is not making too much damage to certain communities around the world.

Speaking as a member of a very special community called a Kibbutz, which used to provide to our people from the agriculture products we grow in our own fields, and sell in markets. When progress came to our country, many industries got stronger, and farmers like ourselves found their selves without a future for their agriculture investment, that they worked and built for years. In this case progress has damaged a large community, and made them face a hard financial future.

Another unfortunate view on progress, is the use of computers to entertain children. In the year 2000, when every home has adopted the progress in computers, children find themselves sitting long hours in front of the computer instead of playing outside or inviting friends over. This way of spending too much time on the computer is very damaging to their social skills, and even a reason for weight gain among young children.

After looking at different aspects of progress, I can say clearly, that progress has to be supervised. That in some cases progress is making a big damage for our society. People should welcome progress in many fields of life, but always have your eyes open for little "land mines" that could make an irreversible situation and future.

(Essay ID: 317. This is a 5 point essay)

### Topic: 37

The nobleness & the use of progress in any field, to an individual, or to the society on the whole, will depend on what use the progress is being put to, and I feel, cannot be generalized as stated above.

Progress has been inherent with the human race. As the human brain developed, so has progress been achieved, in almost all fields known to man. The cultural progress over the ages, have made humans better and made this world, a better place to live in. Similarly, scientific progress has been effective in eradicating diseases, providing better food crops, facilitating transportation etc.

Literary progress has helped us better document our history and has produced works that have made us think. Progress in communication techniques have converged this whole world of ours, into the 'global village'.

If we look at the above examples, we see that they are all aimed at the betterment of our world. Here progress is being applied for the society's good.

The products from the same progress in the various fields, when in wrong hands, wreak havoc in the same society that they are supposed to make better.

Sophisticated arms & explosives in the hands of terrorists & children, science of human cloning in the hands of scientists, crop control technologies in the hands of corporations etc., are some of the examples of how progress can go wrong. Think of how much better the world would be, without nuclear and biological weapons, without mutated food grains et al. Think of how many people would not have died or maimed for life, if there had been no land mines ? After witnessing the destructive use the Dynamite could be put to, Alfred Nobel himself repented his own creation of Dynamite so much that he set up the Nobel prize, to be awarded to people who work for the betterment of the human society.

Therefore, it is my strong contention that progress is only good when it is put to the right use, for the betterment and upliftment of the individual and the society, on a whole. Progress put to any ulterior uses should be outrightly condemned.

(Essay ID: 320. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 38

I disagree wholeheartedly that learning about the past has no value for those of us living in the present. In fact, the definition of learning includes the idea of an accumulation of experiences from the past. Learning can only take place if we make an association between things that have happened in the past or between something in the past and something that we predict will happen in the future. All knowledge that we acquire as we grow is from the past-language, customs, academic subjects, and so on. While it may be helpful sometimes to be able to overlook previous knowledge in order to avoid the constraint conformity, the vast majority of knowledge that we learn is a huge boost-imagine if each of us had to discover by ourselves that  $2 + 2 = 4$ ! So, in a very real sense, all learning depends on past events.

We are only able to live in this world with our current standard of living because we have learned from the past. We receive knowledge from the past and we are able to use it and improve it. We examine our actions in the past and we make judgments about what was right and what was wrong. Then, it is hoped, we will attempt to avoid those same mistakes again. For example, one of the great mistakes all over the world has been depriving women and the disempowered classes status in society and many industrialized and developing countries all over the world are attempting to avoid such mistakes both in the present and in the future.

Furthermore, all of the knowledge that we have today is a result of all the work of our predecessors. The ancient Greeks developed geometry, which helped other European scientists analyze the solar system, which in turn gave us a new understanding of our place in the universe. The great majority of technology today depends directly on several thousands of years of work of past thinkers. To ignore the knowledge of the past would be to throw away five thousand years of history and experience.

There is, however, some seemingly small, but important value to ignoring the past. It is often the case that history or tradition has the effect of constraining our thought in the present and many important philosophical and scientific breakthroughs have only been possible as a direct result of ignoring the past. The past, in a sense, can blind us to the truth, we can become bound by tradition. For example, at one time, leading thinkers in Europe thought that the Earth was at the center of the universe and those who disagreed were persecuted as heretics, even Copernicus, who we now know was correct about his heliocentric model of the Solar System. However, scientists were eventually able to break from the past and accept the new model of the universe.

In short, learning from and analyzing the past has enormous value for us and life as we know it on Earth today would not be possible without the benefit of thousands of years of history and accumulated knowledge. It is important, however, to ignore the past so that we can make a step forward, and such free thinking should be encouraged, although not at the expense of past knowledge. Learning from the past is something like learning from our parents-in most cases, their past helps us have a better future, but there are times when we need to make a break from the past and make a bold step into an unknown future.

(Essay ID: 122 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 39

Technology has greatly improved the way we get information. Students can now get more information, get it more quickly, and get it more conveniently.

The Internet and the World Wide Web has opened every major library and database to students around the world. Information comes not only in print form, but also in multimedia. You can get audio and video data. You can get information about events in the past as well as events that unfold as you watch your computer monitor.

Information comes at the speed of the Internet which is to say in nanoseconds. ? You can type in a few key words in your search engine, and the engine will search the entire WWW to find information on your topic. You don't have to spend hours pouring over card catalogs in the library and looking at the shelves. This research is done for you instantly on the Web.

It is certainly more convenient to sit at home and do research on your computer. Your computer is open 24-hours a day, unlike a library or office which has limited hours and limited resources. You can do research in your pajamas while you eat breakfast. What could be more convenient?

Technology, especially the Internet, has certainly changed the quantity and quality of the information we get. The speed and convenience of a computer helps students learn more, more quickly.

(Essay ID: 123 )

## Topic: 40

I do strongly support the idea that we should keep trying and never stop working for our goals. I think this is the most important thing that can help us to achieve our goals. I believe that everybody meets many obstacles in their lives before achieving their goals. I have learned the biography of some famous people in the past. I found that almost all of them persevered through enormous hardships in order to reach their goals. In this essay, I will give you an example of the attempt of a great inventor of the world named Thomas Edison.

I am quite sure that everybody knows Thomas Edison. He made many inventions during his lifetime. According to his biography, it states that he always met obstacles in order to invent something. However, he still kept trying in order to meet his goals. I personally think that this is the most important thing that made him reach his goals. Some scientists said that it was impossible to invent something such as electric light and movie projector. However, he could make them success. In my opinion, the greatest invention of Edison was electric light. I have learned that he got many hardships and failures, but he never gave up. He spent about two years to achieve it. He used to say that his successes came from hardworking more than luck or fate.

In conclusion, I believe that everyone cannot achieve their goals if they always give up when they meet the obstacles and hardships. I think that we have to try to solve the problems we will meet. I am quite sure that we can do everything success if we are confident that we can do it and never give it up.

(Essay ID: 125 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

### **Topic: 40**

"Never, never give up" means to keep trying and never stop working for your goals. I think it's a very good piece of advice for all of us.

Never stop working for your goals doesn't mean you must be successful; it doesn't even mean that you must achieve your goal, but it's very important to keep it in your mind.

You want to be a great basketball player, but you are 1,60m tall; you want to be a great pianist, but what you have studied in the university was physics; you want to establish your own company, but you are just a clerk in a small company. These examples are very common in our real lives.

There are enough unfavorable conditions which make our lives difficult, but what important for us is to make efforts towards your goal or your dream. If you have given your best for your goal or your dream, whether you succeed or not, at least you won't leave any regret in your life. What's more, who knows, what will happen in the next 10 years?

You might not be a famous basketball player, but you could become a good player in the basketball-team of your school. You might not be a great pianist, but you play the piano very well and enjoy yourself after the heavy work every day. You might not be able to establish your own company yet, but you are just collecting experience and knowledge as a good manager, and maybe in 10 years, you will become the boss of your own company.

Few of us have perfect lives, what I want to say is, don't give up working for your goal or your dream. If you succeed, you will taste great joy in your life. If you don't succeed, you won't have regret in your life because you have given your best. Besides, in trying to achieve your goals, you might find out that perhaps your goals are not correct or not practical at all, then you can improve them and make your life more beautiful.

(Essay ID: 124 )

### **Topic: 41**

In the past, there have been many endangered animals. Now they are extinct. Does it matter? Has our environment been affected by their absence? Has the quality of our own life been changed? The answer to these questions is "Yes."

It does matter if we destroy an endangered species habitat to develop more farmland, housing or industrial parks. There is a delicate balance of nature. If one small part is removed, it will affect all the other parts. For example, if certain trees are cut down, bats will have no place to roost. If they cannot roost, they cannot breed. If there are no bats, there will be no animal, or bird to eat certain insects that plague our crops.

Our environment has been affected by the absence of certain animals. Certain flowers are pollinated by butterflies which migrate from Canada to Mexico. Some of the breeding grounds of these butterflies were destroyed. Now these flowers are disappearing from certain areas. We will no longer be able to enjoy their beauty.

The quality of our life has been changed. America used to be covered with giant trees. Now we have to visit them in one small park. Rainforests around the world are being cut down to make room for humans. We will never be able to see or study this fragile ecosystem.

I would encourage us humans to look for other alternatives for our farmlands, housing, and industries. We have alternatives; the animals do not.

(Essay ID: 126 )

## Topic: 42

Upon the question that what is the very important skill a person should learn in the world today, different people have different opinions. In my point of view, I prefer to think that communication is the most important skill for almost every person. There are many reasons to support my view.

Firstly, communication is a bridge between people. Nobody is omnipotent; people depend on one another in their daily lives. We all hope we can become the person who masters every skill and can complete every kind of work by ourselves. However, the real world tells us that this just is a dream. Therefore, people are interdependent, no one can say that he does not need other people's help. The society requires cooperation among people. Communication is the link. Communication is the first step of successful cooperation among people. By communication, we exchange thoughts and information, and get other people to understand our needs and ideas. For example, in a company, big or small, a manager always has to communicate with his boss, colleagues and subordinates.

Secondly, communication can help us keep friendship and make new friends. Friends need to communicate to each other, so that they know each other's needs and feelings. Indeed, the most important qualities of a friend are communication and understanding. If you are a good communicator, it is very easy for you to keep your friendship and make new friends. If you do not communicate with your friends, you will not only feel lonely, but also can eventually lose your friends.

From all above, I think that communication is the most important skill for people to survive in this society. I hope everybody works hard to get the skill.

(Essay ID: 362 )

## Topic: 42

Nowadays people say that we have stepped into "The Information Age", therefore computer skills are one of the most important skills in today's society. Being able to operate a computer is an



advanced technique and can increase one's work efficiency and simplify many works. Using a computer can help people do many complex works. You can calculate a very complex arithmetic problem. Many arithmetic problems in engineering are too complex to work out by hands. A computer can do these works conveniently and easily. You can also look for some references from a foreign country from a computer if you login in the Internet. You can save your documents in some discs on a computer no matter how large they are and you do not need to take a lot of paper.

Using a computer can increase your work efficiency. With its help, you can book plane tickets and hotel rooms for a business trip. You can easily compile your files in a shorter time and retrieve them whenever you need. If you are an engineer, you can control machines automatically with the help of a computer. The products are more precise than those controlled by hands and the product efficiency is higher. You can save a lot of time to consider other things and this is important for your success.

If you can operate a computer, you can sit down in your own home and control distant work. All you need to do is pressing some keys. With the help of a computer, your work can be simplified. You also can use a computer to communicate with your friends by e-mails and it is quicker and safer than ordinary means.

There are many other skills a person should learn to be successful, but I think that being able to operating a computer is the most important.

(Essay ID: 365 )

## Topic: 42

With the development of science and technology, the world is no longer what it used to be. Everyone should master one or more skills in order to survive and succeed in the world. As far as I am concerned, the most important skill one should learn is to teach himself or herself.

To begin with, no one can depend on a teacher in the whole life. In high school and university, several teachers can teach you physics, chemistry, biology and so on. But when you find a job and leave school, few people will tell you how to solve the problem you encounter in the job. What you can do is to read books and find the answers yourself. If you do not have the ability to teach yourself, it is difficult to survive in the world.

In addition, what we have learned in the school is probably not enough. Nowadays new science and technology develop very rapidly. Suppose you are majored in computer. As we all know, the computer science is changing fast. New idea and concept may appear everyday. Once you stop studying, you may probably leave behind and even lose your job.

Last but not least, keeping studying can lead you to a high salary job. If you understand the most advanced knowledge, lots of companies may hire you, because the more science one can master, the higher productivity he will have. Do you have a dream to have a good job? If you do, learn how to teach yourself right now.

So from what has been discussed, one can reach only this conclusion that teaching himself or herself is a very important skill a person should learn in order to be successful in the world today.

(Essay ID: 430. This is a 5 point essay)

**Topic: 42**

Two years ago, if you ask a person what do they think is the most important skill to be successful in the world, you will get a variety of answers. If you ask a person who is about my age the same question, presumably, eight out of ten will give the same answer as mine-computer skill is the most important skill a person should learn.

Why I think computer skill is the most important skill? First, computer skills such as operating a word processing software package or typing are convenient and efficient. For example, I am writing this essay by using a computer. If I do not have computer skill, I can not make a composition as quickly as possible; maybe I can only write on paper. Another vivid example is that many colleges is offering online classes for student to choose, which means the students can study in the comfort of their homes and acquire their knowledge by means of using computer at home.

Secondly, computers is an important tool for teaching and communicating between teachers and students. Recently, school teachers have an increasingly demand on students to turning in their papers or school works, and the teachers can score on line. If the teacher has a assignment, they just send an e-mail to the students. In addition, many young people use computers to communicate with each other. They use online chat rooms, ICQs and messengers. They even play online games through the internet. Therefore computer skills are important for students to communicate with their teachers and fellow students.

Last but not least, computer skill help a person to find a good job after they graduate. As we open newspapers and search for a good job, we can find that computer skill is a required skill for nearly every job. Indeed, whether you work as a receptionist, salesperson, warehouse manager and office clerk, you have to operate a computer and therefore computer skills is absolutely necessary for these jobs and most others.

Although there are many other important skills for a person to succeed in today's world, judging from what I have mentioned above, I think my point of view is solid and sound. Having computer skills is one of the most important thing in today's world.

(Essay ID: 358 )

**Topic: 42**

The one skill I would choose for success is tolerance. I do not define success economically; I define success socially. To succeed in the future, we will need to be tolerant of one another's background, opinions, and lifestyle.

The world is becoming increasingly mobile. We no longer are able to live and work only with people who went to the same schools and went to the same parties as our parents and we did. Now, we will work directly with people whose backgrounds are completely different from ours. We must be tolerant of these differences as they must be tolerant of us if we are to live and work together amiably.

We cannot stop speaking to people or start a war just because there is a difference in opinion. We must learn to be tolerant of one another and respect these differences in opinion. We have to find a common ground, an idea we can both agree on. Once we have agreement on one subject, it will be easier to settle differences in other subjects.

Different people have different lifestyles. We must accept these differences even though they may be different than what we are used to. Women can live on their own, hold important jobs, and raise children on their own. Men can stay home and take care of children. Social roles can change and we must be tolerant of these changes.

To succeed socially, you must get use to varieties. You must be tolerant of all peoples regardless of their background, their opinions, or their lifestyles.

(Essay ID: 127 )

### **Topic: 43**

Have you experienced the fear of bungee jumping? Have you ever enjoyed the excitement of car racing? Nowadays, more and more people are attracted to such dangerous activities, especially the young people. Wondering why? After thinking about the lifestyle of those people, the reason goes as follows.

While the world is becoming more and more competitive, the task on each person's shoulder becomes heavier and heavier. People's activity everyday is very intense and they get more and more burdened after days of hard work. So everyone wants a release and the best way to relax and get relieved is to do the dangerous activities, because while you are doing something dangerous, you have to be concentrated on it, and you can't think about anything else. Hence you relieved all the unhappiness and the troubles you had in daily work.

In addition, to take risks and try out new things is one of human being's basic instincts. People always like to do something new, especially when something is popular as well. According to some statistics, the dangerous activities are becoming extremely popular among young people. If you don't try some dangerous activities, people will think that you are a coward and afraid of doing it. So it's reasonable enough for them to do dangerous activities to show their braveness.

However, I don't like dangerous activities and I believe the phenomenon that people are attracted to dangerous activities is just a whim. After realizing countless disadvantages of them, people will reconsider about them. Some safer activities to help people to get relieved will be developed afterwards.

(Essay ID: 517. This is a 5 point essay)

### **Topic: 43**

Dangerous sports or activities attract a certain type of person. This person is often a risk taker, an optimist, and a fatalist.

People who take risks are found both in dangerous sports and business. But it is a special person who takes a risk with his own life as opposed to his money. My father was a risk taker. He put everything he owned into his business, but he stopped playing risky sports like horseback riding and skiing. Once his business was a success and he no longer had to worry about providing for us, he returned, at the age of 60, to the risky sports that he did as a youth.

Someone who plays dangerous sports must be an optimist. They cannot imagine that anything will happen to them. They never think about breaking their leg while skiing, falling off a cliff while rock climbing, fatting on their head while sky diving. They live for the thrill of the moment without a thought to the many things that could go wrong.

Rock climbers and sports car drivers must be fatalist. They might plan for potential problems, but once they have done everything they can do, the outcome is out of their hands. A motorcyclist who jumps across a narrow canyon will get the fastest, strongest bike available that will carry him or her across the canyon. However, wind conditions or other problems might interfere and the cyclist may fall short of his goal.

Many people have the same traits of course. Many of us are risk takers, optimists, and fatalists. But I think people who play dangerous sports must have these characteristics in abundance.

(Essay ID: 128 )

## Topic: 44

Traveling is a very pleasant thing. Some people like to travel with several friends. Other people, however, would prefer to travel alone. Each way has its advantages. As far as I am concerned, traveling with my friends is my choice.

Why do some people like to travel just himself or herself? For one thing, they have more freedom. They do not need to discuss the routine with others. What he or she wants to go, just go. For another, they can have more relax. They do not need to keep an eye on how to get along with friends.

Although there may be one or more advantages to traveling alone, I insist that traveling with friends far overweigh them. In the first place, you can make the trip easy. Traveling is not a very easy activity. For example, you need to find transportation tools, hotel and restaurant in strange places. Several friends can average these tasks so that such things will not bother every one much and enjoy the journey more.

In the second place, you can get help when you need. There will be many unexpected surprising thing during the journey. Such as, get lost, be sick, cannot wake up early for the morning flight. It is very tough for people to handle these situations by themselves especially when they travel to a strange place. Friends can give you a hand to overcome all these difficulties. As a Chinese slang says, "every one needs the help from others."

In addition, you can have more fun. Enjoying the scene spots is wonderful, while traveling on the road is boring. How to spend this boring time? Talking with friends, playing cards will help you out.

In conclusion, I prefer to travel with friends rather than travel alone not only because the trip will be easier with friends, but also because more help and fun will be got from friends.

(Essay ID: 410 )

## Topic: 44

I prefer to travel with a companion.

First, you can save plenty of time and money. In the travel, you have lots of things must do except see landscape such as booking hotel, buying tickets, looking for bus stations etc. If you have a companion can do these things with you, you will have more time to see landscape and to rest. It's the most important that you will have a good mood rather than be upset by those small beer. Money is a very big problem. If you like to travel alone, you must afford all. But if you have a

companion, you can save money in transport, hotel, even tickets. That may let you travel more days than you plan.

Time and money is important to you, but when you have trouble what you want is sincerely help. I like climbing mountain. I have been to the Jiuzhaigou in the Sichuan province. It is very

beautiful place, but it locates high altitude. We meet big trouble of breath when we climbed mountain. in the way, my friend and I had a turn on carrying bags and helping each other when we felt tired. when we reached the mountain peak, we embraced. We all knew the one thing that if you have no help from your friend, you cannot reach the peak.

In most of time, you may get funs from your friend. When you want to get a photo, your friend can take a picture for you. When you feel scared, your friend can encourage you. When you are lonely, your friend can joke you. When you get a beautiful place, you can share your happiness, inspiration with your friend.

A companion can bring some help, save time and money; also you can feel human's spirit in the same time. Your eyes not only see nice landscape of nature, but the beautiful landscape of human beings.

(Essay ID: 402. This is a 5 point essay)

### **Topic: 44**

Traveling alone is the only way to travel. If you take someone with you, you take your home with you. When you travel alone, you meet new people, have new experiences, and learn more about yourself.

When I travel with a friend, I spend all my time with that friend. We eat together and sightsee together. When I travel alone, I spend my time looking for new friends. It is easy to find other people, either other tourists or locals, to eat with or have a coffee with. When you share meals with strangers, they become friends.

When I travel with a friend, my routine is predictable. We maintain the same schedule that we do at home. When I travel alone, I adopt the rhythm of the place I visit. I might take a nap in the afternoon and eat dinner at 11 pm. I might go to a disco and dance all night.

When I travel with a friend, we know how we will react to things. When I travel alone, each new experience requires a new reaction. If I don't try new things, I won't be able to decide if I like something or not. Shall I ride an ostrich or eat one?

I think it is always important to do things on your own. You can find new friends, collect new memories, and adopt different ways of doing things. Isn't that the point of travel?

(Essay ID: 129 )

### **Topic: 45**

Some people prefer to get up early in the morning and start the day's work. Others, however, prefer to get up later in the day and work until late at night. As far as I am concerned, getting up early is a good habit because it is good for health and is easy to take care of everyday works.

In the first place, everyone knows that getting up early is a very good habit for our health. You can enjoy the fresh air in the early morning, and also you can get a good night sleep during the quiet midnight time. Moreover, if you get up early, before go to work, you still have enough time to do some exercises, such as walking, running and riding the bike. Without doubt, all of the exercises do help your health.

In the second place, it is a little bit easy to take care of everyday works if people get up early. For example, if everyone in the family gets up early, wife will have enough time to prepare the breakfast for the whole family, children will have enough time to catch the school bus, husband will never forget to change his dirty shirt. Everything is on the order.

Admittedly, some people who work until midnight and get up later in the day claim that working in the midnight is more efficient and can concentrate the work without distraction. However, the advantages of getting up early carry more weight than those of getting up later.

To sum up, from what I have discussed above, we can safely draw a conclusion that getting up early can benefit not only because it is good for ours health but also it is easy for us to take care of everyday works. Therefore, I prefer to get up early in the morning and start the day's work.

(Essay ID: 257. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 45

Some people prefer to get up early in the morning to start the day's work; while other people like to get up later in the day to work until late at night. Which option do you prefer? I would choose to get up early in the morning. This view is based on the follwing reasons.

By getting up early in the morning you can enjoy a lot of good things that nature offers. You can breath fresh air, smell aroma of flowers, listen the birds singing in the morning. What a beatiful world! In the meantime, these can refresh our brains and quickly get ready for the day's work. We can immediately concentrate in the work, and solve the problems with great efficiency. For example, when I was in senior middle school, I got up early in the morning everyday to go over my lessons and prepare the courses that I would have that day. I found it was so efficient and I memorized my study material so deeply. On the contrary, people who get up late and go to bed late tend to leave all the day's work to the night, and tend to go to bed until the finish the day's work. This is not a good living habit and also not an efficiently way of working.

Anotherreason why I would like to get up early to start a day's work is because I believe that it is good for our health. The body's cycle follows the nature: when the sun rise, it is time to get up; when the moon rise, it is time to go to bed. Besides, by getting up early we can have time to do some excercises such as jogging, hiking and swimming, which will benifit our health. Many statistics show that most people who live a long life get up early and go to bed early. While getting up late and go to bed late violates human biology and therefore will do harm to the health. And peopel who get up late never got a chance to do morning excercises.

In a word, getting up early in the morning to start a day's work is a smart choice for people, it can benifit both people's work and health.

(Essay ID: 361 )

## Topic: 45

I prefer sleeping late and staying up late at night. This routine fits my body's rhythm, my work schedule, and my social life.

I believe in following my body's natural rhythm. My body tells me to sleep until I am ready to get up and go to bed when I am sleepy. This means I never get up early in the morning. My body tells me it likes me to get 8 to 10 hours of sleep a day.

Sleeping late also fits my work schedule. Actually I don't have that much work to do. I can easily finish my work between lunch and dinner. I think that if one works too much, there is not enough time left to enjoy one's self.

My active social life is another reason I prefer to sleep late. Who gets up early in the morning to have fun? No one. Anything amusing, such as concerts, dances, parties, dinners, all happen at night. If I got up early in the morning, I would be too tired to enjoy myself in the evening.

I will maintain this pattern forever I hope. I think it is always important to listen to your body and if your body tells you to stay in bed, you should listen to it. By listening to your body, you will never let work interfere with your social life.

(Essay ID: 130 )

## **Topic: 46**

The qualities of a good son and daughter-obedience, loyalty, respect-have not changed. Any parent will tell you that, like their ancestors, they expect these qualities from their children. However, they do not always get what they expect from their children.

Parents demand that their sons and daughters, regardless of age, obey them. Even if the children are married and have their own children, they should still do whatever their parents ask of them. At least, that's the way it was. Now, children tend to obey their parents until the children are of college age. Then they feel they are adult enough and can make their own decisions even if these decisions are against the parent's wishes.

Parents also expect loyalty from their children. If there was a dispute in the neighborhood or between families, the parents would expect their children to side with their own family. This quality is probably still very common. Most children today will support their family against others.

Parents, of course, demand respect. As people become more mobile, and children are introduced to non-traditional ways of doing things, this quality may not endure. Parents are sometimes viewed as old-fashioned. Children don't think their parents can appreciate the way life really is. They think their parents are too old to understand. They lose respect for their parents.

Obedience, loyalty, and respect are virtues that are being challenged today. We may not obey our parent, give them the loyalty or respect they wish or deserve, but I hope my children obey me, are loyal to me, and respect me.

(Essay ID: 99 )

## **Topic: 46**

When asked about the important qualities of a good son or daughter, people have all kind of views concerning it. From my point of view, the important qualities of a good son or daughter consist of

listening to the right advice from parents, taking care of parents when growing up and respecting them.

The most important quality, I think, is that we should respect our parents. It was our parents who brought us into the world and brought us up. They provided us food and clothes, and send us to school to study knowledge. They tried their bests to make our life happy and comfortable. Accordingly, it was our responsibility to respect our parents, including their labor and opinions. We should not spend too much money on useless things because it comes from parents' labor. At the same time, we must listen to the right advice from parents and don't act according to our own wishes and desires despite the objection of parents.

The second quality for a good son is that we should care for our parents when we grow up. Nowadays we have already attended the university, usually far away from parents. So we should keep in touch with them by telephone, letter and e-mail, not making them feel lonely. We may talk about their life at home, such as their work and their health. In fact every time when I give a call to my parents, I may feel that they are very happy because of the telephone. The reason is that not only can they get the information about me, but also they know that their son concerns himself with his parents.

A good son should have many merits. From my point of view, respecting the parents and caring for them are the most important for everyone. What's more, they can't be changed with the development of the society because they are the fundamental qualities for a good son or daughter.

(Essay ID: 131 )

## Topic: 47

No doubt, I choose to work for a small company because there are too many benefits that outnumber its disadvantages not to choose. But working for a large company has advantages no more than its disadvantages.

The most important benefit of working for a small company is that I will have many chances to develop. In general, a small company is a developing enterprise and it is not easy to absorb many excellent employees. If I enter this small company, I think that the boss will appreciate me and give me many opportunities to reveal my abilities. Only if I let the job do well, I am sure that I will rise very rapidly.

On the contrary to this, a large company is already a highly developed institution. There are many prominent talents working for it. A good position will absorb hundreds of applicants. It will take me a lot of time and vigor to get this position. Maybe I have no chance to win this competition at all.

Another benefit of working for a small company, which working for a large company almost cannot achieve, is that I can learn more skills in a small company than in a large company. As shown above, a small company is a developing enterprise. This means that it has no great deal of money to employ many persons. So, I can do all kinds of jobs at the same time. I think that this will be useful to compete in the society. But in a large company, maybe I only engage in a monotonous job over a long period of time. I believe that this will be helpless to improve my capacity.

Of course, choosing to work for a large company also has advantages to some extent. For example, it will afford a handsome salary and will be not easy to fail in business competition. But from my own development, I still want to work in a small company. In addition, I believe that



every large company originates from a small company. Maybe I will become an important person when the small company in which I work become a large company.

(Essay ID: 284. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 47

I would prefer to work in a large company rather than a small one. A large company has more to offer in terms of advancement, training, and prestige.

In a large company, I can start at an entry-level position and work myself up to the top. I could start in the mailroom and, once I know the company, can apply for a managerial position. In a small company, there is not as much room to grow.

In a large company, there are a variety of jobs. I could work in sales, in marketing, in distribution, in shipping, or in any department I applied for. I could be trained in a variety of positions and would have valuable experience. In a small company, there would not be the same opportunity.

In a large company, there would be more prestige. I could brag to my friends that I worked for one of the biggest companies in the world. I would always have something to talk about when I met strangers. If I worked for a small company, I would always have to explain what the company did.

Working for a small company would -not give me the same opportunities for advancement or on-the-job training as working for a larger company would. Nor would I be as proud to work for a small company-unless the small company was my own.

(Essay ID: 100 )

## Topic: 47

Some people show special interest in working for a big company, while others are more willing to work for small ones! Of course, every individual has his own opinion about the strengths and weakness when it comes to serving in a big firm or a small one ;for me, my choice is definitely to work for a big company!

Now let's use the analysis of "SWOT", which was always employed in the field of economics to get the above-said problem solved! Here, S stands for "strengths", W for "weakness", O for "opportunities" and T for "target"!

Working for a big company will have many aspects of strengths for your development in your career, because, in my head, a big company usually provides more competitiveness and it demands its employees to be self-educated at the very beginning of becoming one member of the group or he or she will be dismissed without hesitation, for as a big company, there are always a pool of talents waiting for the position which he or she occupied before! Besides, in a big company, you will deal with shades of people, who are maybe from different provinces or even different countries, having various education, as well as family background, and so on, in such way you will be inevitably influenced by "multi-culture", regardless of the various cultures of different provinces, or of different nations, which is of great importance for a person with the hope of tailoring himself to be an international talent. Finally, in a big company you will be given more opportunities to be charged up in your free time either at home or abroad and be endowed with more chances to contact with more elites in the specific field or other fields.

When speaking of the weakness, in my humble opinion, of course, every thing is a double-edged sword, working for a big company might have little chance for those who have little of parts to get out due to the bulk of talents, but compared with strengths and the opportunities mentioned above, it can be omitted, to put it exceedingly!

When it comes to the target, you, as a member of a big company, you will be more likely to motorize your target because of the plentiful resources including material resources, as well as human resources.

All that I have said above boils down to the conclusion that if you are a person who craves for competitiveness and desires to be an international or Inter-provincial talent, you should choose the big firms for your future development.

(Essay ID: 392 )

## Topic: 48

In modern society, work has already been a necessary means by which all the people live in the world, in spite of a few exceptions. First of all, people must work in order to get the money to meet their living. Besides, there are some more reasons that are also important for people's working, of which making continuous progress is what I mostly want to emphasize.

As we all know, the human being is an animal greatly more advanced than, and greatly different in many aspects from, other common animals in the world such as cats, horses, oranges and so on. So feeding is not the only aim that people live for, as is said in a Chinese saying, "human beings are not living for only living." People also need to make continuous progress personally in the modern and continually changing world. And all kinds of work give people one of the most effective ways to make progress, which can be illustrated by some reasons below.

First of all, people can learn varieties of basic knowledge and abilities that they need to deal with all kinds of problems they may meet in study, life, or work in current society. All the abilities, except for those physiological functions, people need to live in the world are not innately, of which family and school could supply only a small part, and most of them must be given by work.

For example, proper relationship in work is the basic warranty of your working successfully. While in work, you would learn how to deal with the relationship between you and your leaders of your company, if you are an ordinary employee, or the relationship between you and your followings if you are a director mastering the company. Further more, this rule can surely also be used when you affiliate with other people you meet in society.

Besides, on the way of making continuous progress, people usually can't control themselves correctly by themselves in two basic aspects: the direction and motivation of progress. However, in the course of work, people will not lost their basic direction according to the daily task given to them. As the same time, once you have a fresh task that can interest you, you also will process the motivation to finish it, which keep you making progress in your life.

In a word, there are various kinds reasons that people need to work, some of which usually combine to each other. So far as to me, however, making continuous progress is one the most important reasons because it is people's one of the most expected aims in their life, and work gives people a very effective approach to reach the aim.

(Essay ID: 515. This is a 5 point essay)

**Topic: 48**

Although people work to earn money, money is not the main reason people stay in their jobs. They also work because they enjoy working, they receive job satisfaction, and they like the sense of accomplishment.

Most people work for work's sake. They enjoy going to an office, or store, Or school each day. They like to interact with other people. They like to help people solve problems, learn something, or get a product. People like to help other people.

A lot of people keep the same job because the job gives them a lot of satisfaction. They genuinely enjoy what they do. This is true for most teachers. A teacher's pay is not very great, but the job satisfaction can be very high. Helping someone learn is one of the greatest things anyone can do.

People enjoy their work because they like the sense of accomplishment. They like to know that they finished a project. People who work in factories take pride in the car they produce or the television they assemble. When they see a car on the street, they can feel a sense of accomplishment. They helped make that car.

Money is nice, but it is not the only reason people get up and go to work each day. I believe that people work because they enjoy the act of working; they find their work personally rewarding; and they like the feeling of a job well done.

(Essay ID: 132 )

**Topic: 48**

When talking about working, some people always complain a lot about it. They regard working as affliction which means hardship, vapidity and low earnings. They may even dream that they can also live a happy life without working. But as we all know, that won't come true. Everyone needs to work for many different reasons. I believe the three most common reasons is to acquire knowledge, to seek fame and to enjoy life.

In the first place, we work to practice our skills and we have to learn many aspects of knowledge to solve the problems and to overcome difficulties. So working makes us skillful and effortless. The experiences we learn from working are the most important wealth. They are the major sources of wisdom. If we don't work, how can we improve our intelligence and then how can we create wonderful lives?

In the second place, we work to realize our value by producing large amount of goods and serving the others. Farmer is not a farmer until he plant corps, teacher is not a teacher until she instruct classes. They all have their responsibility and they also receive our respects because of their contributions to the society. That's the meaning of the life, which gives us courage and confidence to exert our powers to build happy home.

In addition , we work to keep us healthy. We can communicate with each other during work. Meanwhile, we are helpd and encouraged all together. However, If we don't work, we will become torpid and fat. We have to work to relieve our pressure. When you do something you are very competent to, you will view it as a kind of entertainment. You even find joy from them.

In conclusion, I believe working is a tool by with we can make a key to the gate of knowledge, it is a road which leads to tomorrow, and it is a drug which can keep us fit. All in all, working provides us so much that I love work.

## Topic: 49

There are many different ways of communications, such as letters, emails, or telephone calls. However face-to-face communication still remains the most efficient way of communication between people.

Firstly, in face-to-face communication people can get direct response from the other party. When we talk with our friends, we can get feedback immediately from their verbal response, body language and facial expressions. Based on these responses, we can know what's the next step to take, such as how to carry on the conversation, and change the direction or finish the conversation if necessary. Sometimes, speaking words and body languages may not mean the same thing. Although we can hear words from a telephone conversation from our friends but we do not always know if they really mean it. This is also true in criminal inspections. Police inspectors can judge whether the suspect is telling the truth through his or her body languages, therefore get new clues and solve a criminal case more quickly. Thus, face-to-face communication is more perceptible and can help us understand a speaker's true feeling better than other ways of communication.

Secondly, face-to-face communication is the most helpful way to express ourselves. In communication it is just not enough for us to say the words; we need eye contact, body language to express our feelings. Sometimes we are so happy or angry that we are out of words. At these times, there is nothing more efficient to express our happiness or anger than a big hug or turn our face to another side. When we are a tourist in a foreign country, language is not always enough, and gesticulations might help us get understood more quickly. We can order in a restaurant by simply pointing our fingers to the menu when we do not know how to pronounce an item exactly.

Finally, face-to-face communication is indispensable in situations such as a relationship. Lovers need body contact such as a hug, a kiss and more, which cannot be done in letters or emails. Although lovers can use letters or emails to communicate, being apart for a long time is definitely not beneficial to a relationship.

In brief, face-to-face communication is a very important way for us. It is good for better understanding. It is more visible, direct and more effective than any other ways.

(Essay ID: 237. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 49

I would have to agree that face-to-face communication is the best type of communication. Face-to-face communication can eliminate misunderstandings immediately, cement relationships, and encourage continued interaction.

If you are talking to someone directly, you can see right away if they don't understand you. A person's body language will tell you they disagree or don't follow your line of thought. You can repeat yourself or paraphrase your argument. If you had sent an e-mail, the person may have misinterpreted what you wanted to say. He or she could be insulted and you would have to waste time explaining yourself in another e-mail.

When you talk face-to-face, you communicate with more than words. You communicate with your eyes and your hands. You communicate with your whole body. People can sense that you

really want to communicate with them. This energy bonds people together. Your relationship with a person can grow much stronger when you communicate in person.

Face-to-face encounters tend to go on longer than other forms of communication. An e-mail lasts a second; a telephone call, a few minutes. However, when you meet face-to-face, you've made an effort to meet with the person, and the person has made an effort to meet with you. You will probably spend longer together talking. The longer you talk, the more you say. The more you say, the stronger your relationship will be.

In summary, if you want to establish a relationship with another human being, the best way is talking face-to-face. When you communicate directly, you can avoid misunderstandings that may occur in writing. You can communicate on levels other than just words and you can spend more time doing it.

(Essay ID: 136 )

## **Topic: 49**

With the rapid growth of high technology, computer, telephone and other communication tools have become more and more important in our daily life, so what people have gradually ignored face to face communications.

If I were asked whether face-to-face communication is better than other forms of communications, such as email, phone calls or letters, I would choose email and phone calls. Here I am going to enumerate some reasons to support my choice.

The main reason is that communication by telephone or by e-mail is more convenient. There is no need to make appointment with friends before meetings; all you need is just to remember their phone numbers or email addresses. Wherever you are and whenever it will be, communication is as easy as face-to-face talking. Moreover, it is more efficient for people to communicate.

Another important reason is that the way people connect by email can make more friends. I have many friends on the Internet and we communicate each other regularly, so I have gained more information and knowledge in many other fields.

Last but not least, indirect communication such as emails and phone calls can avoid direct confrontation and embarrassment. Sometimes we may not feel comfortable to borrow something or ask for a favor from our friends, because we do not know their reactions. At this time, an email or a phone call can be more convenient and can avoid embarrassment.

If all these factors are contemplated ,the advantages of communication through email or telephone carry more weight than those of face-to-face communication.

(Essay ID: 408 )

## **Topic: 50**

I am not a risk taker. I like to do just those things that I am proficient at. I have learned that it is better to focus my attention, do one thing and do it well, and not try anything new.

When I was younger, I was always experimenting with a lot of different things. First I wanted to be a dress designer so I studied drawing. I couldn't draw so I decided to be a veterinarian, because I liked animals. I didn't like to see sick animals so I decided to be a historian. That suited me

perfectly since all I had to do was sit in a library and read. I learned to focus my attention on one subject.

I'm a very good reader and history is very interesting to me. I decided not to read any other subject. I only read history books. I even focused my attention on Chinese history. I only read history books on Chinese history. I do one thing and I do it well.

I don't like to try anything new. If I read things in another area, I don't do well. I don't understand American history or English history. The names are confusing and the stories not interesting to me. I don't want to learn about anything else. Chinese history is my subject.

I may seem a bit stubborn, but I have learned what makes me happy. I don't like to take a risk with new things. I like to focus my attention on one subject, do it well, and not try anything new.

(Essay ID: 138 )

## Topic: 50

When asked about the approaches to life, many people have the idea that change and new experiences bring us a meaningful life. However, others take the view that staying the same and not changing the usual habits is the better way of the life. In fact both approaches have its advantages and disadvantages, which are listed as follows.

Some people believe change and new experiences provide us a meaningful life because when we adapt to the change and new environments, we must face the difficulties and try our bests to overcome them. This process not only builds our personality, but also gives us a varied and meaningful life. What's more, the change around us improves our adaptation and independence. They have a benefit for us to compete for survival in the society. Let's suppose we always stay the same and do not change the environment. Then if someday we have to step into another environment, how can we adapt to in?

On the other hand, people who hold an opposite view consider that sticking to usual habits is the better way to life. They point out that the longer you keep the same habits, the more adaptive you are and you may live comfortably. They firmly point out that usual changes make you acquaint with nothing, and then it is impossible for you to have a happy life. In order to see this point clearly, they give us a good example: If you change your environment every month, you have to always change your habits and customs. Then how can you have a meaningful life?

As far as I am concerned, the advantages of change carry more weight than those of staying the same because I need to improve my adaptation. Only in this way, can I survive in the society after my graduation.

(Essay ID: 137 )

## Topic: 51

The question about what success comes from has been so much debated in our society. Some may think that careful planning contributes to success. Traditionally, young people turn to the successful people for guidance because young people believe that they can make excellent achievements through careful planning. Today, this view might be reversed. More and more people are taking a fresh look at it. Based on hardworking, they prefer taking risks rather than simply careful planning.

The most persuasive argument is that people taking risks or chances are more likely to succeed than the others. Risks or chances are not questions that people who disagree the point can shrug off lightly. With the advent of advanced international communication, a great number of opportunities you will face to by which the traditional careful planning is threatened. The difference between the two opinions is courage to challenge yourself. Actually, the only one step in the gap is not boundly conquered at all, in most cases, which prevent too many cowards from succeeding at last. People being short of bravery---if they are prepared to admit it---counl learn one or two from the brave ones who actually not only have courage but also are wise and confident. One of the biggest lessons they should learn is that how to plunk up your courage.

The resource from which courage comes is nothing more than experience. It is hardly possible to decide whether to take a risk in front of some important affairs without any experience. To gain experience, one of the most necessary approaches for you is to learn how to analyze and sum up what you have done no matter you won or lost. As an old saying goes "Failures teach success." Confidence is the basis to your goal. Never give up solid aims in life and encourage yourself from time to time as Abraham Lincoln once said, " I will prepare and some day my chance will come."

Finally, taking risks or chances can be regarded as a break with the tradition. The emphasis on the challenge has been exactly expected because that it is surely help people succeed avoiding wasting time. No other reasonable solution in intensive completion provides many opportunities to accomplish your object in life .

From the above what I have discussed, we can draw a conclusion that superficially, the careful planning is a sound solution, but when we weighting in mind attentively, we find that taking risks or chances is more necessary to success.

(Essay ID: 139 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## **Topic: 51**

Nothing ventured. Nothing gained. If our great explorers and scientists did not live by this creed, where would we be? I think that we must all take risks in our lives, but these must be calculated risks. Like the great thinkers of our time, we must plan carefully, seize all opportunities, and reevaluate our plans.

There is no such thing as a chance occurrence. Columbus in his search for the Indies drew maps, plotted his route carefully, and set out. Madame Curie worked diligently in her laboratory recording every aspect of her experiments. You need to have a careful plan so you can measure your success.

Even with a careful plan, changes occur. Columbus was looking for the Indies, but ended up in the Caribbean. Lewis and Clark were looking for a river passage west, but discovered much more. You have to be ready to take advantage of new things as they occur.

When things go against plan, you must be ready to change direction. Columbus didn't bring back spices from the East Indies, he brought back gold from the West Indies. It is important to see the positive side of things. Make your mistakes work for you.

You will never succeed in life if you don't take chances. But before you start, you must plan carefully so you are ready to take advantage of every opportunity and turn mistakes to your advantage.

(Essay ID: 140 )

**Topic: 51**

Every day, new businesses are created. Some of these businesses will succeed, but many will fall by the wayside. Some ventures may be on shaky ground at the start, but with perseverance and careful planning, they will prevail in the end. Hopefully a careful plan will not lead to a surprise but rather an expected result and success.

There is a tide in the affairs of men  
Which, taken at the flood, leads on the fortune  
Omitted, all the voyage of their life  
Is bound in shadows and in miseries.  
----By Shakespeare

Admittedly, chance can sometimes help a man to succeed. But on the other hand, not everyone will have such luck. How can a businessman who succeeds by taking risks sustain his dealing with his business when he is suddenly out of luck? Most likely, their company will be out of business if they have not made an all-rounded plan.

Nevertheless, chance favors a prepared mind. The opportunity is equal to all the people. The key to success is not waiting for a chance, but seizing it. Obviously, careful planning will guide a man definitely, from which, he can not only find a destination and prevent him from aimlessness, but also assist him to grip the chances on his way to success. For instance, an entrepreneur should understand the power of a cautious plan which may help him define his business concepts, estimate costs, predict sales, control risks, and even increase the chances of succeeding. The plan may tell him what he should do and how to do it. Going into business without a plan is just like having an expedition in the extensive ocean without a compass.

In the second place, a comprehensive plan is also a reliable backup. Although the original plan is followed, suffering may come for some unpredictable occasions. In that way, a well-considered plan that mentions all the possibilities can be very helpful.

From what has been discussed above, chances and taking risks may be unavoidable, but success results primarily from careful planning. A comprehensive schedule, similar to a guide in explorations, is a necessity for achievement.

(Essay ID: 529 )

**Topic: 52**

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 hometown.

It is said that information is power. True saying indeed! I can envision how everything in my hometown 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 hometown 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 hometown. 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 hometown 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 hometown.

(Essay ID: 141 )

### Topic: 53

The most important aspect of a job is the money a person earns. When I get a job, I want to earn a lot of money. If I earn a lot of money, people will know I am successful, smart, and a good candidate for marriage.

Money equals success. If I earn a lot of money, I can wear nice clothes, get a big car, buy my parents a nice apartment, and spend a lot of money on my friends. Everyone will know I am rich and very successful.

Earning a lot of money will show people how smart I am. Everyone knows you can't be stupid and earn a lot of money. Who will trust someone stupid to do a job?

When I earn a lot of money, my mother will be able to find me a good wife. She will be able to tell everyone what an important job I have. It will make it easy for her to find someone for me since all girls want to marry a rich man.

I don't care what kind of work I do as long as I earn a lot of money. That's the most important thing for me. Having a well paying job will show everyone that I am successful, smart, and a good catch!

(Essay ID: 1 )

### Topic: 54

What do you feel when a handsome gentleman or a beautiful lady passes by? Then how about a fat short person wearing a dirty shirt? You feel differently? Yes, most people do. It's very common for people to judge a person by external appearance, because it's easy and direct, and it's instinctive. Appearance is a very important aspect of a person and reflects one's personalities. Sometimes you can tell the person's characteristics from his appearance. However, in most cases, you can't tell exactly what the person is like just from the external appearance, and ethically, we should not judge a person just by one glance at his external appearance.

"Beauty and beast" and "Snow white and seven dwarves" are two stories that are almost known by everyone. Although there are fables, there are deep meanings inside them. What you can learn from them is that people that are not so good-looking can be very good people internally. And actually there are tons of examples in reality. Napoleon is a very short guy, but he was one of the most famous people in the history. Theodore Roosevelt, former US president during World War II, is handicapped; but he is one of the most successful presidents in American history. So how can you tell about the people from their external appearance?

Moreover, there are other undeniable facts which show that a beautiful person may be rotten inside. There are many prostitutes on the busy streets. It's obviously that they are very beautiful, but are they really righteous people? A beautiful appearance is a good thing, but a righteous heart is more valuable. Finally, as we can see, it's out of question that we should not judge people just from their external appearance. The most important standard is their internal personality.

(Essay ID: 369 )

## Topic: 54

In most cases, one should never judge a person by external appearances. Sometimes when I walk down the street at night, I avoid people who are acting tough and loud, but in general, I prefer to reserve judgment until I get to know someone. Judging someone by external appearance can be deceptive. Judgments based on external appearances prevent you from getting to know a person, reinforce stereotypes, and are superficial and limiting.

In high school I stayed away from students who were called the "bad students" because they dressed a certain way. I wanted nothing to do with them. I later had the chance to meet one of these "bad students" because his mother was a friend of my mother. Since we had to be polite to each other because of our mothers, we started talking and I realized that we had a lot in common. My impression of him was very different once I got to know him.

If you form an opinion of someone based on stereotypes, you risk never getting to know someone who is different. You may be missing out on an opportunity to make a good friend. In addition, you are reinforcing that stereotype by believing it without given the person a chance. If you take the time to get to know the person, you might become friends.

Judging people by external appearance is superficial and often unfair. After all, you don't know what circumstances the person might be facing or who the person really is. Perhaps the person comes from a less fortunate family than you and cannot afford the kind of stylish clothes your friends wear. However, that does not mean the person is less intelligent or interesting than you are.

People should not be naïve about new people they meet, but should take time to get to know them. External appearance often does not tell us anything about a person. Judging someone by their appearance is misleading, reinforces stereotypes, and is limiting. Doing so could prevent you from making a true friend.

(Essay ID: 84 )

## Topic: 54

Some people judge a person only by his or her external appearances. I disagree with their attitude. I think that one should never judge a person by external appearances.

Judging a person by his or her external appearances may mislead your understanding him or her. A person who has a pretty face and wears beautiful clothes may not have same kind of heart inside. On the other hand, the internal characters of a person can not be judged by his or her external appearances.

If you judge a person only by his or her external appearances, you may lose chances to make good friends. Everyone has his own habits to choose clothes, hair style and the way to live. Maybe both of you have interests and hobbies in common. You can not know this point because your wrong

judgment from his different ways to deal with something prevents you from knowing his interest and keeps you too far from him to make good friends.

Judging a person by external appearances is unfair and one-sided. To evaluate a person fairly, you have to know his family, his situation and him entirely and clearly. A person who is from poor

family may be intelligent and diligent. The one who can afford expensive clothes may be indifferent with others.

So I think that judging a person by his or her external appearances always leads us to draw a wrong conclusion about a person. It is limiting and unfair. Everyone longs for the understanding from others. So we should give others chances to show all of their characters and at the same time we should evaluate them fairly and objectively.

(Essay ID: 347. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 55

A person should never make an important decision alone. Important decisions should be well thought out. People who know you well, know what is best for you. People close to you can give you good advice, give you a different perspective, or share their own experience.

When I had difficulty deciding which classes to take in college, I talked to my teachers and advisors. They had the knowledge and expertise to help me determine which classes were the best ones to take for my future career. Without their advice, I might have chosen unsuitable courses.

In college, I had convinced myself that I was not good enough to act in the school play. Therefore, I decided not to audition even though drama had always been my passion. The day of the auditions, a friend of mine asked me why I wasn't auditioning.

When I told her I didn't feel I was good enough, she was shocked. She was able to provide me with another perspective on my talents and myself. I rethought my decision and tried out... and got a lead in the play.

Last year when I was trying to decide whether or not I should study overseas, I talked to my friend. This was the best thing I could have done. This was a big decision for me because I had never been overseas on my own and I wasn't sure I could do it. She had studied overseas the previous year. She told me about the challenges and opportunities I might encounter and helped me make the right decision. I went and it was amazing!

Whenever I am faced with an important decision, I seek advice from others so that I am well informed and have the benefit of their perspective and experience.

(Essay ID: 133 )

## Topic: 55

A child can decide to buy his favourite candy,he can make a decision to get the books he is longing for,and he can also determine to make friends with other kids.However,can he make an important decision alone?For example,which school is better for him to attend?Which road of life will he go ?In my opinion,a child should never make an important decision alone?There are several reasons for my point

First of all ,he has fewer experiences than his parents.The environment he lives in is pure,in fact,the society is not as simple as he might think.While his parents know our society better,they have done much,and they have seen much ,so they may think much.In another word,when they face an important decision,they will consider all kinds of factors,such as the effects and the results,while a child can never do that.

Second, the thought of a child might not be correct. The bad programmes in the television, some articles in the magazine have negative effects on the child, they can also lead the child to a wrong way. So, as parents, they should inform the child how to tell the bad from the good. In this way, they can make sure their child will not make a wrong decision. So making a correct decision depends on the parents.

However, when the child is growing up, yes, when he is not a child any longer, should we let him make an important decision alone? I think it is right time for him to make an important decision alone.

In the first place, a person can never depend on his parents, friends forever. Everyone has his own way to go, no one can help you all the time. As the English saying goes: "God only help those who can help themselves." So, he must learn how to make a decision. Maybe at first, he will not feel comfortable, maybe it will not be correct, but I think it is a benefit for his growing.

Second, as the important decision is made by himself alone, he can never blame on someone else, he must have responsibility for himself. And it is obvious that the decision he makes comes from his own interest, so he will do better.

In conclusion, when a child makes an important decision, he should listen to his parents more. But when he grows up, he should learn to make a decision alone.

(Essay ID: 446. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 56

Deciding between supporting the arts and protecting the environment is a difficult choice to make, but I think I would choose protecting the environment. Arts help to maintain our culture and serve as a source of entertainment. However, we need a healthy environment in order to survive so we must protect it. We need to protect the environment now to help prevent health problems, to maintain the ecosystem, and to preserve the Earth for our children.

Pollution from factories and cars can cause damage to the environment. Moreover, pollution causes health problems particularly for children and the elderly who have weaker immune systems. We need to ensure that there are controls on the amount of pollution when possible so as to prevent health problems caused by breathing dirty air.

We also need to pay attention to the ecosystem. Trees, plant life, and people all depend on each other. An unhealthy environment can have harmful effects on the ecosystem. For example, if a plant dies because of changes to the environment and that plant is food for an animal, that animal won't have any food. If humans use that animal as a food source, there could be big problems.

If we do not respect our environment now, it will continue to get worse and our children will suffer the consequences. They would not have the same quality of air to breathe or natural beauty to admire. That would be sad.

Without clean air to breathe, a healthy ecosystem, and a future for our children, the human race would not survive. That's why protecting our environment is important. If we have a healthy environment, we have healthy children who will be able to participate and appreciate the arts.

(Essay ID: 85 )

## Topic: 57

Movies have become more and more popular in our daily life. Many people like to choose to go to a theater or watch movies on TV in their spare time. However, it seems that different people have different tastes. For example, some people like to see some serious movies; on the contrary, others may enjoy the ones just entertaining themselves. As far as I am concerned, I prefer the former ones, the kind of movies designed to make us think.

Firstly, serious movies can give us something to think about. Unlike amusing ones, probably there is nothing still left in our mind after a certain period of time. Comparatively, serious movies are supposed to stipulate the audience to think, acquire something valuable from the thinking and then keep it in mind for a relatively longer period of time. Such is a kind of course of learning, and what we obtain in this way maybe turn out to be a necessary supplement to what we learn from the textbooks.

Furthermore, the serious movies can help us gain some life experiences we might have not had in our real life before. Through imaging ourselves being in the plot, we may get to know how to make the proper reactions in different situations. Also the movies give us the opportunity to think or value whether the roles act right or not, through which we are sure to become smarter than before, which is definitely benefit to our future life.

For us young generation, we need to learn something new every day by different ways. In this case, thinking is incredible for us. Fortunately, serious movies play a right role in leading us to a more thinking life.

(Essay ID: 398. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 57

Movies have the power to make you laugh, cry, or think about an issue that you might not otherwise think about. Although I sometime watch movies that are serious in nature, I prefer movies that amuse and entertain. When I see an amusing movie it makes me relax, laugh, and keeps me in good spirits.

After a long day at school and work, I need a break and something to take my mind off of the troubles of the day. I learn do that with an entertaining movie. When I watch an amusing movie, I don't have to think. I just want to sit back and relax. After a movie, I then feel ready to get back to work on my studies.

Amusing movies make people laugh. Laughing is important for the soul. Laughing not only makes people feel good, but also connects people. When people laugh together, they become friends.

After watching an entertaining movie, which relaxes me and makes me laugh, I feel good. When I feel good I can focus more on other important things like my studies and work. Being in good spirits makes me feel better about myself and gives me a positive outlook on life.

While I can appreciate serious movies that make you think, I prefer to be amused and entertained after a long day of work. Such movies allow me to take a break from the rigors of life by making me laugh and putting me in a good mood.

(Essay ID: 86 )

## Topic: 58

After I get my degree, I plan to start a business. My goal is to make money, a lot of money. However, I can't forget that there are more important things in life than earning a profit. I must consider the people I work with, the customers I serve, and the community I live in.

My colleagues are a very important part of my business. Without them, I would not have a business. I depend on them to help me carry on the day-to-day operations. I depend on them for their advice on what to sell and how to sell it. I must compensate them for their work. I can't take large profits without sharing with the people who made it responsible.

Similarly, I would not have a business without my customers. I can never forget that they could take their business elsewhere. I must give them good value for their money. I can't overcharge them. I must also remember that money is as important to them as it is to me. I want my customers to trust me and keep coming back.

My employees and I all live in the same community as our customers. We are a part of the social life of our community. We can't ignore it. We must play an active part in it. I feel it is important that some of the profits my business earns from the community be returned to the community. We need to support community programs like summer jobs for high school students, campaigns to clean up the parks, and efforts to make the shopping area more attractive.

A business must make profits, but we all-workers, customers, community-must profit from a successful business.

(Essay ID: 87 )

## Topic: 59

Life is short. Haste makes waste. What's your hurry? These three sayings characterize the way I manage my day to day chores. I don't want to rush through things; I prefer to take my time.

Life is short. You never know what may happen tomorrow so it is important to enjoy today. Of course, some people will say that's why it is important to cram a lot into a day. But then, how would you possibly have time to enjoy all of those experiences. By doing a few things slowly and doing them well, you can savor the experience.

Haste makes waste. We are not machines. We can't rush through things mechanically. If we do, we might forget something; we might take shortcuts. By taking our time, we can do a chore carefully, completely, and correctly.

What's your hurry? Where's the fire? I don't see any need to rush to the next experience. There's still a lot to see and learn from the chores around you. Taking care of your baby brother for instance can be very rewarding. You could simply keep him near you while you watch TV and write a letter and talk on the phone. Or you could devote your whole attention to him and observe his reactions to his environment. You can observe carefully, if you are trying to do four things at the same time.

To twist a common saying, "Don't just do something, sit there!" Take life easy and savor each minute. Life is shorter than you think.

(Essay ID: 88 )

## Topic: 60

The young of most mammals, including humans, like to play. Scientists claim that with lions, for example, play fighting prepares the cubs for their future life as a hunter and killer. The question is whether games and play teach humans about life. Many people believe that games accustom the player to life-skills such as perseverance and competitiveness.

However, I disagree with the title statement because I consider games to be mainly for children. In childhood, we do not have responsibility for the world. The child is always eager to grow up - to become a year older or to reach the legal age of an adult. Children find happiness in games by pretending to be an adult in the real world. The problem is that games are optional; they contain too much happiness and too little hardship to ever be real. An adult, by contrast, finds meaning in his life by accepting that there are greater things in the world than his own happiness.

One of the dangers of games is that some people attempt to translate the rules of a game onto reality. The modern example of this problem is television and computer games. People in the West are now growing concerned that children and teenagers occasionally imitate violence which they see on the screen.

Death is fun on a computer game; and unstable teenagers who “zap” people in computer games can forget the value of life. American films are often accused of making violence glamorous.

This is not to say that games did not deceive people before the invention of television and the microchip. Success as a sports-star can lead a player to self-importance. If a football player is made captain of his team and receives praise from the local press, he might be tempted to assume that he is “the boss” in other areas of his life, such as within friendships. Also, he might be surprised to find that sport is simply not important.

Finally, gambling should also be mentioned as a dangerous game. Although gambling and the acceptance of luck are acceptable features of many cultures, a selfish gambler can neglect his financial duties towards his family. Eventually, gambling can become a drug which destroys life.

To an extent, life for most people is precarious enough to include some degree of winning and losing, and of adventure. Also, an unexpected opportunity or lucky find is one of the joys of life. But sooner or later we have to settle down and face the grind of adult life.

(Essay ID: 488 )

## Topic: 60

Many people have indulged in games and have had fun in a good game at some point in their lives. Games primarily exist to provide pleasure as a leisure activity for people of all ages. Today, it is believed that the hectic work schedule of an adult's life has prevented him from indulging in games whether indoor or outdoor. Some of the better known indoor games are board games like chess, while the more popular outdoor games include many sports like soccer, badminton, and tennis.

I feel that games play an essential role in the development of a healthy human being. An example of an indoor game which I think is excellent is chess. Chess is a game enjoyed by many adults today because of the challenge it presents one's mind in his "intelligence" to defeat his opponent. To many people, they feel that "exercising" the mind with the indulgence of the game promotes intelligence in an individual because the game triggers the mind to think and constantly questions his every risky move.



Outdoor games are at least as important in the development of a healthy body as physical activities trigger the body's metabolism to burn excess fat and calories. Studies have shown that people are not susceptible to diseases and subsequently live longer in a regular routine of daily exercise which is very often in the form of games. Popular games like tennis soccer have become many adults' favorites after a long, hard day at work.

In conclusion, there are many advantages in playing games for working adults. While many adults today are finding it difficult to include games in their leisure, it is important to realize the benefits that are accompanied by activities such as playing games. Playing games not only helps relieve stress accumulated from an individual's demanding work life but are also fun to indulge in. It fosters good social relations amongst friends and family members and thus a reason why games are indispensable and should be included in one's lifestyle.

(Essay ID: 322 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 60

Playing games has always been thought to be important to the development of well-balanced and creative children; however, what part, if any, they should play in the lives of adults has never been researched that deeply. I believe that playing games is every bit as important for adults as for children. Not only is taking time out to play games with our children and other adults valuable to building interpersonal relationships but is also a wonderful way to release built up tension.

There's nothing my husband enjoys more after a hard day of work than to come home and play a game of Chess with someone. This enables him to unwind from the day's activities and to discuss the highs and lows of the day in a non-threatening, kick back environment. A close friend received one of my most memorable wedding gifts, a Backgammon set. I asked him why in the world he had given us such a gift. He replied that he felt that an important aspect of marriage was for a couple to never quit playing games together. Over the years, as I have come to purchase and play, with other couples & coworkers, many games like: Monopoly, Chutes & Ladders, Mastermind, Dweebs, Geeks, & Weirdos, etc. I can reflect on the integral part they have played in our weekends and our "shut-off the T. V. and do something more stimulating" weeks. They have enriched my life and made it more interesting. Sadly, many adults forget that games even exist and have put them away in the cupboards, forgotten until the grandchildren come over.

All too often, adults get so caught up in working to pay the bills and keeping up with the "Joneses" that they neglect to harness the fun in life; the fun that can be the reward of enjoying a relaxing game with another person. It has been said that "man is that he might have joy" but all too often we skate through life without much of it. Playing games allows us to: relax, learn something new and stimulating, interact with people on a different more comfortable level, and to enjoy non-threatening competition. For these reasons, adults should place a higher priority on playing games in their lives.

(Essay ID: 142 )

## Topic: 60

Nowadays, there are more and more games for us to play. and people are playing game more than before. We can play alone or with others. The question is whether playing game is important for adults. Some think that it is a waste of time, while others regard it as important part of our life.

I think that playing game is one important part of our life because it relaxes me from long time work and adds more knowledge, even play group game can enhance the personal relationship.

After long time work, people will get tired and need some relex. game is one of the pleasant way to do so. For example, playing table tennis after work will not only relex you but also good for health. secondly, people can learn some knowledge while play games. word game can build up vocabulary, play chess can train people to think more clever.

Another reason that game is important is that it can build up a good relationship between people. Persons with the same interest in certain game will get tother more often. The friendship will be strenghtened and the they can learn from each other more things.

Even though I think the game is important, I do mot mean that it can be play without limits. Excessive indulge in the game will waste time and do no good to the health. But this can not be regarded as the reason to prevent game playing.

(Essay ID: 313. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 60

I agree with the statement "Playing games is important for adults". In this challenging world, adults work very hard to earn a better living and thus don't get time to keep their body and mind fit. By playing games, adults can not only remain fit but can enjoy life too.

Games can be of two types: physical and mental. The former keeps the body fit whereas, the latter keeps the mind fit. The following are the reasons to support my answer.

Physical games include indoor games like table tennis and outdoor games like football and basketball. These games not only increases blood circulation but also burns the excess fat present in our body that keeps us fresh and thus improves our working habits. These games also teach discipline, co-operation, respect for others, builds self-confidence and teaches us to face defeat bravely, which in turn helps us face failures in life too.

Mental games include chess, puzzle, quiz and IQ. These games increase our mental ability and thinking power. These games teaches to make decisions, increases our knowledge, improves our way of thinking and the ability to remember things, and thus keeps us mentally alert and allows to take the right decision in life.

By looking at the above reasons, I conclude that games whether they are physical or mental, indoor or outdoor not only improves our lifestyle but also helps us achieve our goals in life.

Therefore, playing games is important for adults.

(Essay ID: 89 )

## Topic: 60

I agree with the statement "Playing games is important for adults". In this challenging world, adults work very hard to earn a better living and thus don't get time to keep their body and mind fit. By playing games, adults can not only remain fit but can enjoy life too. Games can be of two types: physical and mental. The former keeps the body fit whereas, the latter keeps the mind fit. The following are the reasons to support my answer.

Physical games include indoor games like table tennis and outdoor games like football and basketball. These games not only increases blood circulation but also burns the excess fat present

in our body that keeps us fresh and thus improves our working habits. These games also teaches discipline, co-operation, respect for others, builds self-confidence and teaches us to face defeat bravely, which in turn helps us face failures in life too.

Mental games include chess, puzzle, quiz and IQ. These games increases our mental ability and thinking power. These games teaches to make decisions, increases our knowledge, improves our way of thinking and the ability to remember things, and thus keeps us mentally alert and allows to take the right decision in life.

By looking at the above reasons, I conclude that games whether they are physical or mental, indoor or outdoor not only improves our lifestyle but also helps us achieve our goals in life.

Therefore, playing games is important for adults.

(Essay ID: 302 )

## Topic: 60

I do strongly support the idea that playing games is important for adults. It is useful and fun, too. It is one of the most important ways to cope with the problems of business and daily life. There are several benefits of playing games for adults. First, playing games creates leisure time that every adult must have to lessen the stress of business life. Its another benefit is that It can improve reflex, intelligence or health depending on the kind of the game ,and it also gives pleasure to the adults as well as children.

As we know today business life is a place full of stress. People generally come to their homes being tired and irritated. Therefore, every individual adult must create leisure times to forget the daily life's problems and to feel relieved. So, playing some kinds of games can help them to have free, without stress, times and to relax. Parents also, by this way, can make a better communication with their children by playing some games such as backgammon, chess, puzzles or computer games. Children gain self confidence due to this relationship with their parents, too. It certainly is a notable point of playing games referring to a family life. Consequently, playing games alone or with their families gives support adults to preserve their healths, to lessen their stresses and to deal with business problems.

With the development of technology, people, both adults and children, began to give more and more importance to computer based games. The computer based technology actually made games more interesting and more complicated than were they before. Because of their visual and sophisticated subjects, the computer based games can easily contribute to maintain an adult's reflex and intelligence thanks to their interactive skills. Moreover, brain gymnastics with these games are beneficial for adults to solve their personal problems. For example, some business men or consultants achieve much success or make better decisions after playing some computer games when tried of working. This means that computers seem to remove the idea that games are merely for kids.

Enjoyment is another factor that should be considered while thinking of the relation between adults and games. It is certain to believe that many adults get very much pleasure from games. They gain the amusement of their previous childhood again and again while playing games with the child living in their spirits. So, if a director of a company or a president of a country is seen while he or she is playing a computer game or playing football with some kids, it should not be peculiar. Obviously, they will spend more happier time than any child will and forget every types of problems that they have during the game. Last but not least i wish to say that playing games is important for adults as well as all human beings. It is useful, necessary, enjoyable and

educational. Since life, itself, is a game in which the players are we, it is unavoidable to spend time without playing games at any age.

(Essay ID: 338 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 60

Some people assert that playing games is important for adults. In my opinion the importance of playing games depends on the types of games considered. While some games may benefit to health, mental abilities, working capacity, or help to relax, others may harm the person playing in different ways. I think the games that are important for adults to play include those requiring action, intensive thinking and team work. It has been medically proven that physical training is extremely important for adults. It helps not only to maintain fitness, but also enhances the capacity of thinking and working. Therefore participating in sports games, such as basketball, football, tennis and other action games is essential. Games that require intensive thinking develop logic, attention and unconventional approach.. Among this type of games are puzzles, crosswords, and strategy games. And last, but not least, games that involve team work are important to develop further communicability, ability to make correct decisions with consideration of opinions of different people and other skills, because these skills are often used in everyday situations.

Still there are other types of games that may be harmful. These are majorly computer games, which cause severe eye-strain and exposure to radiation. Moreover, computer games not only harm health, but also have a negative impact on the working capacity. Many companies have stringent rules against their employees playing games during work-hours.

There is also one category of games which I believe can be both harmful and beneficial. These are games played for money. On one hand, winning such a game the player feels positive emotions, which have an overall positive influence on the players health and financial situation. On the other hand, loosing the game can drive the person playing into disappointment and even into depression, thus harming his health, not to mention the loss of money.

Thus, in my opinion, the importance of adults playing games can be evaluated depending on the level of positive or negative influences that those game may have on the person involved.

(Essay ID: 301 )

## Topic: 61

No one knows me as well as my parents. No one wants the best for me like my parents. It is natural that I should allow my parents to make important decisions for me. I think all older teenagers (15 to 18 year-olds) should take their parents advice on decisions that concern their education, their social life, and their future careers.

My parents have always chosen the best schools for me to attend. They have encouraged me to attend special prep classes to make sure that I was well prepared for the exams. They have given me tutors to make sure that I understood my subjects well. When it comes to choosing a college, I will trust my parents to make that decision. They know what they can afford and what will give me a good education.

When I was young, my parents would invite children over to play with me. Over the years, I have become very close to these children. They are like my family. We celebrate holidays and birthdays together. We even go to the mountains together in the summer. My parents do not want me to fall

into the wrong crowd. They do not want me to meet and fall in love with someone they do not know. I understand that and I want to make them happy.

My father runs a very successful business and my mother is a well-known politician. They are very well connected and they have many friends who would like me to work for them when I finish school. This is a very good arrangement for me.

If all children follow their parents' wishes, they would probably be happier. Parents only want the best for their children.

(Essay ID: 143 )

## Topic: 62

Friends are very important in everyone's life. But there are different types of friends: some of them are very intelligent, some have a good sense of humor and some are reliable. What I want most is the friend who has a good sense of humor.

Humor is a very important character of a person, because a person who is humorous can always bring you happiness. I have a friend, who is not very intelligent and reliable, but he is one of my best friends, just because he has a good sense of humor. Whenever you call him, talk with him, he always tells you some funny jokes that make you laughing. Even though you are in a very bad mood, he can make you laugh and forget the sad things. A friend with a good sense of humor is very optimistic; they can make your world full of light.

If a person doesn't have a sense of humor at all, that's really bad. No matter how intelligent he is, no matter how reliable he is, he will never bring you happiness, although he can help you solve a few problems, his world is without laughter. In my class there is a very smart guy, but because of his lack of humor, we don't like to play with him, although it seems that he knows everything.

Friend plays a very significant role in everyone's life. But humor is the most important character in a friend, because humorous friends make you happy and see the world optimistically. They make your world full of hope, and full of laughter.

(Essay ID: 377. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 62

I think what I want most in a friend is some one who is reliable. There is two reasons: first, I think a reliable person can be trusted, then, I think whenever I have trouble, I can rely on him, he will be sure to help me a lot.

First of all, as a friend of mine, he must be reliable, so that I can trust him. I think friends are the ones who share secrets with me. I must make sure that he is reliable, then I can tell my even the deepest secret in my heart, may be the skeleton in the cupboard. Well, I'm just kidding, but I do think that being reliable is the most important factor of a friend. Imagine that once you told your secrets to your friend, and you found in the following day that everybody in the school was talking about your secret---not a secret any more---how would you feel? It's such a horrible thing, isn't it? Besides your huge anger, the only thing you could do is to regret that you didn't choose a reliable friend. Now you can see how important choosing a reliable friend is.

Secondly, a reliable friend is always ready to help you whenever you are in trouble. There is an old saying that "a friend in need is a friend indeed" which is very meaningful. That is what a

reliable friend does. You can always rely on him. We can say that a reliable friend is a true friend. One is lucky if he has even one reliable friend in his life. Not too many words are needed for a reliable friend to help you, just one sentence "thank you, my friend" is enough and you needn't think hard in the pay back because that is not necessary. That's the reason why I see reliability as the most important factor when I choose my friends.

A reliable person can be trusted and relied on---that's the two reasons why I think reliability is what I want most in a friend.

(Essay ID: 400. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 62

The answer of this statement depends on your own experience and life style. In my point view, the most important quality for a friend is reliable. Among countless factors which influence the choice, these are three conspicuous aspects as follows.

To me, reliability is the most important quality of a friend. A friend is person whom we know, like, and trust. We may know and like a person who is intelligent, or who has a sense of humor, but we cannot call him a friend unless he is also faithful and trustworthy. Perhaps we all know the famous novel by Victor Hugo, *Notre-Dame de Paris*, and wish that we had a friend like Quasimodo. Although he is ugly, the man has a kind heart and a very loyal nature. He seems dedicated to anyone who will show him in turn kindness. Even if someone we know who does not have a sense of humor, or does not intelligent enough, he can still be our friend because he is the one we can trust.

Another reason can be seen by every person is that a friend must a person whom we can depend on. He is willing to listen to us, give us supports, and sympathizes with us when we are in need. "A friend in need is a friend indeed." A friend is a person whom we can trust our feelings and inner thoughts with, and do not fear that he will betray us. It is hard to imagine that anyone will share his thoughts with a person who, afterwards will spread the content of their conversation to everyone else in the world.

Of course, intelligent and humorous are also important qualities of a friend. A friend who is mentally acute can give us sound judgment and rationality when we have problems; a friend who is funny can give us an enjoyable time, and add spice to our life. But for me, I still think that the most important quality of a friend is being reliable.

(Essay ID: 146 )

## Topic: 62

Friendship is a very important part in everyone's life. There are different kinds of friends: some of them are intelligent, some have a good sense of humor and some are reliable. What I want most is the friend who has a good sense of humor.

Humor is a very important character for a person, because a person who is humorous can always bring us happiness. I have a friend, who is not very intelligent, but he is one of my best friends, simply because he has a good sense of humor. Whenever I call him, talk with him, he always tells me some funny jokes that make me laughing. Even though I am in a very bad mood, he can make me laugh and forget about the sad things. In addition, a person with a good sense of humor is very optimistic; they can make our world full of light.

But if a person doesn't have a sense of humor at all, that's really bad. No matter how intelligent he is, no matter how reliable he is, he will never bring us happiness, although he can help us to solve a few problems, but his world is without laughter. In my class there is a very smart guy, but because of his lack of humor, we don't like to play with him, although it seems that he knows everything.

Friends are very important in everyone's life, and humor is the most important characteristic in a friend, because humorous friends make us happy. They make our life full of joy, and full of laughter.

(Essay ID: 144 )

## Topic: 62

Almost every person in the world needs friends. Different people hold different opinions in choosing friends. Some consider intelligence as the most important characteristics in their friends; others regard a sense of humor as the most significant personality. As far as I am concerned, reliability, which means faith, confidence and trust, is of vital importance. The reasons go as follows.

Firstly, based on reliability, friendship can be lasting. On the one hand, when your friends are faithful, you would love to get in close touch with them. For instance, you could reveal your secrets to them without worry about being betrayed, and tell them your pleasure so as to double the joys. On the other hand, when you are loyal to your friends, they would also like to keep relationship between each other. Undoubtedly, you will be frequently invited to friends' gettogethers and discussions, in which your opinions will be fully taken into consideration since your friends respect you and know your suggestion does good not only to yourself but also to them as well. Thus, willing of both your friends and you to continue the formed friendship will lead to your perpetual friendship.

What's more, reliability makes real friendship more solid and deeper. Take borrowing money as example, it is almost completely sure that, probably besides your family, people you ask for money are your most reliable friends. You turn to them because you trust their sincerity to give you help, and, at the same time, they exert themselves to meet your need because they are confident of your attitude to your friendship, to be more specific, your promise to return money. Friendship between those friends and you, thereby, gets further development and finally becomes really invaluable friendship just in coincide with the old saying- a friend in need is a friend indeed.

In conclusion, reliability can be a norm to exam the real friendship and motivate people to deepen their friendship. When I choose my friends, reliability is the foremost factor to be considered. Not only should my friends be reliable to our friendship, but also I should too.

(Essay ID: 145 )

## Topic: 63

Some people assume that most experiences in our lives that seemed difficult at the time will become valuable lessons for the future. I agree with it. In my opinion, most difficult experiences we go through now will help develop our personalities, such as persistence, independence and confidence, which are most valuable for our future.

Persistence is the first lesson most difficult experiences will teach us. When I was a little girl, teachers and parents always taught me that if you want to succeed in our future, then you must learn how to keep ourselves persisting on our goals. From that time, I know no matter what kind of dreams I hold, I must persist in realizing them. For me, entering a university is a very good example. During my high school, I felt math was the most difficult subject for me. I almost gave up my dreams because of my poor math scores. However my mom asked me not to give up my plan and encourage me to keep going on. Finally I succeeded in entering a prestigious university.

After entering the university, I learned my second lesson - independence. It was a really difficult time for me because I was never far away from my parents for such a long time, what's more, I need to take care of myself not only about living conditions but also about my study. At the first period I really didn't know how to adapt myself into the new environment, it was no surprise that I got lost during that time. Luckily, I have my parents and friends' encouragement to help me go through that quite difficult time. Now I am working in Singapore and I think what makes me get used to this fast society is due to my college's experiences. I believe that I will become more independent than before.

Building enough confidence is another lesson the difficult experiences teaches me. Not everyone is born to be confident. What helps me build my confidence is also through most failures I went through. There is an old saying " failure is the mother of success". Yes, it is true! Through failures we can learn what we are short of and gain a lot of lessons from others. Building confidence is a gradual process. It takes time and you may see our improvement a few years later. I think the chance of getting this job greatly relies on myself to show much confidence that I can do this job well.

There is no denying that three important personalities I learned from most difficult experiences before make my life totally different now. In a short, we need to go through many experiences no matter they are sweet or bitter. Although most experiences are currently difficult or a bit tough for us, it is believed that this kind of influence is powerful and definitely will be valuable for our future.

(Essay ID: 379 )

## **Topic: 63**

Some people argue that most experiences in our lives that seemed difficult at the time, can later become valuable experiences. I cannot agree with them more. There are numerous reasons why I hold confidence on this opinion, and I would explore only a few primary ones here.

Difficulties are beneficial to our personal growth. In the course of our life, we are going to face numerous difficulties and obstacles, and each difficulty will help us grow up, and become a valuable lesson for the future. A toddler falls off the ground for many times before he knows how to walk, and a child learns how to swim after he drinks water in the swimming pool. In addition, only after we experienced failures, we know the value of success. We will never appreciate anything that comes so easy. Difficulties can make us feel stronger and be more confident for the future obstacles.

Furthermore, difficulties in our work can help us gain more experience and knowledge. Most of the times we can gain knowledge and experiences faster through experiencing difficulties in our life and trying to find a solutions to the perplexities that we face. There is a famous saying, no pain, no gain. For example, when we take on a new job that we do not have much experience in, the first few weeks can be extremely painful and we may feel enormous pressure and difficulties. And we will try our best to adjust, to learn and to think, how to do this job better. The more



difficulties we feel, the harder we try to acquire the skills and knowledge to overcome it. Learning and this stage is extremely efficient and our problem-solving skills will increase. After we overcome more and more problems, we can become an experienced worker in this field and will be able to take on more challenges. We will never fear that we will face the same kind of problem again. This means that we have accumulated valuable experiences for the future.

In a word, a difficult experience is a gift that life gives us. We should appreciate it and take it as a precious opportunity to gain knowledge and experience about our study, work and life.

(Essay ID: 147 )

## Topic: 64

There are many advantages for people to work for themselves and have their own business. For example, you don't need to worry about getting up too late for work; you don't need to worry about the relationship between you and your boss; you may go to work at any time you want, because you are the boss of your own business. You may lead a more spontaneous and free-style life. In spite of this, personally, I would like to work for someone else.

No matter what kind of business you own, a domestic or international company, or a small one like a snack shop, you have to take care of many things such as a license, rent, your personnel, your competitors, product-market, even the weather if you own an umbrella shop.

That is what I don't like. I don't like a complicated life. I mean, I am just a normal female who hasn't much ambition either in my life or in my career. I am used to having a simple life, a regular life with discipline, without much risk. What is most important for me, besides work, is that I can still have free time the things I enjoy doing, and don't need to think about the business all the time. For me, being a business owner might have too much risk and stress.

Of course, being an employee, you are subject to discipline, and pay attention to your boss, but that's a part of life, just like for others, paying attention to their own business, earning a lot of money, and having risk are parts of their lives.

In a phrase, I would rather to work for someone else. I just want to have my own simple and regular life!

(Essay ID: 148 )

## Topic: 64

Some people prefer to work for themselves or own a business. Others prefer to work for an employer. Personally, I prefer to work for myself. I choose to be self-employed because of the reasons as follows.

I can decide what I do according my own willing and interest. This point is the most important because one person can find work motivity from his interest. I also can decide how to do the thing. I can choose my own directions and ways, whereas those who are employed by others must do work according to the directions of their employers.

The other important point is that I have freedom to decide when I do the thing. The time I work is determined by myself. I am not constricted by other people. Hence, if I am tired, I can rest in the daytime; if I have more energy, I can work late at night. I have more freedom on the choice of work time than those who work for an employer.

I work for myself, so I only can depend on myself. This can train me to learn more knowledge and to work hard and teach me to face the success and the failure correctly. I can learn how to take advantage of different conditions and deal with different situations from the practice. I can learn to encourage myself when I succeed and not to be afraid of difficulties and failures.

Based on the above statements, I think that self-employing has more advantages. So I prefer to be self-employed.

(Essay ID: 345. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 64

Many teachers prefer to assign homework to their students everyday. Some people may think that daily homework is unnecessary and that it may be even an extra burden to children. I believe, however, it will definitely help students study their subjects well. Assigning homework to students is totally necessary for their study.

It is an important way of studying to assign homework to students everyday. There are a lot of ways of studying for students, such as attending classes, discussion, field trips and so forth. But doing homework is much more a direct and intensive way of studying. By doing homework, students can absorb those viewpoints that teachers have lectured in class more thoroughly and keep them deeply in mind by reviewing them over and over.

Children can be easily distracted by something fun at home and down street and finally spending all their time playing. That teachers assign them homework and ask for handing in when they return to school will push students to go to study as frequently as possible. Thus ensures students do well in study.

Also, assigning homework to students everyday will help them learn self-discipline and responsibility. Students must always remind themselves that they are students and studying is their main job rather than playing. They must realize that if they did not accomplish their homework, they would be punished by their teachers. They must know their responsibility and enforce themselves to study. These, the sense of responsibility and self-discipline, are useful qualities helping a child form to be a person.

Overall, it is a good idea that teachers assign homework to students everyday. It can ensure them to spend more time on studying and eventually lead to a success at study. It can also help students learn responsibility and self-discipline that will benefit them in social life in the future. For these reasons, I think that all teachers should assign homework to their students everyday.

(Essay ID: 522. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 65

Whether the city should try to preserve its old, historic building or destroy them? I believe that different people will have different opinions. According to my experiences, I think that we should preserve these old, historic building. I like to use following reasons to explain why I think so.

The first and important reason is that every old building represents an important piece of history. Undoubtedly, they can reflect contemporary culture, custom and life style, etc. For example, the Former Imperial Palace in China, where ancient emperors have ever stayed, has had a longstanding history as long as over 2,000 years. Through it, we can not only remember many

famous historical events, but can also know that ancient people have grasped very advanced architecture techniques and methods.

I believe if we demolish these valuable buildings, we will destroy an significant piece of history also. More seriously, we won't be able to rebuild them. What people need isn't the duplication or copy. In many old cities, there are some old houses at where there were many important meetings hold. When we visited old meeting sites, we seemed to back to that turbulent or excited time. As if we can hear again what those important historic characters were talked about each other vigorously.

Moving on to wider themes, I admit that some old buildings have got a bit dilapidated and unsightly, and haven't generated any revenue for us any more. But if we can refurbish them, I believe that they could start to attract visitors to cities again.

From what has been discussed above, I can safely draw the conclusion that we should preserve these old and historic buildings.

(Essay ID: 149 )

## Topic: 65

It is a controversial problem that whether a city should preserve its old,historic buildings or destroy them and replace them with modrn buildings.Some people think that a city should preserve its old,historic buildings because they are the witness of the past,others think that a city should destroy them and replace them with modern buildings because they take up a lot of places.As far as I am concerned, I prefer the previous idea that the old,historic buildings should be preserved.

Although the old,historic buildings would take up a lot of places and the modern society will need these places to building the new buildings such as skyscrapers,the old,historic buildings are the witness of the history.It is known that a modern city comes from the past history which had a valuable experience.The old,historic buildings could tell people what happened in the past and what was the past like.From that,people could gain kownledge and experience to contribute to the modern society better.

The old,historic buildings could also be offered to education.They can become the teaching bases for children.It is necessary for children to know the past,so that they can kown better about the present society.In addition,children will be interested in the strange structure of the buildings and the funny things in the buildings,which will promote the childern to study.

Finally,the preserved building would offer the important clues for archeologists to study the past.It is more valuable to maintain them well than destroy them to build new ones.

In conclusion,the old,historic buildings should be preserved for the reasons above.First is that they are the witness of the past,then they could teach children something and last they are the important clues for archeologists.

(Essay ID: 431. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 65

The issue here is whether old, historic buildings in a city should be preserved or replaced by modern buildings. In my opinion, buildings of historical value should definitely be protected rather than destroyed. I base my point of view on following reasons.

Firstly, each historical building is precious property of human being. Like an antic, the value of an old building can not be measured by money. We will lose those valuable historical buildings permanently if we don't preserve them. Once a historical building is destroyed, we can never restore it; even if it is restored to its original look, the new building is only a fake replica; the historical value will never come back to us.

Secondly, a historic building always represents history and has educational functions. Each one of them can tell us a story. For example, some buildings are evidences of foreign invasion, others are signs of various religions existed in past decades. People nowadays can always obtain historic or cultural information through visiting these old buildings and sites. Although we can learn the past from books, pictures and by visiting museums, nothing can compare with the actual historical buildings themselves, which can bring vivid educational material to us.

Thirdly, historical buildings are a symbol of a city and a valuable tourist resource; therefore a city cannot go without historical buildings. Beijing is represented by the Forbidden City, the Summer Palace, which are all historical relics. It is hard to imagine that someday the City of Beijing decides that all these buildings should be destroyed and modern buildings be built on their sites. Because those historical relics and buildings are too important to the city and can generate profound tourist income. A city will benefit more by protecting its historic buildings than by replacing them with modern buildings.

For all reasons given above, I will strongly suggest a city municipal should preserve the old, historic buildings.

(Essay ID: 150 )

## Topic: 66

I strongly agree that classmates are more influential to a child's success in school than parents. This I support with the following reasons.

A child spends so much time with his classmates in school. They study together, play together, and write exams together. Psychologists agree that during their first years in school, children are more influenced by their companies during their emotional and mental growth. As a result, classmates are whom a kid contact most in school and will therefore have much impact on his achievements in school.

In addition, a child has nothing to hide with his classmates in terms of academic performance. For instance, a child who does a bad job in math exam will be revealed on his grades; a child who wins the first prize in oral debate contest will be rewarded before the whole group of students. So his classmates know both his good and bad sides of his performance in school. However, a child will conceal something to his parents while describing his conduct in school--often limit in those good points. From this, we can easily conclude that only those who understand more about a child can exert more influence on him.

Finally, classmates are of similar age with a child. They share so much interest in common. So a child is more sentimentally attracted by his classmates' activities. If he is in a group of children who are interested in innovations, he will more likely to think of inventing something all day. So classmates are very helpful in his success in school.

From the above discussed, I agree that classmates will influence a child more in his school success because they have more time together, they understand him better than his parents, and they have so much common interest together.

(Essay ID: 151 )

## Topic: 66

Although students stay with their classmates all time in school, parents are a more important influence on a child's success. I disagree with the statement that classmates are a more important influence on a child's success in school, because of the reasons as follows.

First of all, parents are the people who understand their own children best. They know the children's good sides and bad habits. They can correct the children's bad idea and make them give rid of the bad habits. So children can found a good base to get success in school. But classmates can not do these work.

The other reason is that parents have experiences on a lot of matters. If children have problems, parents can give them their experiences to help them solve problems. If parents have no similar experiences, they still can give their children some advice and make them avoid the wrong directions. Classmates can also give children some help, but they do not have more experiences than parents. So their influence is less than that of parents.

Parents also have other important influence on their children's success in school. Parents may analyze something in different ways and have different opinions from children. Classmates also can have different opinions on one thing, but they are at the same conditions with each other, their opinions may be similar or narrow. Children can learn more comprehensive knowledge about on thing from their parents.

So, based on the above discussion, I think it is clear that parents are a more important influence than classmates on a child's success in school.

(Essay ID: 268. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 66

According to my experience, I fully agree the view that classmates are a more important influence than parents on a child's success in school. I like to use following reasons to explain why I think do.

The first and most important reason is children can easily share their thoughts with peers. Undoubtedly, children can readily exchange their ideas at the front of classmates. I clearly remember that I like to confide my troubles to my little friends when I found that my parents could not utterly understand my thoughts. Sometimes when I could not get a better score, with which only my parents were not satisfied, my friends could give my understanding and comfort. Their words of comfort let me refresh to continue to study hard.

Another equally important reason is that the communication with classmates frequently is good for the cultivation of our characteristic. When we often contact with our classmates or friends, we can find our own advantages and drawbacks that I may be not conscious of at the front of our parents. Classmates can frankly point out our shortages and these helps will play an important role in our future life.

Moving on to the wider theme, young active and vigorous virtues will drive us more likely to stay with our classmates. After all, we have more topics with our friends. We can freely talk about our dreams, our idols, even our secrets, which only belong to our own.

Of course, I admit that parents can also give us many help. For example, they can teach us how to analyze positive and negative sides of every thing. When we encounter heavy difficulties, parents can give us immediate help. But if all factors are contemplated, the advantages of classmates carry more weight than those of parents.

From what has been discussed above, we can safely draw the conclusion that classmates are a more important influence than parents on a child's success in school.

(Essay ID: 134 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## **Topic: 67**

According to my experience, I prefer to hire an experienced worker at a higher salary. I like to use following reasons to explain why I think so.

The first and important reason is that experienced workers themselves mean higher efficiency. I remember the words say, "Time is money". An experienced worker just can meet this demand. Such as, many factories now adopt the system that worker's salary will depend on the number of their qualified products. In such case, although some experienced workers can get very high salaries, considered the potential profit made by those products, I prefer to employ those experienced workers.

Another equally important reason is that experienced workers mean less accident at the workshop. Now people's insurance consciousness becomes stronger and stronger. If the accidents happened, the employer will pay enormous compensation fee for injured workers. As for the apprentice, the accidents are very easily caused and almost inevitable only because he/she has no enough work experiences. In effect, the factory or company can fully avoid these accidents and unnecessary financial loss through hiring experienced employees.

Moving on to the wider theme, experienced workers are also the pledge of factories and companies' ability. Now people have gradually realized that experienced worker, that is so-called talents, will be the most important factor for the enterprise's future prosperity. Such as, many famous companies prefer to provide more attractive welfare than other companies in order to get their ideal talents, and then keep themselves long stable development.

Of course, as far as saving enterprise's expense is concerned, a lower salary may be a better appeal for some companies or factories. But if all the factors are contemplated, the advantages of experienced workers carry more weight than those of inexperienced workers.

There are many other reasons that should be considered, but all in all, I rather hire an experienced employee at a higher salary than employ an inexperienced worker at a lower salary.

(Essay ID: 152 )

## **Topic: 67**

When it comes to whether an employer should hire workers with less experiences and lower pay, or to hire experienced workers with a higher salary, since there are always advantages and

disadvantages of the two, and there are always different situations, my personal option is that different strategy should be applied for different situations.

For situations where basic and simple jobs which requires less training, and cutting down the cost is important for the survival of the business, I would prefer to hire someone who has less experience, and willing to work under a lower pay. For example, a factory should hire more inexperienced laborers to work on the part of the plant where less skill but more physical strength is needed; and a restaurant owner should hire a cheaper kitchen hand rather than more chefs to cut down the cost of operation.

On the other hand, for situations when more knowledge and skills is crucial for a job, I would tend to hire someone who is more experienced and would rather pay more salary. Training an inexperienced person for an advanced position can cost a great deal of money, and a mistake an inexperienced makes sometimes can bring disaster to a company. Therefore an experienced personnel is a valuable asset for a business. Sometimes the value cannot be measured by money. A company may lost millions of dollars of revenue when some important positions are vacant and it has to look for someone who is qualified or take a lot of time to train a new person.

In conclusion, when we decide whether to hire a inexperienced, cheaper worker or an experienced, but more expensive worker, it is always depend on the nature of the business and the position, the amount of training required, and of course, the employers' personal preferences.

(Essay ID: 135 )

## **Topic: 67**

If I were an employer, I would be glad to hire an inexperienced worker at a lower salary. My reasons are as follows:

First, those who can accept the lower salary are those not care too much about money, what they care the most is personal development. The success and failure of a company are correlated to employees' attitude, a success company needs some men with the heart that eager to success.

Second, inexperienced men are always modest and friendly, they like to learn and listen to others opinion or suggestion, so they can improve their working skills by accept some right opinions. These are two important characteristics of a good employee, not only they can bring success business to the company but also can set up a good company impression to the public.

Third, those inexperienced employees are mostly just graduated from school. They are active and enthusiastic, to some extent, they prefer working together as a team to working alone. teamwork can speed up the working efficiency and also make the company fill with energy.

Since there are so many advantages, why not hire inexperienced guys!

(Essay ID: 383. This is a 5 point essay)

## **Topic: 67**

Some employers prefer to hire people who have work experiences and pay them higher salaries. They may think that if they want to make a success in business, they have to do so. If I were an employer, however, I would rather hire the inexperienced employees and paid them a relatively lower salaries. I do not care about whether experiences an employee has or not, I really care about

the cost. Besides, it needs not only experiences to do a job well and experienced workers may not definitely be suitable to certain job position.

Hiring an experienced employee to do a job that he has experienced means that he can easily make the job done or do it efficiently. But here is the problem. I am a poor boss. As a young man, I have not earned much money myself. The experienced worker always asks too high salary to afford at my present financial condition. If I managed to pay employees higher salaries, it would probably push me to close my business eventually. So, I need to hire the inexperienced workers with lower salaries to cut down the cost of my business.

To run business well, I have to consider a lot of other factors of an employee, not only the employee's experience. Is the employee loyal to me? Could he probably cheat me in business operation? I really concern with these questions. If he chose to be not loyal to me or chose to cheat me at work, the experiences he has would be useless for my business. Considering of this, I would rather hire a worker who is inexperienced but loyal to me and trustworthy.

An employee who has a lot of experiences does not always mean that he is just suitable to an assigned job. Someone who has experiences does not mean that he has experienced just this present job. His experiences are simply related with his former jobs. Everything can be changed over time and the needs for the same job can be changed, too. So, if I hired an experienced worker, perhaps I would still have to train him for just the present job again. Thus, if I have to train an experienced employee and pay him higher salary, why not train an inexperienced employee and pay him lower salary, now that I have to train any employee anyway? The cost of training is just the same, but the salaries I have to pay later are different: the former is higher; the latter, lower. Anyone who has normal sense will definitely choose the latter: the inexperienced but cheaper employee.

In short, taking the cost, the suitability and the loyalty and honesty of employees into consideration, if I were an employer, I would definitely hire the inexperienced employees and pay them lower salaries.

(Essay ID: 525 )

## Topic: 68

There's much controversy about the necessity of daily homework for students. Some say homework is necessary since only practice makes perfect, while others disagree because they believe a student should have the freedom to study whatever in whatever forms just as he/she likes to.

In my opinion, daily homework is necessary for students. First, a teacher could assign homework as a guide for the students to study. To learn something. A student needs help of a teacher because he/she does not have an overall understanding of the knowledge he is going to study as the teacher. This means, at the beginning, a student could not well plan his/her study, just as a kid who is for the first time in a swimming pool could do nothing but play with water. And a teacher could make a good study plan for him/her, so that he/she could learn efficiently. Secondly, Sometimes, even when a student, especially a young one, has already understand what he/she should do in order to master some skill or knowledge, he/she is still unwilling to do this for the lack of motivation. Hey, don't tell me that you have never been lazy at all when you were young. Some homework could function as a task for the student to perform which is helpful to motivate him/her. Thirdly, homework is an important form of feedback for a teacher to understand the effectivity of his/her work. As I have mentioned before, a teacher makes a study plan for the students; but does it really work? or does it work for all the students? It's not difficult to know this



only if the teacher pay some attention to the homework of the students. Then he/she may be able to find if there's some problems in his/her teaching, and make corresponding adjustment of his/her teaching, either for all the students or for a single one. Without some feedback, it is impossible for the teacher to do this. A test is also a good form of feedback, but obviously one or two tests are not enough, and sometimes this kind of feedback just comes to late.

However, This conclusion might be misleading that one may believe all forms of homework are necessary. Actually, only proper amount of homework in proper forms is acceptable; some homework may not only fail to help the students, but on contrary bore them, so much so that they may lose their innate interest to study. "Proper" homework, in my opinion, should vary in its forms; it might be some extensive reading, a paper, or even just a game, as well as other ordinary exercises. And it should leave enough freedom to the students so that they could do things they really like to do with self-motivation, rather than unwillingness. We should always remember that homework is something for us to guide the students, rather than drive them. Only if a teacher keep this in his/her mind, the homework could be of most help to the students.

(Essay ID: 461 )

## Topic: 68

"You must finish your assignment when coming back from school,"my mother always told me when I was a child. Therefore, I am used to doing my homework as my first thing at home.

According to my habits and fondness I am unanimous with this statement that teacher assign homework everyday. Maybe others hate doing homework everyday because they take it as a burden which will reduce their time for playing games. Here!Let me tell you why I advocate it.

The main reason is that teachers assigning homework everyday really helps me go over my lessons I have had on class. Through my homework I can understand the knowledge by myself and get what the teacher said the most important things in order in my brain. I really liked playing and postponed homework to the next day. Woo! That realize an old saying "Bite more than you can chew" .

Another reason is that completing homework everyday will help to raise habit that everyone need think in his/her own way independently.What teacher teaches us is just their understanding track and what we gain on class is just others' experience.

What I discussed above is just two points of many persuasive ones. To some extent,we may obey the rule--"Always work and study makes Jack a dull boy".

But if all these factors are contemplated the advantage of assigning homework everyday carry more weight than those of the opposite one.What I agree with is just personal idea.Maybe you can remember this word."Going over what you've learned will give you more new knowledge."

(Essay ID: 424. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 68

Many teachers assign homework to students everyday, and they seldom doubt it. However, as far as I am concerned, it is not necessary.

To begin with, not every teacher has classes everyday. For instance, a chemistry teacher may have no class on Monday. It makes students learn nothing new about chemistry that day. As a result, it

becomes unnecessary for the chemistry teacher to assign homework. Because if the teacher still assigns homework, perhaps the students will not have enough time to review what they have learned that day, such as physics and biology.

In addition, everyone must have his or her own leisure time. Students are not machines. They cannot work without any rest. Even if a machine works everyday, its efficiency will become lower and lower and refuse to work finally. So the teachers must let students have some spare time, when they can play games, have a picnic and do other things they like. It is good to children's health.

Last but not least, assigning homework everyday is not a scientific way of studying. Suppose you must do physics homework everyday. After several weeks, you will probably think physics is so boring that it no longer interests you. How could one learn physics well under such circumstance? I think the only way to solve this problem is not to assign physics homework everyday.

So from what has been discussed, one can reach only this conclusion that daily homework is not necessary at all.

(Essay ID: 427. This is a 5 point essay)

## **Topic: 68**

Most students in this world struggle daily with their homework. Many teachers believe that daily homework is the key to education and school success. I agree with this opinion. Here are my reasons.

First, daily homework can reinforce the knowledge students learned at school. A student cannot concentrate every minute, and remember everything that a teacher taught in class. Daily homework is the best way for students to review what he learned during the day, and study on the problems that he do not understand, and prepare for the next day's work.

Second, daily homework is the bases of succeed in exams. This is especially true for those students who are not so bright, and the only way to succeed in school is doing homework each day. Whenever the homework flags the class behavior dips, the social behavior is muddled, and the grades take a nosedive. No matter what the ability of a student, daily homework is the key to students' school success.

Third, daily homework can help students develop good learning habits. Learning is not always an enjoyable experience and students always need to spend hard time on it. Daily homework can form a kind of habit of learning for students. Once a habit is formed, learning is not such a painful thing and a student can find it more and more interesting. Obviously this will greatly benefit to a student.

In conclusion, daily homework is crucial to students' success. Life requires us to keep learning in order to catch on with this fast pacing society. A good learning habit and method that we developed when we are students can benefit us for the rest of our life.

(Essay ID: 153 )

## **Topic: 68**

I do strongly this idea that teachers should assign homework to students every day. There are numerous reasons why I advocate the attitude of assigning homework everyday, and I would in here explain a few of the most important ones.

At first, homework is helpful for students to recall the knowledge that they study at the same day. In general, students would like to play. After going home, if there is no homework, they will only play all kinds of games. Maybe they will forget all knowledge. But homework will force them to sit their chairs to review what they learn. So, homework will help students study better.

Secondly, homework will help teachers understand how their students study. Through examining their students' homework, they can know whether their students understand what they teach in the class. I feel that it will help teachers improve their educational quality.

Of course, there are some people who contradict homework because they think that assigning homework everyday will enhance the students' load. But I feel that study is the most important task of a student. After going home, they should spend some time reviewing their knowledge. Only like this, they can acquire progress.

After understanding the reasoning above, I think that nobody would doubt this idea that teachers should assign homework everyday.

(Essay ID: 454. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 69

In a modern society, most people are easy to change jobs. However, they may feel that they don't have much confidence when facing a new job, not because of a new environment but also a lack of knowledge about the new job. Due to different requirements from different backgrounds, I think vocational education is in need. The reasons are as follow:

Firstly, vocational education can help us adapt to a new environment fast. Although one is doing the same job in a field, there are also differences existing in different fields. For example, an English translator needs different background knowledge if he is working in chemistry and IT field. When he translates some articles or does some interpretations about IT field, he needs to know the knowledge about IT, like the technical terms. Suppose that he doesn't know any technical terms, how can he understand some special meanings of these words, or even do a translation successfully? This is the reason that he needs some vocational training about IT, such as basic skills or common terms. Once he knows more, he will adapt the new environment fast and have a confidence in doing his job.

In addition, vocational education can increase a person's value. As a humanbeing, we are learning everyday. No matter what kind of knowledge we learn, as long as they are good, we can benefit from them. This society is full of new technologies and new inventions. Of course we cannot finish learning all when we are in school. But we also cannot give up learning when starting a job. We still need to upgrade ourselves to get used to this fast-changing society. In order to achieve this goal, we need vocational education to help us. They are more practical than the knowledge we learned from schools because this knowledge you need to use everyday. Only mastering it firmly can we do the job well.

Last but not least, vocational education can help us to be promoted to a high level. As we know, a person to be promoted to a manager or director needs to have a thorough understanding about the job and the field he is doing. By understanding the knowledge or skills he needs, he has a strong

competition against other people. In other words, he has a priority to be promoted if he knows his job well through vocational education.

In short, without vocational education people use what they have already learned, but they won't focus on what kind of knowledge they should learn in order to adapt their new environments, add their values and increase their competitions. Above explanations are reasons i think vocational education is very important to us. Thus, if i could study a subject that i have never had the opportunity to study, i will choose vocational education.

(Essay ID: 232 )

## Topic: 69

If I could study a subject that I have never had opportunity to study, I would choose to study how to use the Internet. There are a lot of advantages that the Internet can bring to us. For example, it can get us informed timely, expose us to a lot of chances of knowing other peoples and their cultures, and help us obtain the materials for our studies conveniently. If I know how to use it, I can take the advantages of it.

The Internet can get me informed timely. There is always a lot of news on the Internet that is broadcasting 24 hours everyday and updating timely. I can read the headlines, the financial news, the sports points, and the weather reports every time when I connect my phone modem with my computer. From reading the news on the Internet, I can know everything happening around me. It is very important for me to deal with my daily life with this information. It gives me a lot of chance to know different peoples. I can know what they are thinking about and how they are living their lives. The World Wide Web Sites include all of the countries and religions' information. I can tour internationally on Net without going out of my house. From visiting their pages, I can know more details about them. That is helpful to us since all of the peoples in the world should understand each other to make sure that we could live together peacefully.

The Internet gives me the convenience of getting almost any useful materials for my study. I can just type a few letters and click the search engine to get them. I can do them in the early morning in my pajama while having my breakfast at the same time. Nothing could be more convenient than the Internet in doing research work like this.

In short, if I could choose one subject to study, I would definitely choose to study the Internet for its timely updating news and its convenience. I would also like to travel to new worlds and meet other different peoples. That will be really helpful for me to live a life successfully.

(Essay ID: 523 )

## Topic: 69

If I could study a subject that I have never had the opportunity to study, I would choose computer programming, because computer programming is so vital to today's society.

Firstly, computer programming is important to our daily life. With the advance of technology, we are practically facing an information age; every piece of information today is stored in the information highway, which consists of computers and networks as hardware, operating systems and software. Without software installed in these systems, the computers are like bodies without soul, and will not be able to function at all. Only with programming languages, information can be retrieved and stored into the information highway. Whether we hook up a phone line or television cable, book a ticket, travel to a foreign country, apply for a passport, an operator will

immediately check our information from the computer network. If the computer systems are down, we cannot go anywhere or do anything. We can safely say that computer programming languages are ubiquitous in our daily life.

Secondly, computer programming is important to technological success. With the skill of computer programming, scientists can write programs to monitor their scientific research and experiments, to analyze the trend of technological development, and to forecast the future. Computer programs can simulate a scientific experiment in a much cost-effective and timely manner, thus can save scientists a lot of time and money, therefore it can greatly faster the pace of the development of technology. For example, a civil engineer can use a modeling program to simulate the water flow of an urban area; when there is a storm, he can quickly know which parts of the city have the danger of being under the water and dispatch his crew to that area to prevent the disaster.

Last but not least, computer programming techniques can help us earn higher salaries in our future jobs. Since computer programming is important to our society and daily life, programmers can usually have a higher salary than other professionals. Many people have shifted to computer programming from other careers during the economic boom, and even when the economy is going low at the moment, programmers and computer engineers can still live a better life than others.

From all above, I can safely draw a conclusion that if I have a chance to study, I would not hesitate to choose computer programming.

(Essay ID: 154 )

## Topic: 70

I support the statement that automobile has caused serious problems. While automobile has brought us many conveniences, it surely has brought us many undesirable consequences, of which three can be singled out: traffic congestion, air pollution, and highway accidents.

Automobiles have congested City streets. The problem is more obvious when the masses of motor vehicles enter or leave cities at peak traffic hours. The constantly growing number of automobiles throughout the world has made the congestion program worse and worse because planners and engineer simply cannot find a solution to keep up with the increasing volume of the traffic growth. The widespread use of automobiles for business travel has also led in many cities to a decline in public-transit systems, which result in more and more use of private cars, and exacerbate the congestion problems.

Air pollution is another program caused by the automobile. Automobile exhausts commonly contribute half the atmospheric pollutants in large cities and even more in cities where atmospheric and topographic conditions cause the smog formation. Although many cities require the installation of catalytic converters and other controls on motor vehicles to restrict the emission of pollutants, the concentration of many thousands of motor vehicles in large cities has given the problem a new dimension.

Highway accidents create a distressing toll of fatalities and injuries wherever there is widespread use of automobiles. Each year there are hundreds of thousands of motor vehicle fatalities worldwide and about 50,000 in the United States alone. The social and economic costs of such accidents are enormous. Efforts to improve highway safety have been successful in most countries, but a reduction in the ratio of fatalities and injuries per distance traveled is often offset by increases in numbers of accidents because of the ever-growing use of motor vehicles.

In short, automobile has brought us more bane than boon. We should take public transportation whenever possible, and reduce the number of cars running in urban streets.

(Essay ID: 156 )

## Topic: 70

Although automobiles have improved our modern life in some way for its speed, convenience, and capacity of carrying things, we have had to pay the price for it. Now, as more and more automobiles have been putting into use, the problems that the automobile has caused are seemed to be more and more serious accordingly. These problems, in my mind, like the accidents, the air pollution, the damage of the ozone layers should be given more attention than anytime before.

There are a lot of problems that has been causing by the automobile. It kills hundreds of thousands of people and disables many more every year. It drinks up our precious fossil fuels that cannot be replaced. New roads for the automobile also eat up our precious farmlands while many children are starving all around the world. These problems are really serious and upsetting many of us.

The most serious problem caused by the automobile is the air pollution. It is said that it emits millions of tons of harmful gas into the air everyday. The dirt air harms our human beings health badly. It can cause a variety of diseases such as plumbism, insomnia, mental disability and even certain kinds of cancer. That is really terrible.

Air pollution caused by the automobile can give rise to even more serious consequences. One thing, it will destroy the ozone layers that protect the lives on the earth from the hurt of the strong and direct ultraviolet rays. Much more ultraviolet can also destroy the fragile ecosystem on the earth. It is just the life circle in which we survive. Another thing is that the air pollution caused by the automobile can lead to the global warming. If the weather is getting warmer and warmer, the icebergs scattered in both of the two poles of the earth will be melted, which will cause the sea level rising and flooding all the cities and villages along the seashores. The lost of the lives and property will be countless. That is really a tremendous disaster.

I do not mean to deny the fact that the automobile has improved our modern life in many ways. It acts a vital role in our social life. It also supports our industries. It is indispensable in our modern life. We cannot imagine how we can live a modern life without the automobile. However, the problems it has caused today, such as the lives and properties lost, the dirty air and the consequences of the pollution, seems to be more dangerous and obvious than anytime. Therefore, it will never over do to emphasize the seriousness of these problems and urge the governments and other responsible organizations to solve them

(Essay ID: 526 )

## Topic: 70

Since the first automobile was introduced to our life, we can notice that there are a lot of changes happened around us. As a modern transportation, it not only brings convenience to our daily life, but also enhances the efficiency.

One of advantages of using the automobile is that it can give the users much more convenience compared with other transportations, such as bike or bus. For me, I like to go to supermarket once per week and normal buy majority foods at one time. Can you imagine that I need to carry a lot of foodstuff and maybe take a crowded bus to reach home. How is it inconvenient! Suppose that I

have a car, and then I will feel very relaxed because what I need to do is to put all my stuff at the back of the car. I can go back with nice music and happy mood of just shopping.

On the other hand, the automobile can save our time and energy. Driving the automobile, we can go wherever we want or even further place. We can decide the destination and reach there faster than other transportations. Assuming that a train takes about two hours to reach Suzhou from Shanghai, but a car only needs about one hour. So we can use the balance one hour to do any other things or enjoy the views first. After all, time means a lot to modern people now. It can mean money to businessmen, knowledge to school students and profit to companies. By means of cutting time with the help of the automobile, we can increase the efficiency in a society.

Of course, I must admit that in the meantime the automobile also brings out a lot of problems such as traffic jam and air pollution. But these outcomes cannot be avoided during the development of a society. I believe we will have a better solution to solve all these problems.

Generally speaking, I would like to say the automobile has improved modern life through providing more convenience to people and enhancing the efficiency. We should encourage society to support automobile industry and develop different kinds of automobiles to meet various customer needs.

(Essay ID: 155 )

## Topic: 71

There is much discussion on the relationship between income and leisure hours. Some people like high-paying jobs that demand so much work time that little time can be shared with family and friends. However, others choose lower-paying jobs that give them more leisure time.

Admittedly, by earning more money, one is able to purchase more expensive things, like a large house with luxury decorations. The moment he get those, he may feel great fulfillment. However, an ironic question comes up to him immediately: does he have enough time to enjoy what he has earned? Just imagine that this person spend as much as 60 percent of his life on work, while the rest 30 percent is taken up by his sleep. Whether the house is large enough makes no difference to him, and let along the decoration — he has no time to appreciate it at all. What he really need at home is only a comfortable bed. Similarly, it is true that he has sufficient money to taste delicious foods in different restaurants, but only 10 percent of his life is left for eating, so that the only choice for him is the cheap fast food sold near his work place.

So people should ask themselves such a serious question, “What is the purpose of our hard work?” One of the most important answers is for a better life. Maybe sometimes people make less money with shorter work hours, but they have more free time to spend with their beloveds, to experience the best moments that life offers them. An ancient Greek philosopher said, “Happiness is doubled when shared with others.” With enough leisure time, they can watch sunrise at seashore with their lovers, or count stars at a mountaintop; they may eat a wonderful dinner at their little cozy homes with their family, chatting about amusing things. All these do not need much money, but a great deal of time.

Furthermore, family and friends give people vital emotional support. There are countless annoying things happening in everyday life. When people drag their heavy feet back home, the warmth of family help to dispel most of their tiredness and worries. Also, when they encounter frustrations, they can confide their troubles to their friends. The consolation and encouragement from friends will turn into strings of miraculous notes to disperse their uncomfortable feelings.

With little time shared with them, one will bear more and more pressures and bitterness, and run out of powers eventually.

From what has been discussed above, in order to lead a meaningful and pleasuring life, I prefer a lower income job that gives more free time to me to spend with my family and friends.

(Essay ID: 157 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## **Topic: 71**

Some people may prefer to have a lower-paying job as long as the job asks for shorter working hours so they can have more free time spending with their friends and family. However, I would rather be given a higher-paying job with longer hours, even if I would have little time with my friends and family. I do not much care about the free time spending with my friends and family nowadays; I really care about the money. Besides, all my friends and my family members are usually busy in working. Furthermore, if I do not earn a lot of money, I cannot spend my free time with my friends and family happily.

I really care about the money because my budget is too tight nowadays. I am so poor a student. The tuition is too high, but I have to pay it. I also have to pay my rentals of room and pay the board. I have to pay the transportation fares, the books, the clothes and a lot of daily supplies. All these seem to be a heavy financial burden to me. So, I have to look for a job that could offer me higher salary.

My friends and my family members are all very busy all day long. Some of them are busy in working; others are busy in studying. They are usually having little free time to spend with their friends and families, including me. If I were given a shorter hours job and more free time, I could not meet them frequently either. But the money I would have lost.

Besides, even if my friends or my family and I have managed to find out some leisure time to spend together, if I have not gotten enough money, where the fun will be? Any meeting or party costs a fortune, even the simplest picnic. If we have no money to be spent for our gathering, we have to just sit over there and chat. We will feel boring sooner. Knowing this, I am eager for a higher-paying job so that I can get the money ready for the meetings in the future.

For all these reasons, I would like to have a higher-paying job to support myself and earn enough money to meet my busy friends and family someday later. Although this job cannot offer me more time to spend with my friends and family now, I believe that I will compensate it after I have become some kind of millionaire in the future.

(Essay ID: 524 )

## **Topic: 71**

Between a high-paying job with long hours and a lower-paying job with shorter hours, I will definitely choose a high-paying job with long hours, although I might have little time to spend with my family and friends.

Firstly, money can help my dreams come true. I need a lot of money to do many things. For example, I want to buy a huge house with a garden and a swimming pool. I also want to have an expensive car. Maybe my relatives need my financial assistance. Especially, I hope my family can have a kind of comfortable life. My children can go to a famous private university to get excellent education. If I have no money, all of my dreams cannot come true.



In addition, to me, making a lot of money is a sign of success. I think that no one respects a poor man in today's society. From newspaper to television, almost all media focus on wealthy people instead of the poor. I cannot let the others consider me an incompetent man.

Of course, making this choice means that I have to pay a price. Perhaps, I cannot spend too much time with my family and friends. But I never regret my decision because I believe that both my family and my friends can understand me. For my family, I think they should know whom I do this for. For my friends, they will think how successful I am and they will be proud of me.

In conclusion, money is so important to me that I must choose a high-paying job regardless of the consequences it will cause.

(Essay ID: 356 )

## Topic: 72

Many people in the world share a belief that grades make students work hard. I agree with the above statement because I believe that high grades are more helpful in getting a bright future.

One of the benefits of the high grade is that it promotes a learner's interest. Interest is the best motivation to encourage students to learn. If a learner has a good score in English, he will find that English is a beautiful language. For example I love to learn math, because it brings me happiness when I get a high score in a math exam. When I went to university, I selected math as my major.

The second reason is that schools give us a chance to learn knowledge, why not try our best to get it. In our lives this knowledge has an important effect on our mind which needs to be wise by and by. In addition, self-esteem may be improved by good marks. It is also important to our life.

A further solid argument for the high grade is that it means a good future career. Many companies would rather hire students who are with high grades.

As far as I am concerned, I come to the notion that there are main reasons why I support that grades encourage students to learn. Firstly, high scores spark learner's interests. Secondly, students get self-esteem through it. Furthermore, A good job may wait for these students who have high marks.

(Essay ID: 394. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 72

In many schools, teachers evaluate students by their grades. Many people think that it is unfair and one-sided to evaluate students by grades and will discourage students to learn. I believe, however, grades encourage students to learn. The reasons can be analyzed as follows.

To begin with, using grades as a standard to evaluate students can give students stress of learning. No stress, no motivation. In order to get high grades, students must study hard. They must read more books, do their homework carefully. Stress makes them learn more knowledge. Stress of grades simultaneously forces and encourages students to learn.

Grades can encourage students to compete with each other. The modern society is full of competition. Students can learn the concept of competition through grades. At the same time, they can learn the spirit of competition. To compete with others and obtain good evaluation, students

must learn many techniques and get high grades. Competing grades in schools can make students more adaptable to the society.

Grades can also give students the feeling of success. When they get high grades through hard work, students may think that they make a great achievement. The feeling of success will encourage students to study harder and harder. At the same time, the successes in schools encourage students to find chances to succeed in society.

From the above analyses, it is not difficult to get the conclusion that grades encourage students to learn. Grades give students the stress and make them compete with each other so that they must study and work hard to succeed.

(Essay ID: 265 )

## Topic: 72

Almost in every modern society, grades play an import role in assessing students' academic ability. There are all kinds of tests to winnow out weak students. Knowledge itself is so complicate and vast, each one of the test usually can't cover every aspect of it. So I wonder whether grades can really encourage students to learn.

The basic reason why I disapprove of the title statement lies in the belief that grades usually don't have positive impact on student who is strong or weak alike. Take the example of student who has high grades: If Tom got good grades in the class, normaly he can't feel conceited. This situation certainly won't lead him into finding some blind spots or weak points in his study. And he won't realize that may be just his good memorization helps him a lot or this kind of test suits him well. Let's us look another example: Suppose Johnny isn't good at memorization, but he is at home with analyzation and deduction. Unfortunately, he got poor grades in tests facilitate memorization. One can foresee what harm will bring to him due to the poor grades. In all these cases, the grades play a negative role in encouraging students to learn.

Most important of all, the grades usually a convenient way of assessing a student's academic ability. But it is by no means a scientific one. Teachers can't determine from the grades whether the student is hardworking(diligent) or out of cram. The tests given to all students regardless of their individual's character traits, just like force everyone to wear shoes of same size. Famous educationist Confucius said two thousands years ago: "Teach students in accordance of their aptitude". Our world is a colorful world, so should be our educational world. Grades especially poor grades will frustrate greatly potential successful students to learn. It will give them a flase impression that their intelligence may be inferior to other students. The worst thing about poor grades is that it may have repercussions in a underachiever's heart when all his fellow students and teacher have long forgotten. In fact, the potential talent of a student will be strangled by those poor grades. A real pity to the student himself and the society.

Last but not the least, there is some advantage in taking grades as a tool to evaluate students' academic performance. As in my humble opinion, they should be combine with other scientific methods to encourage students to gain knowledge but not solely focus their energy on how to win high grades. After all, it is the knowledge that it is power, not the grades.

(Essay ID: 535 )

## Topic: 72

A lot of people claim that marks in tests encourage students to learn. I agree with this statement, because examinations are a good way for a student to review what students have learned; test scores are a standard measurement for students' learning ability and knowledge level; and the test system can benefit their future.

First of all, tests are important for students' learning. Attending classes is not enough for students to learn the subjects no matter how carefully they listen to what teachers say. They need examinations to review the lessons. In most cases, grades or marks are the only means by which teachers measure students' learning ability and learning progress. Therefore, grades encourage students to study for examinations, and it is good system for them to learn the subjects.

Secondly, test scores are a standard measurement for students' learning ability and knowledge level. Most people would agree with this, therefore universities all over the world take test results as a standard measurement to give admission to new students, to offer fellowships, and to decide whether to grant a student graduation. High school teachers use test results as a means to evaluate the effects of teaching, and students' learning progress. By test scores, teachers also know each individual student's ability to learn.

Thirdly, test results can stimulate a student to work hard on his courses. The testing mechanism encourages students to work hard in order to achieve a better result; they will devote more time on study, and develop a "never give up" spirit. This will not only benefit their study, but also teach them a truth, that everyone needs constant learning and hard working in order to be useful to this society. Students who have developed such learning habit and never give up nature will not only have good performance in schools, but can also superior to others in other aspects; for example, such natures are important factors even after finishing schools. I believe most students understand the importance of these qualities and impacts on their life; therefore they know how important it is to work hard and try to achieve a better score.

In conclusion, marks can stimulate student to learn, and good marks can give them advantages in going to a good university and finding a good job. Therefore I strongly support the statement that marks can encourage students to learn.

(Essay ID: 158 )

## **Topic: 73**

The use of computer is increasingly popular in modern society. Some people think that the computer makes life more convenient and easier because they can compile documents, buy goods through the Internet and do other works on the computer. Nevertheless, in my opinion, the computer makes life more complex and stressful. There are many instances supporting my opinion.

Before the computer was invented, people only need to learn the knowledge of mathematics, physics, chemistry and so on. However, today people have to learn how to operate the computer, to use a variety of software and if the computer does not work, people have to learn how to repair it. People have to learn not only the knowledge of software but also that of hardware. No ending learning makes people exhausted and their life more complex.

The computer also makes life more stressful. The society in which we live is called "information society" ;. Thanks for the development of the computer, the rhythm of life are increasingly rapid. The business men has so many meetings to attend, so many e-mails to deal with that they have no time to have his lunch. Some students have to work late on the computer to do the

homework at night. There are more and more people struggling from the nervous sickness and complaining the "busy life".

The rapid development of the computer makes people feel stressful, too. The new generation of the software and the hardware, the update of them, all of these make people have to pay more and more time and money on their computers.

Although the computer has become an indispensable part of our life, it can be concluded from the above statements that the computer makes life more complex and stressful.

(Essay ID: 269 )

## **Topic: 73**

Some people say that computers have made life more complex and stressful, but I totally disagree. In my opinion, computers have really made our lives easier and more convenient in communicating, getting informed and doing research work, if you have known how to work with a computer.

The e-mail service and Internet based on computer make us communicating with others much easily and conveniently. In the past, we have to write letters or meet in person in order to communicate with others. The mails seem to take forever to arrive and meeting in person means to put out a lot of efforts. Now, the e-mail lasts only a few seconds to send and to receive and we can always meet new people even foreigners in chat room whenever we set up our computers. It really makes our socializing easier.

The news on the Internet is being broadcasted 24 hours everyday and tailored to your specific interests. You can always connect your telephone and modem with a computer to read them. Listening to radio or watching television can be informed with what are happening around you conveniently too, but just on the computer can you easily read the specific news in which you are interested without having to buy newspapers. So, up to now, it is the most convenient way to read news at home.

Besides, it is very convenient and much easy to do research work with a computer turning on. You can save your work on computers too easily more than just typing a few letters, no matter what your work is, even audio or video data. You can also type a few keys to print them out neatly. Also, you can search whatever materials you want without the trouble of looking for books or magazines in libraries.

Some people think that computers have made life complex and stressful. They may not be very familiar with computers or do not know how to work with a computer efficiently. It does not matter. Only after a few weeks of training, they can probably easily enjoy the convenience of computers in socializing, reading news and doing research job.

(Essay ID: 533 )

## **Topic: 73**

Some people believe that computers provide easier and more convenient lives for them. In their opinion, computers help them surf internet and share information. They may communicate directly by E.mail. But others hold that computers have made life more complex and stressful and they point out that computers bring many bad effects to human beings, such as information

security problem because of hacking attack and environmental pollution because of irradiation. As far as I concerned, I prefer the first opinion rather than the second view.

My opinion comes from following three aspects. First of all, computer made life more efficient than before. For example, people might access websites, gain a lot of valuable information and contact each other around the world. Secondly, computer made life more relax and easier. Computers provide varity kinds of games and people could enjoy and relax from them everyday. Finally, compute help people solve many complicated problem by software, such as investment and finance. Therefore, people's life become more simple and convenient.

However, just as what other people say that computers give us some negative effects in the meantime. For example, Irradiation does harm for our bodies and eyes, so we can not made people seat too long in front of computers. Hacking is a really trouble, and we are supposed to enhance computer control and technology.

In general, computers give people an easier and convenient life. Although there exists some bad effects of computers as mentioned above. We are supposed to do our best to solve the problems and pay more attention on their good effects. I believe that our society will benefit more from them in the future.

(Essay ID: 453. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 73

Nowadays some may hold the opinion that computers have made life easier and more convenient, but others have a negative attitude; they say that computers have made life more complex and stressful. As far as I am concerned, I agree that computers have brought more advantages than disadvantages to our life. My arguments for this point are listed as follows.

One of the primary causes is that computers have improved the quality of life in our society. They have brought to us more conveniences than ever before: whether we book a plane ticket, arrange a travel to foreign countries, or hook up a telephone line, with the help of computers and modern technologies, they can be done in a few minutes by simply a phone call or a few key strokes; we will not have to run from one place to another, and wait for thousands of years before we can get the services we want.

There is a further more subtle point we must consider. Because computers can make use of more personal details about people, companies can provide customers with more individualized service than before. Take booking for a plane ticket for example, as soon as the operator input our name and telephone number into the computer, the system can retrieve our information from the database, and it will analyze our previous traveling patterns and habits, and decide the best fair, airline, traveling time and seating for us. The computer can also arrange accommodations after we arrive at the destination. All these can be done in just a few seconds.

What is more, computers give people more convenient access to useful information and services. Nowadays computers and internet is ubiquitous in every corner of our world. We use computers in libraries and public agencies to check up for useful information and the books we need. Furthermore we access internet or CD-Rom to get whatever information we want. Before traveling to a new place, we can check on the computer what the place looks like, what spots are must-sees, and how we can get there. We can get information from the internet on how to get a drivers license, how to write an article on a topic, and even take simulation tests on a specific subject. The computer is such a great learning and information tool!

Recognizing the fact that computer is so indispensable to our daily life, we can safely conclude that computers have made life easier and more convenient for us.

(Essay ID: 159 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 74

There are a lot of views whether the best way to travel is in a group led by a tour guide. Different people has different viewpoint. In my opinion, a group led by a tour guide is the best way to travel. The argument for this view goes as follows:

In the first place, there are many advantages when people travel in a group. First, people will not feel boring in a long trip. People can talk, laugh and make joking like a big family. Second, the group will help you a lot when you have any emergency. The people in the group could help you figure out the awkward situation that will be unimaginable when you travel alone. Third, with the group discount, such as the discount for airplane ticket, the hotel, and the admission ticket, travelers can save a lot of money when they use the group discount.

In the second place, there are many advantages too when people travel led by a tour guide. The tour guide will arrange all the details about the trip in advance. The traveler need not worry about where to find the hotel, where to rent the car, and how to find the direction. It will make the trip a little bit easy. Another advantage is that led by a tour guide will save much time than traveling alone. With the professional knowledge, tour guide will make the smartest schedule. I would never forget that one of my friend, a city tour guide in the Shanghai, China, said that she can lead traveler to visit the whole city by one day which people should spend two or three days to finish it.

In conclusion, there are many advantages when people travels in a group led by a tour guide, such as save money, save time, do not feel boring, and is easy to take care of. Therefore, I strongly agree that the best way to travel is in a group led by a tour guide.

(Essay ID: 247 )

## Topic: 74

No doubt,I do strongly advocate this idea that the best way to travel in a group led by a tour guide. There are numerous reasons why I agree with this opinion, and I would in here explain a few of the most imporant ones.

At first, I can get many conveniences if I travel in a group led by a tour guide. I don't worry about some things such as residence, transportation, and eating. During the whole journey, I can completely enjoy the pleasure of traveling without being disturbed by some trivial things.

Another reason why I agree with this idea is that traveling with a group people is more enjoyable than traveling alone. We can share with the beautiful view each other and can express our feeling each other. In addition, if I encounter certain difficulties, there will be many people to help me. So, this traveling pattern will also more safe.

The last reason is that a tour guild will let us learn more knowledge about where we will go because we aren't familiar with that place. Maybe due to our ignorance, we will miss many interesting places without a tour guild.

Understanding the reasoning above, it is quite safe now to say: the best way to travel is in a group led by a tour guild.

(Essay ID: 248. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 74

Some people may think that the best way to travel is in a group led by a tour guide, but it is just where I differ from those people. I think the best way to travel is to travel alone. If I travel alone, I can enjoy the pleasure of meeting new people, trying new things and totally relaxing. However, if I am to travel with a group led by a tour guide, this pleasure seems impossible.

Travel alone means that I can meet new people more freely. I can meet not only the other travelers, but also the local residents whenever I travel to a new place. If the person I want to meet is not available at the present time, I can even reschedule my time. But if I travel in a group led by a tour guide, I have to stick to the schedule. I have to take other people's time into consideration. That means I will lose a lot of chances to meet new people.

Travel alone also means I can try new things personally. I can go anywhere I want and do something different from my lifestyle. However, if I travel in a group, the place where I go and the things that I will deal with are all arranged and fixed in advance. I have no choice but to follow. That will be miserable for me as a traveler.

When I finally manage to take a travel, I want to relax myself totally. Work is too hard to do and I am really eager to have an enjoyable break. However, I am in a group and I have to stick to the travel schedule, to consider the other group members' feelings, to go wherever the tour guide leads to. That seems just like I am on my duty at work again. I cannot really get relaxation.

I always prefer to travel alone. I would like to meet a lot of different people, experiencing new things on my way in traveling. I think that only scheduling my travel time more casually can make me relax completely. Would not that be the only purpose of traveling? I would like to encourage you to travel alone too. In any case, do not travel in a group led by a tour guide.

(Essay ID: 534 )

## Topic: 74

There are basically two ways of traveling: traveling in a group led by a tour guide, or traveling independently. There are advantages and disadvantages of the both. By traveling in a group, you will enjoy the companionship, comfort and safety of group travel, and learn more information about the place from a tour guide; while traveling independently, you can maintain the freedom, flexibility and individualism. Some people say that for most people, the best way to travel is in a group led by a tour guide. I agree with this opinion.

Firstly, you will enjoy the companionship when traveling in a group. Usually a tour group consists of around 20 people. These people travel together, eat together and stay in the same hotel. During the trip, you can always find someone you like to talk with, and you will never feel lonely as when you are travelling alone.

Secondly, you will enjoy the comfort and safety of group travel. When traveling in a group, everything is pre-arranged by the travel agent, and you do not have to worry about booking a ticket, finding a hotel, decide what places to visit, and so on. In the meantime, as you are not preoccupied with arranging the trip by yourself, you may find yourself concentrate more on the

trip itself and enjoy it more. In addition, it is much safer to travel in a group. Your personal safety is always taken care of by others.

Thirdly, you can learn more information about the place from a tour guide, and not worrying about missing an important spot. The tour guide will take you to each spot that should be visited, and give you detailed information about the place you visit. You never have to find information about the places you are going to through the Internet or buy a book from the bookstore. Traveling in a group can save you time and money on information searching.

In conclusion, there are many advantages of traveling in a group. Although for young people, traveling alone is more advantages and stimulating, for most people, traveling in a group is the best choice.

(Essay ID: 160 )

## **Topic: 75**

Some universities require students to choose a variety of subjects; others only require students to specialize in one subject. I deem the first one as the premier choice. Among countless factors, there are three conspicuous aspects as follows.

The main reason for my propensity that students should take classes in many subjects is that they can make full use of the abundant resources that a university has to offer. A university has plenty of educational and research resources. It is a very good idea to make full use of these valuable assets while studying in the university. The best way to achieve this is to take a variety of subjects as much as possible. Through learning these courses, a student can get access to knowledge and resources in different areas. On the contrary, if a student only specializes in one subject, he will not have a chance to get access to other resources offered by the university.

Another reason can be seen by every person is that by choosing many subjects students can broaden their knowledge and make a solid foundation for their future concentrated study. Whatever the student will concentrate on in his senior years in college, it is necessary that he choose a wide range of subjects to build the knowledge foundation. Take the field of Business Management for example, the student has to acquire knowledge in writing, accounting, economics and human resource management before he can successfully start his major concentration study.

The argument I support in the first paragraph is also in a position of advantage because students can be more adaptable in their future career if they choose a variety of subjects during their university study. It is obvious that the development of modern society requires people with interdisciplinary and comprehensive knowledge. If a student chooses a variety of subjects in his university study, and gained a breadth and width of knowledge, he will be more adaptable to the requirement of the society, and be able to easily adjust to many kinds of jobs. This will benefit his future career.

In a word, taking into account of all these factors, we may reach the conclusion that students should take classes in many subjects in a university.

(Essay ID: 161 )

## **Topic: 75**



The whole point of my answer is that it is better for universities to require students to specialize in one subject. It is just what the majors are called for, even though there are a couple of the advantages of students' taking classes in many subjects.

It is a more sensible decision that universities require students to specialize in one subject. They must have known that the depth of a certain subject is infinite while both the students' energy and time are limited. It probably tells the truth. Only when a student just specializes in one subject, can he focus on it. Thus it ensures the students more likely to be a kind of expert in some subject when they are given the degrees. That is just the purpose of so-called education.

It does not mean that students have not too many classes to attend even if they just specialize one subject. There are a lot of sub-subjects or divisions of a main subject. The science of journalism, for example, can include the theories of journalism, the histories of journalism both domestic and international, the news writing skills, the interview courses and the editorials writing and so on. The students have to study all of these above course as journalism major. It does mean a lot of work to do even if students just specialize one subject.

I do not deny there are a couple of advantages for universities to require students to take in many subjects. One thing, the work places require so-called generalist today. Students who take many subjects may probably mean the opportunity of meeting that request. Another is that students who take in many subjects can also help their main subject. Thus probably can help them study what they are majoring better. Whatever the benefit it will be, however, students taking any other subjects should not interfere their main target.

In the whole, I thought that universities could allow students to take subjects as many as possible if their times and energies were available. However, I think that possibility is faint. So I have to say that it is better for universities just to urge students to specialize in one subject. After all, the main subject is already a lot of work to cope with, considering the depth and width of one subject.

(Essay ID: 536 )

## Topic: 76

I think that children should begin to learn a foreign language as soon as they start school. Even many parents taught their children the foreign language before elementary school. It is obvious that really necessary.

People can learn a language easily when they are young. Many older people often say that they are too old to learn a foreign language. They can't remember the words or phrases even after hundreds of times reciting. It's hard for them in faith, but while it's quite different from the young. A healthy child has a better and quicker memory, so the new things he learned may not be forgotten easily with the process of time.

When you go to the primary school, you begin to learn the knowledge from your teachers. Most of them use their native language while teaching you. If you don't touch the foreign language you want to learn, the longer you receive the education, the more difficult for you to learn it. More and more opportunities to speak Chinese will affect on the consequence of foreign language study directly, unless we start learning it as soon as the school begins.

Another reason for early language study is that the young may dare to talk with foreigners and it's a very good chance to practice oral skills. As you know, many grown-ups are bashful to talk with the foreigners, but Grade One or Two students can do so very easily, for they don't care their grammar or expressions right or not. In fact, neither do the foreigners. If they start to learn a

foreign language as soon as they go to school, they may also talk with each other in it. What a good chance! It will help a lot, I think.

In a word, learning a foreign language as soon as starting school is helpful and important. It's not a burden but one of the best ways of learning.

(Essay ID: 532. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 76

Nowadays, some may hold the opinion that children should begin learning a foreign language as soon as they start school, but others have a negative attitude that learning a foreign language early will pose too much pressure on kids and will affect their mother-tongue learning. As far as I am concerned, I agree that bilingual education should start as early as possible. My arguments for this point are listed as follows.

I agree with the statement without reservation since children learn second languages quickly than adults. As we have observed, children can learn languages faster than adults; and immigrant children translate for their parents who have not learned the language; and that child learners speak without a foreign accent, whereas this is impossible for adult learners. Therefore the earlier kids learn a second language, the less difficulties they would meet when they grow up and have to face a foreign language speaking environment.

Another reason why I agree with the above statement is that I believe that bilingual education can be fun and stimulate children's learning interest. Many parents and teachers know how to teach kids a second language in an interesting way. One of my students told me that, when he was in kindergarten, every day his mum taught him a few Chinese characters as well as their meaning in English. As time passed, the kid became keen to learn English. Sometimes he gave mum and dad a quiz by speaking some English words and asking them what their meaning is.

Bilingual education will not affect the mother-tongue study of children. As we are living in an environment of pure Chinese conversation and traditional culture, it is impossible for us to give up our culture and language. Teachers also are trying to arrange the curriculum in a proper way. For instance, they create an English-speaking environment for children in the morning, and a Chinesespeaking environment in the afternoon.

Bilingual education has become a trend. No matter we like it or not, future educational undertakings will become more international, and exchanges between schools throughout the world will increase. Given this, speaking a common language is important and, to this purpose, bilingual teaching is an inevitable way.

(Essay ID: 164 )

## Topic: 77

Should boys and girls attend separate schools? This question is very arguable. Before rendering my opinion, let's consider the advantages for boys and girls to attend separate schools. Since boys and girls are different in many ways, they have different hobbies and the ways to learn new things. If they attend separate schools, the education can be more efficient because the school can teach them differently according to their personalities. But the disadvantages of it is greater. While boys and girls attend separate schools, there're few chances for them to communicate with opposite sexes, which will become a handicap for them to communicate with each other in their future.

As far as I concerned, boys and girls should not attend separate schools. Among countless reason one can think of, the first and foremost reason is that people should have experience with opposite sex when they are in school, because in a society there're both males and females, people have to learn how to communicate with the opposite sex, which is a essential factor for people to succeed.

Moreover, people have to learn from opposite sex. For example, while females should learn braveness from males, males should learn carefulness from females. In addition, in a family, to learn from opposite sex becomes more important to keep the family harmonious. In addition, the knowledge of opposite sex is also important, without such knowledge, dealing with the relationships with opposite sex becomes extremely difficult especially after one's married.

Finally, as we can see, it's definitely important for boys and girls to attend schools together, so that they can learn from each other, communicate with each other and they can know each other well, which is very valuable for their future.

(Essay ID: 537 )

## Topic: 77

Nowadays, some may hold the opinion that boys and girls should attend separate schools, others have a negative attitude. As far as I am concerned, I agree that boys and girls should go to separate schools. My arguments for this point are listed as follows.

I agree with the statement since single-sex education provide a environment for boys and girls to concentrate on their study. Research shows that a single-sex school environment can eliminate the distraction from members of the opposite sex, and therefore is academically beneficial to students. Girls in an all-female school can establish self-esteem, and avoid the situation faced by young women in co-ed schools such as struggle to survive emotionally. They will be able to focus more on their academic curriculum, sometimes specifically designed, and prepare for their future education and career. The single-sex setting eliminates social distractions and allows for better concentration on academics.

Another reason why I agree with the above statement is that traditional gender stereotypes are often reinforced in single-sex academies. Boys tended to be taught in more regimented, traditional and individualistic fashion and girls in more nurturing, cooperative and open environments. This will develop their virtue and prepare them for their future roles in the society.

Taking into account of all these factors, we may reach the conclusion that boys and girls should attend separate schools. Of course, there are also disadvantages of single-gender education, and simply separating boys and girls does not always improve the quality of education. A lot of efforts should be made to ensure that a single-gender education system be successful implemented.

(Essay ID: 165 )

## Topic: 78

In a modern society, employers always face the dilemma of whether to choose a person to work with a group of people or to work independently. This problem is a much-debated one in that it affects everybody in his or her daily lives. While both of the ways may have their advantages and disadvantages, they can be applied under different circumstances. Afterwards, I will explain my opinion about it.

To work independently has the obvious advantage that it can prove the ability of a employee. One can use his own knowledge and way to solve the difficulties met during the work. But there lies intrinsic harmful characteristic in this method. Some people warn that a person choosing to work independently may lack the ability of communicating with other people. Furthermore, a person's knowledge and ability are limited. We need others' help or assistance to solve the problems. By means of it, we can improve the efficiency so that a company can make good use of human resources.

On the other hand, choosing to work with a group of people also has advantages to some extent. From most advertisements, we can notice that nowadays more and more companies concentrate on communication skills and team-cooperated abilities. The reason is that they believe two heads are always better than one's. With the combination of all people's knowledge, we can solve the problem or bring out a better solution as soon as possible. In addition, to work with team also can save the time and make more money for companies. As we know, it is a strong competitive society. Time can means a lot to a company. To work with a team can reduce the time to the lowest extend so that the company can increase their competition. Although to work with a team does have its profound advantages, at the mean time there lies some drawbacks in it such as an individual may rely on the others in a team.

But if all these factors are contemplated, the advantages of working with a group of people carry more weight than those of working independently because the first one fits most companies better in two ways: In the first place, we cannot live in a society independently and we need to communicate with each other, so the communication skill is very important to us. Through teamwork, we can enhance this ability. Secondly, through teamwork, we can try each one's best to give a better idea to save time and make more profit for companies. Therefore from what we have discussed, we may safely come to the conclusion that choosing to work with a group of people is a rather wise decision.

(Essay ID: 167 )

## Topic: 78

In a modern society, employers always face the dilemma of whether to choose a person to work with a group of people or to work independently. This problem is a much-debated one in that it affects everybody in his or her daily lives. While both of the ways may have their advantages and disadvantages, they can be applied under different circumstances. Afterwards, I will explain my opinion about it.

To work independently has the obvious advantage that it can prove the ability of a employee. One can use his own knowledge and way to solve the difficulties met during the work. But there lies intrinsic harmful characteristic in this method. Some people warn that a person choosing to work independently may lack the ability of communicating with other people. Furthermore, a person's knowledge and ability are limited. We need others' help or assistance to solve the problems. By means of it, we can improve the efficiency so that a company can make good use of human resources.

On the other hand, choosing to work with a group of people also has advantages to some extent. From most advertisements, we can notice that nowadays more and more companies concentrate on communication skills and team-cooperated abilities. The reason is that they believe two heads are always better than one's. With the combination of all people's knowledges, we can solve the problem or bring out a better solution as soon as possible. In additon, to work with team also can save the time and make more money for companies. As we know, it is a strong competitive society. Time can means a lot to a company. To work with a team can reduce the time to the

lowest extend so that the company can increase their competition. Although to work with a team does have its profound advantages, at the mean time there lies some drawbacks in it such as an individual may rely on the others in a team.

But if all these factors are contemplated, the advantages of working with a group of people carry more weight than those of working independently because the first one fits most companies better in two ways: In the first place, we cannot live in a society independently and we need to communicate with each other, so the communication skill is very important to us. Through team work, we can enhance this ability. Secondly, through team work, we can try each one's best to give a better idea to save time and make more profit for companies. Therefore from what we have discussed, we may safely come to the conclusion that choosing to work with a group of people is a rather wise decision.

(Essay ID: 233 )

## **Topic: 78**

Some people like to work independently, while others would prefer to work in a team. Is it more important to be able to work with a group of people on a team or to work independently? Depending on different personal traits and working environments, people will have different answer to this question. I think being able to work in a team is more important for me.

First, modern society and industry is a complicated system which requires team work, communication and cooperation between companies and individuals. Take a computer system for example, it comprises of hardware, operating system and software, which are manufactured separately by different companies. Not one single company can accomplish a computer system without using products and technologies from other companies. Similarly, in a company, communication and teamwork is more and more important because I can not do my work properly without interacting with my supervisor and my colleagues.

Second, there are many advantages of working in a group than working alone. Teamwork provides me with a cooperative, friendly and enjoyable work environment. The team can also be helpful with my questions and problems, therefore increase the efficiency of my work. Teamwork can challenge my abilities and I can learn valuable experiences from it. From teamwork, I can also made valuable contacts with other professionals, which is quite helpful to my future career.

Third, the ability of working independently does not contradict with the ability to work in a team. For example, in a team environment, I enjoyed being a major contributor to my team. The fact that others depended on my work made me feel like I was doing worthwhile things. For example, I was in charge of the front end for the GUI for the new test manager. This was very valuable, because I know how important working on a team is.

Inclusion, I think the most important quality for me in my work environment is the ability to work with others in a team.

(Essay ID: 166 )

## **Topic: 79**

The answer to this question depends on your own experience and life style. In my point view, if we should build a statue or monument to honor someone important to our city, this person is no

one else but people in our city. Among countless factors which influence the choice, these are three conspicuous aspects as follows.

The main reason for my propensity for building a monument for people is that people are the greatest resources of our city. (.....)

Another reason can be seen by every person is that people are productive forces. (.....)

Furthermore, many works in the city can never fully be automated by computers and machines. Although we can use the latest technologies, we never forget that there is no substitute for human skill and creativity.

In short, the most important and honorable person in this city is not a single person, it is the people. People are heroes. For our city to survive and thrive, it is essential that the city update its approach to managing its most important asset - the people.

(Essay ID: 168 )

## Topic: 80

The answer to this question depends on your own experience and the country you were brought up. In my point view, the most important custom from my country that I would like people from other countries to adopt is filial piety.

According to Chinese tradition, filial piety is the primary duty of all Chinese. Being a filial son means show respect to one's parents during their lifetime and--as they grew older--taking the best possible care of them.

A story can best illustrate the concept of filial pity. During the Chin Dynasty (4th-5th Century CE), a boy named Wu Meng was already serving his parents in exemplary filial piety although he was just eight years old. The family was so poor that they could not even afford a gauze net against the mosquitoes. Therefore every night in the summer swarms of mosquitoes would come and bite them. Wu Meng let them all feast on his naked stomach. Even though there were so many, he did not drive them away. He feared that the mosquitoes, having left him, would instead bite his parents. His heart was truly filled with love for his parents.

Filial piety is a good virtual of Chinese people, and people from other countries should also learn from it. Parents gave us birth and nurtured us, therefore we have the obligation to respect them and to take care of them when they can no longer take care of themselves. Western countries have complete social welfare systems to support people financially after they retire, but older people often face loneliness; they long for somebody to talk to them, especially their children and grandchildren. We should try our best to spend more time with them, talk to them, and take them to family gatherings and trips to the nature.

Filial piety can benefit our society. It can make our family tie stronger, and children can learn a lot from our attitude to our parents and from their grand parents. They can realize how important a family is to a person, and develop a strong sense of responsibility to their families and friends. For example, when it is necessary to stand out to defend our families and even the nation for danger, we will not hesitate to do so, because we know how important our families and our country is to us.

In short, the most important custom from my country that I would like people from other countries to adopt is to be good to their parents. It is not only ensure that our parents can be taken

good care of when they are getting old, but also help our children to develop good virtues and spirits.

(Essay ID: 169 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 81

These are several viewpoints on the implications of technological change and advancement and such schools of thought which considerably vary have their respective validity. Technological change has its advantages and disadvantages. For one, it is true that it partly solves problems and makes life better. At the same time, technological changes may likely create new problems thereby threatening or damaging quality of life. In the developing economies, for instance, technological advantages has both its merits and demerits. The introduction and seeming acceptability and usefulness of computers have somehow helped increase the efficiency of several firms. It is not only in the industrial sector that technological change proven to be very effective. In the agricultural sector, for example, the introduction of new technologies in increasing production has been very effective in expanding agricultural produce. These are just a few examples to illustrate the advantages of technological advancement.

On the other hand, countries should be more careful on their choice of technology since it must be noted that while certain types of technology are adaptable to developed economies the same type of technology may not fit the environment of developing countries due to differing economic, social, cultural, and political factors. For example, infrastructure improvements such as a construction of irrigation dam in the mountains of the Philippines where several natives reside may likely be resisted by the population due to cultural factors. They may prefer not to have such improvements in view of traditional values. Another example is the pollution impact of some technological improvements particularly in the industrial sectors.

The choice and adaptability of new technology should therefore be carefully studied. The short, medium, and long term impact of such technology is very important particularly for developing economies. The benefits should always be greater than the costs.

I am inclined to support both positions because both views have their own validity. However, I am more convinced that technological advancement is beneficial to countries so long as they are aware of the disadvantages of such technology.

(Essay ID: 170 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 81

Nowadays, we are in an age of technological revolutions. Many conveniences have been brought to us by technology and science. I agree with the statement that technology has made the world a better place to live. The reasons and examples are chiefly as follows:

The developments of computers and internet have improved our life styles dramatically. Computers have changed our traditional ways of reading and writing, which bring us great convenience. The combination of computers and internet has made our living quite different from before. Electronic mail is a useful example: computer users can communicate with one another across the globe. Electronic mail is particularly beneficial for language students. Learners can enjoy language exchange with native speakers through electronic mail.

Another good example is the invention of automobiles. Actually automobiles have been an integral part of every industrial economy. Many people use an automobile to get to work, many

others - tradesman, salesman, taxi drivers, police men - use automobiles as part of their work. On a larger scale, car production is possibly the most important element of national industrial performance. All in all, it is incredible to imagine a modern world will be like without automobiles.

Likewise, international jet transport has had some revolutionary effects on our lifestyles. Because the high speed and relatively low costs of this type of travel, it has changed the way people look at the world. Today the world is much smaller than it was in the past.

Admittedly, technological advances also caused so unpleasant effects such as pollution of automobile exhaust fumes, and noise of transport vehicles. But as people have realized those problems and are trying to find ways to solve them, on the whole, I believe that technology has made the world a better place to live.

(Essay ID: 346 )

## Topic: 81

Standing at the turn of the new century, we observe the twentieth century as a great advance in technology. With those advances, human lives have changed dramatically. In some ways, life is worse, but mostly, it is better. So personally speaking, I am, and probably will always be, one of those who agree with the idea that technology has made the world a better place to live.

First of all, technology has brought with it a more comfortable life. Not only do we use aircondition and heating system during the summer and winter, but also do we take many changes in food preparation methods to make so delicious food. Due to the development of architecture and so on, living conditions are greatly improved nowadays.

Besides, the world is now more convenient to live. We can travel around by aeroplane and railway network. We can talk to each other faraway by telephone. Several score years ago, it was even daydreaming that we could today obtain information as well as commodities via Internet.

The last but not the least, through the process of technology improvement, people begin to realize the fact that only reconciling with the nature can we keep a continuous development. That is why we today pay so much attention to environmental protection. Many factories have achieved economic growth without pollution under certain new technology. These cities are beginning to be very beautiful places to live in.

Instances of the same sort can be multiplied indefinitely. When taking into account all these merits we may safely arrive at the conclusion that advantages of technology outweigh any disadvantage it may bring to our lives. Though I must admit that people sometimes invent some things that threaten the lives of themselves, no one can ignore the additional convenience and satisfaction offered by technology, and just with such experience the human being forge ahead swiftly to the future.

(Essay ID: 518 )

## Topic: 81

With the development of technology, there have been a lot of changes to our life. Admittedly, some of these changes are bad, causing many environmental and social problems. However, most of these changes contribute to making our life more convenient, more comfortable and more wonderful.



First of all, due to the improvement of technology, people can enjoy more convenience than ever. For example, it only takes travelers or businessmen several hours to go to other countries by jet plane, which makes the world seem to be much smaller. With the help of Internet, people at different corners of the world can communicate with significantly high speed and low cost. It is technology that has cleared away the barriers that once prevented people from leading a convenient life.

Secondly, technology has made our life as comfortable as we can imagine. Sitting in airconditioned rooms, people do not have to suffer the extremely cold or hot weather any more. Whatever vegetable or fruit we want to eat, we can always find it in a supermarket without worrying about the season. We can also go to work in a place far away from our homes by using automobiles or public transportation tools.

In addition, technology provides us many choices to spend our spare time. Listening to music by using an MD, MP3 or walkman, surfing the internet or watching digital movies, all of these entertainments make our life wonderful. In conclusion, although technology has brought about some problems, such as air pollution caused by increasing automobiles, ethnic problems caused by cloning human beings, the benefits of technology far outweigh its bad influences. So it is safe to say that technology has made the world a better place to live.

(Essay ID: 470 )

## Topic: 81

Whether technology has made the world a better place to live is a prevalent topic undergoing serious debate. After pondering it from several aspects, I totally agree it is true that technology has made the world a better place to live. This I support with the following reasons

As we know, firstly technology can help people to live a longer life. A small example can give some light to this point. At the stone age, our ancestors' average age is about 25. Due to the development of medical technology, now people's average age is two or three times of that time.

Another reason why I prefer to this choice lies in the fact that technology ameliorate the environment in which people living in. for example, thousand of yeas ago people lived in caves, which are cold in winter and hot in summer. With using Architectural technology, people build up houses, skyscrapers. Living in them, people enjoy the comfortable lives without worrying about the whether it is hot,cold or rainy outside.

Finally I want to mention that technology has bring our lives more and more convenience. For instance, many people like music, classic music or pop music. At the beginning, people must go to the theater whenever he wanted to hear a song..Today, by using great technologies, walkman and discman are supplied for the music fans. Then they can enjoy their favorite songs anywhere and anytime.

From what has been discussed above, we can safely draw the conclusion that technology has made the world a better place to live.

(Essay ID: 508. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 82

Nowadays some may hold the opinion that advertising can tell you a lot about a country. As far as I am concerned, I agree with this statement. My arguments for this point are listed as follows.

One of the primary causes is that advertising is always a reflection of a country's culture and customs. Advertising varies from country to country, depending on the country's particular conventions. For example, a Japanese advertisement may feature a Japanese lady with traditional kimono, while an American advertisement may feature a western cowboy with a hat and ride a horse. Through advertisement, we can have a general understanding of what people from other countries look like, what they wear during their daily life, what they eat, what kind of transportation they use, and what they do during their spare times. We can always learn different cultures of different countries through these culture specific advertisements.

A further more subtle point we must consider is that we can understand a country by its products. When we see a Toyota or a SONY advertisement on TV, we realize that Japanese people see quality as a vital aspect of their products, and we know that how these people are always trying their best in high technology development, and ensure the best quality in their products. When we have gained a deeper understanding of a product, we can also gain a deeper understanding of that country and people.

What is more, when we become curious about the culture and customs of a country through advertisement, we are willing to spend more time on reading about the country, explore more deeply about it, and even someday travel to a country we like to visit. All these might have started with a small advertisement on TV! Is that amazing?

In short, advertising can really tell you a lot about a country's culture and customs.

(Essay ID: 171 )

## Topic: 83

I strongly agree with the statement that modern technology is creating a single world culture. Modern technology like computer and internet is bringing people together, and making the world getting smaller.

First of all, with the development of modern technologies such as computers, English is becoming the most important language in the world, and the importance of other languages is getting weaker and weaker. Admit or not, the most common language used today on the internet is English, this makes English becomes the one and only most important language in the world. On the other hand, computers can cross the barrier of human language. No matter where people are, and no matter which language people speak, they always use computers the same way, and basically they are using the same kind of software packages, like Windows Operating Systems and word processing software packages. Computer language is also a universal language. Programmers from different part of the world can work in the Silicon Vally. Although they might have difficulties in communication in English, they have no problem at all writing programs with Java, or C++.

Besides, the development of the internet is uniformizing people's life style. Internet is being used in almost every corner the world. People are doing almost everything with the internet, like getting all sorts of information, shopping online, paying for their bills and checking their balances in the online bank. Over 90 per cent of people in the world use the same kind of internet browser - MS Internet Explorer, and almost every internet page looks like the same, although they use different language and design. People from all over the world are doing the same thing each day on the internet, and their living habit is becoming closer and closer with each passing day.

In addition, modern technolgy has facilitated the communications among people from all over the world, and therefore result a single world culture. For instance, people can chat with a friend or a

stranger who lives abroad on the phone, internet, and they can also see and listen to him/her through a camera and a microphone just like face to face. This helps one culture learns from other culture, and bring the world together. Before people can see each other through TV, they used to wear their local costumes; nowadays T-shirt and blue jeans have become a universal custom for people. This is a concrete example that modern development is creating a single world culture.

Based on the points discussed above, we can see why I agree with that modern technology is creating a single world culture.

(Essay ID: 360 )

### Topic: 83

In modern society, technology has brought us amazing surprises everyday. Someone claims that modern technology is creating a single world culture. I completely disagree with this statement. I will list some of my reasons here.

Firstly, I believe that modern technology has improved multi-culturalism and the communication between cultures. With modern communication technology such as TVs and phones, we can see what people at the other end of the world is doing, and with a modern airplane, we can travel to every corner of the world. This will greatly help us understand the cultural diversity of this world, and we will learn to appreciate the cultural difference of people from different part of the earth.

Secondly, modern technology increases the communication between cultures. Eastern people can learn good virtual from western culture such as politeness and self-cultivation; and western people can also learn a great deal of good virtual from eastern culture such as modesty and filial piety of one's parents. By communication, one culture can learn from other culture and evolve.

Thirdly, modern technology helps us to preserve our cultural relics and world treasures, and discover our culture in the past. We can also explore and discover more about our past, and have a better understanding of now and the future. For instance, Xi'an is famous for its figures of warriors and horses buried in the emperor's tombs. In the modern world, we explore some of these tombs so that we would understand the remote and longstanding culture of Qin Dynasty in China's history.

Indeed, modern technology has shorten the distance between cultures, and made this world smaller. But we cannot say that it is creating a single world culture. On the contrary, with the help of modern technology, we find this world more and more diversify and colorful.

(Essay ID: 172 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

### Topic: 84

What things can be widely used in education, business, government, family and almost all the other fields all over the world? One answer is the Internet, which is a great communication tool in the 21st century. Some people claim that the 21st century could not exist without the Internet. Therefore, children and young adults should use the Internet freely everywhere. Personally, I have the impression that there are some flaws in this seemingly indisputable proposition. Children and young adults should not use the Internet freely for three reasons, and some safe programs and filters are indeed needed in the Internet.

For one thing, the children and young adults that use the Internet freely might get the wrong information by chance. Children and young adults can be influenced easily by many new things.

The Internet is so wide that it includes some wrong information such as violence and pornography. That information can cause many bad effects on the children and young adults, which are bad for them as they are growing. For example, there is some violence information on the Internet. After the children and young adults watch that by chance, they might follow the violence way from the Internet to solve the problems. Consequently, we have to use some kinds of software to block this kind of information. This highly technical software has already been developed well. Parents can just trust this kind of software in order to prevent children from accessing the blocked websites, which includes the wrong information.

For another thing, the children and young adults using the Internet freely might cause some computer problems. As the Internet is used on the computers, it is related to the computers closely. The computer is a highly technical machine that sometimes is hard to control. As a result, some bad things may have loopholes to get into the computer such as the computer viruses. If the children and young adults use the Internet freely without some safe programs their computers will probably be infected with computer viruses. For example, many years ago, I used my computer on the Internet without any safe programs. One day, I found my computer was abnormal and called a computer expert to look over it. He said my computer must be infected with computer viruses from the Internet and suggested I use the safe program to prevent the viruses. Since then, I have used the Internet with the safe program every time and never get the computer viruses any more. In addition, there are also some computer hackers on the Internet who always attack others' computers or steal the data from others' computers, which is a serious problem for the computer users. Therefore, a safe program is really needed for the computer users to prevent the viruses and hackers while they are using the Internet.

Furthermore, by using some filters we can save a lot of time to distinguish the useful and unnecessary information. Most people use the Internet to find and get information. There are so great quantities of information on the Internet that we usually have to spend quite a long time to find the useful information. Whereas, if we use some filters, we can distinguish the useful and unnecessary information easily. For example, my E-mail box always receives some pornographic junk mail, which are very disagreeable. After I use the filters to block those mails' senders, that mail cannot get into my E-mail box any more. However, the Internet is such an interesting thing that people who enjoy it may keep on surfing on the net. People who have little ability of self control will lose themselves in the information highway spending a long time in front of the screen, which is absolutely bad for their health. Thus, the filters are quite useful when we use the Internet.

Some people hold that children and young adults use the Internet freely can widen their eyes of the world. However, I think using the Internet with the filters can also get the information much enough to widen their eyes. Most parents do not use the filters because they do not know how useful the filters are. The filters are so good now that we can choose the different ways to get the different kinds of information. Using the filters can make the limit to help the children and young adults know more about the things that are useful for them. If the children and young adults use the Internet freely, they may lose their directions. As a result, they might not only widen their eyes, but also waste a lot of time. The filters can help us to prevent getting into the websites that we will never use them anyway so that we could widen our eyes of the world by using the filters.

As the Internet becomes more and more popular, the way of using Internet will also become more and more advanced. Consequently, children and young adults should use the Internet with some new advanced programs to get the information easily. They should try to learn the better way to use the Internet such as by the safe programs and filters. As a result, the Internet will be really good for them.

(Essay ID: 452 )

**Topic: 84**

The Internet Provides people with a lot of information, but is this information valuable, or so much information create problems for us? In my point of view, every thing has its two sides, and the value of the Internet far outweighs the disadvantages it brings to us.

The Internet has been beneficial to people around the globe. My view is a commonsense one, based on the fact that the Web is a vast storehouse of information and opinion, which can be scientific, literary, political, sporting or sexual. Anyone with access to a computer and a dialup connection can unlock the door and trawl through its offerings.

The Internet can be used as a broad base of knowledge that contributes to the educational system. Students and teachers benefit from the use of the Internet, as well as administrators and others outside of formal education. Students benefit because the Internet provides a resource to supplemental information for any subject. Educators benefit because the Internet provides a vast knowledge base to prepare for topics. People are not only learning from the Internet, they are contributing and sharing knowledge through networked communities. The Internet is the advancement of education for all its users.

Internet can deliver better customer services to people. The Internet is changing the way we do business. Using Internet broadcasting, we are able to target the right audience, prepare and present a technical presentation on a popular topic, interact with new customers, and collect hundreds of highly qualified leads. As Internet companies continue to find innovative ways to leverage the capabilities of the Internet for businesses, the more we will learn how to provide optimal solutions for customers. Which in turn, will greatly benefit people.

The Internet today is a way to transfer and share information. On the whole, it is a benefit to individuals of all kinds. We do have problems surrounding the Internet that need to be solved, but as with all new technologies there are debates and opinions. Since the Internet technology is spreading, it will soon become as popular as all other forms of communication. If you have not tried it, do so.

(Essay ID: 173 )

**Topic: 85**

If you attend a conference in China, and would like to take a one-day-visit on site seeing and shopping, there are three factors you might consider: this place must have special tourist features which can represent China, and this place must be close to the place where the meeting is held, therefore you do not have to spend too much time on traveling.

If you are in northern part of China, the best place that you should visit is the city of Beijing, although spending one day in Beijing is too short of a period to fully explore the splendors of the city. Nevertheless, for those of you without the luxury of time, make sure you don't miss a few key points of interest--the Summer Palace, the Forbidden Palace, the Forbidden City, and the Great Wall of China.

The Summer Palace is a royal retreat located on the bank of a large lake. Visitors can walk along a waterfront promenade that leads to a concrete ship docked at the far end of the walk. At the concrete ship, you can take a ferry back to the entrance of the palace. Something you may want to do while at the Summer Palace is go into the gift shop, get dressed in traditional Chinese clothing, and pose for a souvenir photograph.

The Forbidden Palace is absolutely breathtaking. There are a series of gates that lead to the main palace grounds. Pay particular attention to the stairwells in the palace courtyards. There are slabs carved with intricate dragon designs, which the emperor was suspended over in a caravan whenever he left the palace grounds. It would be a good idea to get a local guide to lead you around the palace and explain the significance of various buildings.

Finally, don't miss the Great Wall. It's located outside of the city and it takes up most of the day, but it's well worth it. When you ascend the Great Wall, there are two paths--one veering to the left and the one veering to the right. The path on the right is less steep and an easier climb. However, if you take the path to the left, you can see the remains of the original wall, and there is a cable car you can take down to the parking area.

Shopping in Beijing is becoming more convenient by the day. The Silk Market at Xiushui Jie is favorites among tourists, experts and locals alike. There you can bargain with the shop owners and buy good quality cloths with a very low price, you can even see plenty of pirated software-ironically, within sight of the US Embassy.

So, there you have it. I encourage anyone to spend at least a few days in Beijing, because there are so much to see.

(Essay ID: 174 )

## Topic: 85

If a foreign visitor has only one day to spend in my country - China, I will recommend him to live in an average Chinese family for that special day. There is no denying that the one-day experience with a average Chinese family will be invaluable for his life and future career, if given a chance to work or live in China in the foreseeable future!

As is known to all, to live with an average Chinese family for only one day, the foreign visitor could not get an overall picture of the average Chinese's life style and their culture; but in another way, even at the very beginning of being enthusiastically welcomed at the threshold of the house, he must be overwhelmed by the enthusiasm delivered by Chinese people who are famous for their hospitality; so that he is given a vivid lesson about the characteristics of the Chinese people. Of course, hospitality is merely one of the virtues Chinese people possess, but it is of vital importance to get familiar with the natives, to read the thoughts of the natives through their manners, or even their gestures, and finally be emerged into the life of the native Chinese more harmoniously than those who do not have such an experience!

Besides, to live with an average Chinese family, a foreigner will get first-hand information about the situation of the common Chinese people's the life quality, their main expenses, and their hobbies in their spare time and so on. This first-hand information is of preliminary importance if he wants to get an insider's view of this country.

The third reason is that it is the best way for a foreigner to confirm whether he has read or heard in his own country is true or not is to look into the average Chinese people's life in person. If a foreigner is also a well-informed person, he must be buried with bulks of information all shouting about the so-called "insider's view" about the circumstances of the life of the Chinese people in today's China; and if he is a critical reader, he should not swallow all that without even asking "is that true?" Accordingly, I would say to the foreigner that to live with an average Chinese family will deserve all your endeavour and it is the perfect way to spend your one-day tour in China!

(Essay ID: 405 )

**Topic: 86**

Back to January 19th,2002

Till now, there is only one thing that makes me feel repentant of. My girlfriend died in Japan, and at that time I was doing my TOEFL test. If I could go back to some time and place in the past, I choose to go back to January 19th 2002...

I will use a story to show the reasons for choosing this time in the past. My girlfriend's was Christina. Her father is Japanese, and her mother is Chinese. That is why she looks as beautiful as an angel. Last winter vacation, I was preparing for the TOEFL test. Of course, I did not pay enough time for her as usual. I only saw her for twice a month. The night before the TOEFL test, she came to my house. I enjoyed her cooking, and everything looked fine as usual. The next morning, she cooked the breakfast for me.

Before I left, she kissed me and said " Jackey, good luck. I love you!" I replied: "Thanks, honey! I love you, too." The test goes fine. After the test, my cell phone rang as I turned it on. It is one of my best friends Moon. He said " Jackey, Christina went back to Japan. She tried to kill herself. Now she is in the hospital and she is in danger period. You must arrive to the airport in three minutes. The visa, passport and the air ticket are in the car. You have to come to Japan right now. We will see you in Japan!"

When I saw her, she said, " I think your business is more important than me. I do not think you need me any more! Goodbye, forever." She sleeps forever. If I go back to the time, I will stay with her and spend much more time on her. I even can drop my business.

In fact, it is impossible for backing that time! Christina is died. There is not another Christina for me, but will have four times per year for the TOEFL test. The lost would never be back.

(Essay ID: 376 )

**Topic: 86**

If I were afforded the opportunity to go back to a specific time and place in the past, I would venture back to ancient Greece. During the 5th century B.C., the Greeks were in the process of developing and reforming a wide range of cultural, social, and scientific pursuits which still have a significant impact on the world today.

In the arts, Greece excelled in many fields, particularly dramatic literature. The works of Sophocles, Euripides and Aristophanes have had a tremendous influence not only on western literature, but also western thought in general. The works of these playwrights are still performed on stages around the world today. However, it would be a rare and exciting opportunity to see these plays performed for the first time.

The ancient Greeks also excelled in the social sciences. Perhaps their greatest contribution in this area came in the form of democracy. The Greek words "Demo" and "Cracy" mean "People" and "Rule" respectively. Today, many of the world's great nations have adopted, and to a certain extent, modified the ancient Greek system. Yet, its birth and early maturation period all took place in ancient Greece.

Academic subjects such as Philosophy, Astronomy, Physics and Biology also received a great deal of attention in the ancient Greek world. The philosophical writings of Heraclitus, Plato, and Aristotle have had a profound influence on western scholarship for well over two thousand years.

The Mathematical theories of Pythagoras and Euclid, combined with theories from other great ancient civilizations, provided a foundation upon which later mathematicians such as Newton and Einstein based their work.

The world of the Ancient Greeks would most certainly be an exciting and stimulating place to go back to. Politics, Drama, Physics, and a number of other subjects were still in their infancy, and all were being fiercely debated and examined. It would undoubtedly be an enriching experience to observe and take part in such a fascinating civilization.

(Essay ID: 175 )

## Topic: 87

I think the most important discovery that has been the most beneficial for people in my country is the invention of Internet. So far as I can tell, the Internet has been beneficial to people around the globe. My view is a commonsense one, based on the fact that the Web is a vast storehouse of information and opinion, which can be scientific, literary, political, sporting or sexual. Anyone with access to a computer and a dialup connection can unlock the door and trawl through its offerings.

The Internet can be used as a broad base of knowledge that contributes to the educational system. Students and teachers benefit from the use of the Internet, as well as administrators and others outside of formal education. Students benefit because the Internet provides a resource to supplemental information for any subject. Educators benefit because the Internet provides a vast knowledge base to prepare for topics. People are not only learning from the Internet, they are contributing and sharing knowledge through networked communities. The Internet is the advancement of education for all its users.

Internet can deliver better customer services to people. The Internet is changing the way we do business. Using Internet broadcasting, we are able to target the right audience, prepare and present a technical presentation on a popular topic, interact with new customers, and collect hundreds of highly qualified leads. As Internet companies continue to find innovative ways to leverage the capabilities of the Internet for businesses, the more we will learn how to provide optimal solutions for customers. Which in turn, will greatly benefit people.

The Internet today is a way to transfer and share information. On the whole, it is a benefit to individuals of all kinds. We do have problems surrounding the Internet that need to be solved, but as with all new technologies there are debates and opinions. Since the Internet technology is spreading, it will soon become as popular as all other forms of communication. If you have not tried it, do so.

(Essay ID: 490 )

## Topic: 88

At first glance, this statement may sound plausible because except from personal contact, every other forms of communication, including telephones and emails, are indirect ways of communication. But shall we get a conclusion that telephones and email have made communication between people less personal? To answer this question, we should look at the following points:

First, telephone and email are more efficient ways of communication. Telephones and email are becoming more and more important for us today. We use telephones for conversations to our



friends and family; we use email to transfer important information and documents, even photo and multi-media files. With a phone, we can order services and make enquires regarding a service without physically present in the place, this will save us so much time and energy. In time of emergencies, when it is impossible for us to physically go to a police station or a hospital, we can simply call 911, a emergency vehicle will come to us in ten minutes. Imagine how hard it will be for us if we do not have access to a telephone under emergency situations.

Second, telephones and email increase the chances that people communicate. Although face-to-face personal contact is more close and intimate than making phone calls or sending emails, we actually do not have much time to visit each other. Furthermore, people have their own private life. Sometimes they do not want to be disturbed by visitors. A phone call or an email message is always the most proper and courteous way to make contact with people, and are not restrained by time or occasions. For example, during the Chinese New Years, more and more people make phone calls to our friends and folks, or send electronic cards through email, wishing them a happy new year, instead of actually travel to their friends' house to make a visit.

In conclusion, telephones and email are convenient ways to communicate and can actually increase the communication between people. They maybe less personal, but they are surely more effective means of communication.

(Essay ID: 177 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 89

If I could travel back in time to meet a famous person, I would most like to meet and speak with Siddhartha Gautama: The Buddha. If by "enlightenment" one means a complete understanding of the universe, then Buddha, having achieved "enlightenment", would be fully capable of answering all questions relating to the origins, condition, and destiny of the universe.

Perhaps the first thing I would like to discuss, upon meeting Buddha, would be the events surrounding the birth of the universe. How and why did the universe come into being? Are contemporary physicists correct in assuming that all matter emerged spontaneously from a single point beyond time and space? The Big Bang! And does this theory compliment or contradict the theories of other great religious thinkers who claimed that all life emerged from a primordial source. The "void"

Following our discussion of the origins of the universe, I would like to ask Buddha a number of questions concerning the "human condition." Why are Mankind, the planet Earth and the universe structured the way they are? What is the purpose of life? Why does existence contain such drastic opposites: love and hate, good and evil, joy and suffering?

Having gained an understanding of both the universe and the human condition, I would then like to move on to a discussion of Mankind's destiny. What is then ultimate fate of the universe, and in turn, life? Is it true, as some great thinkers have suggested, that the universe and everything in it return to the void from which it emerged? And what about God? Is God a personal entity, as some religions claim? Or is God the impersonal source of all that exists? The impersonal source of the void!

Throughout history, intelligent men and women have thought deeply about God, fate, destiny, and the origins of the universe. The opportunity to have these questions answered by one who lived in the not too distant past, would truly be a remarkable experience.

(Essay ID: 178 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 90

Everyone dreams to be handsome, rich and happy. Famous actors and actresses, pop stars or athletes are so popular because they realized the dreams many ordinary people have. If I could meet a famous entertainer or athlete, this person will be Julia Roberts.

Julia Roberts is a very talented actress. She can play many characters and each one is new and different. She seems to become the person she is portraying and gives a 100% to the performance. Pretty Women is my favorite because it was the first Julia movie that I saw and it was her big break. I still watch the movie to this day and enjoy it. Steel Magnolias is 2nd. Julia was in the company of a very talented cast and held her own. It's a classic, something you always enjoy watching.

I loved Nottinghill because the movie was full of many emotions. It made you feel happy after seeing it. I enjoy all of her movies. I see them even if the critics dish the movie. If she is in a movie I know her performance will be worth seeing. Her Oscar was very worthy of her as she was of it. Her Oscar was a long time coming. I'm sure we can all look forward to many more great films to come and her always Oscar winning performance. Julia Roberts is not only beautiful, but she executes the characters she plays so well, that she can almost bring us to tears... almost.

If I had a chance to meet Julia, I would also thank her for always thinking of the poor and the needed. After the disaster in New York and Pennsylvania, her face looked the sincerest of all of the stars. Also, I heard on the news that Julia gave \$2 million as a tribute. Recently, you pleaded at US congress for money on a children's disease. Thank Julia for helping with such a kind heart especially during a time when so many have lost so much! I know that they appreciate your support and thoughtfulness, Julia.

Such is Julia Roberts, a pretty woman and America's sweet heart, and she is the star that I definitely want to meet the most.

(Essay ID: 179 )

## Topic: 91

If I could ask a famous person one question, I would like to ask the world famous scientist Li Siguang if our city could build a statue or monument to honor him. Because I think that he definitely deserves to be honored in some methods for his great achievements and building a statue or monument to honor him is appropriate. Besides, to honor him will stimulate our children to model this famous scientist and push themselves to study hard. But I have to ask his permission.

The famous geologist Zhao Siguang had made great achievements in geology. One of his famous discoveries is that he renewed the continental drift theory in China. By applying his new theory into practical use, protectors have been exploring a lot of crude oil wells and precious mineral sites in china. These discoveries have been promoting our industries greatly and therefore made him famous both in our country and in the world. we need to honor him for these achievements.

There are a lot of ways to honor a famous scientist like Li Siguang, such as to establish an extra holiday, to name a street after his name besides building a statue or monument. However, establishing a new holiday will involve a series of legislative process and there is already a street that is called after his name in our city. The left choice is to build a statue or monument to honor

him. Besides, he was born in our city. My city is his hometown. So, I think nothing can be more appropriate to honor him than to build a statue or monument.

After the statue or monument having been built, our later generations of the city can model him more easily. Our children are usually to know this famous geologist from books and magazines, or hearing his name from their teachers. It is a little more difficult for our children to adore him because all the stories about the famous people are seemed to be similar to one another. From building a statue or monument to honor him, children can look up to him anytime and know that he was born in the city and just standing over there. This will stimulate them to study hard and hope themselves to be as famous as him in the future.

Overall, if I had the opportunity to ask a famous person one question, I would really want to know if our city could build a statue or monument to honor Li Siguang. We really should honor him for his achievements and his potential positive effect upon our children. However, he is too modest a person. So, I have to ask him about this question and hope that he will say "yes" to me.

(Essay ID: 527. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 91

If I had the opportunity to sit down and meet one of my idols or heroes, I could come up with hundreds of questions to find out what they did to get where they are, but in particular I like to have asked Helen Keller, what would she have made of the technology available today to blind and deafblind individuals?

When Helen Keller was nineteen months old, a serious illness almost took her life. She survived the disease had left her both blind and deaf. Her education contributed to her first teacher, Anne Sullivan. Anne taught Helen to finger spell, and manage to let her understand the meaning of words. Imagine how hard it is for a person both blind and deaf to relate words with real world objects, although she never had a chance to see those objects!

Another teacher Mary Swift Lamson who over the coming year was to try and teach Helen to speak. This was something that Helen desperately wanted and although she learned to understand what somebody else was saying by touching their lips and throat, her efforts to speak herself proved to be unsuccessful. However, Helen moved on to the Cambridge School for Young Ladies and later entered Radcliff College, becoming the first deaf blind person to have ever enrolled at an institution of higher learning.

After World War Two, Helen spent years traveling the world fundraising for the American Foundation for the Overseas Blind. They visited Japan, Australia, South America, Europe and Africa. Her hard work and achievements was widely recognized throughout the world, and she was acknowledged as "the Miracle Worker".

If Helen Keller were born today her life would undoubtedly have been completely different. Her life long dream was to be able to talk, something that she was never really able to master. Today the teaching methods exist that would have helped Helen to realize this dream. What would Helen have made of the technology available today to blind and deaf blind individuals? Technology of today has enabled blind and deaf blind people, like Helen, to communicate directly, and independently, with anybody in the world.

(Essay ID: 180 )

## Topic: 92

There is no denying the fact that whether to choose a place that have the same weather all year long, or a place where the weather changes several times a year is a popular topic which is much talked about. Although it seems that normally we cannot tell which one outweigh the other between these two kinds of places, they deserve some close examination.

If three criteria were taken into account, I would prefer living in areas where the weather changes several times a year to living in places that have the same weather or climate all year long. There are no less than three advantages in this as rendered below.

First, varied weather or climate broadens the range of our pastimes. For example, we can go swimming in summer and go skiing in winter. If the place we live in has only hot weather all year long, like Singapore, most of us can never go skiing in our lives.

Secondly, the change of climate gives us opportunities to wear many kinds of clothes. Some say it is a waste of money to buy clothes depending on seasons. However, wearing various clothes, looking at others' fashion, and feeling the change of seasons is very interesting for me.

Thirdly, changing of seasons is good for our health. When winter comes our body's metabolism slows down, and when summer comes it speeds up, so that our body can maintain a good rhythm. Also snows in the winter can kill a lot of bacteria and bad insects, so that in the spring our chance of being infected to a disease is decreased and we can enjoy nice atmosphere and sceneries.

For these reasons, I prefer to live in areas that have several changes of weather. Only these three reasons can make a person draw the conclusion that living in areas that have season changes is better, not to mention there are more.

(Essay ID: 181 )

## Topic: 93

At first glance it seems very difficult for us to define what are the important qualities of a good roommate. However, after serious considerations we can see that under most circumstances, a good roommate should at least have the following three qualities.

First of all, a good roommate should be open and willing to communicate. There are always issues regarding rent, bills, food and household duties, guests, privacy, noises, sharing and borrowing, to name a few, and interests and hobbies of roommates are not always the identical. There will always be conflicts among roommates. When problems or conflicts arise, roommates must openly discuss the issue and quickly reach a solution to the problem. In addition, a successful roommate situation requires good communication. Take time to talk frequently to each other; chatting with each other helps keep up the basic relationship which can provide the underpinning for a harmonious relationship. Therefore open and willing to communicate is the first important quality of a good roommate.

Secondly, an important quality of a good roommate is considerate and understanding. A good roommate understands what you need; He is a good friend and a good listener, and offer you help when you need it. Of course, you should not depend on your roommate to satisfy all your social needs. Make other friends and get involved in activities is also important, and could leave more private time for your roommate.

The third important quality of a good roommate is that he should be a hard worker, and have the desire to do better. As we know, roommates will always influence each other in some ways. As an old Chinese proverb, one who mixes with vermilion will turn red, one who touches pitch shall be defiled therewith. So like choosing a friend, it is very important to choose a roommate who has good qualities.

Of course, some roommates eat and socialize separately and barely get to know each other. They never become friends. Still, if your roommate possesses the above-mentioned qualities, your residential life will be peaceful and enjoyable.

(Essay ID: 182 )

## Topic: 93

The important qualities of a good roommate

We become more independent and learn more life experience while live without families, but your roommates. However, to live with other people is neither easy nor difficult. You should learn how to be a good roommate, basically.

Believe or not, dormitory life is a extremely happy thing. You make new friends, experience indepedece, difficulties and enjoy the freedom. But all of these are base on your behaves as a good roommate.

Firstly, you should know how to respect people. Not only your roommate, also people around you. It is the most important factor in our communications. Whatever what is your background, you are the same as your roommates, you guys are all equal. To respect your roommate, respect their religions and cultures. Do not laugh at enthetic people or racism. That is rude and stupid. We should respect what God created for us. Besides, you must respect your roommates' privately, everyone have right to have their secrets.

Take your duty and responsibility. You can not ingore and think about those are negligible. Do not tend to ask your mates to do things what you have to do. Remember, no one will like a lazy and irresponsible roommate. In general, you should help to cleaning, put litter bags to dustheap, put things back after you used .To be quite when others are studying, take care of your men is another factor among.

In addition, You are one of members of your dormitory. Do not hide yourself behind, you are buddy of your roommates. Try to share your ideas, experience of study and life, your happiness etc. And you listen to your mates experience as well. Take care of your mates You dormitory will be lively then.

All in all, as long as you enjoy your dormitory life, get well with your friends, then you should be a good roommate. Whatever what you experiences, those of them will be a beautiful memorial of your rest of life. TRY IT.

(Essay ID: 498. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 94

Dancing is an important art form, and also plays an important role in a culture. Some dance spontaneously happens at celebrations as an expression of emotion or some happen in a more structured manner at ceremonies.

Dancing plays an important role in ceremonial events in many cultures. For example, during the Pukumani ceremony the dances performed reflect the relationship to the deceased. In Lebanon, the classical belly dancing still plays an important part at weddings, representing the transition from virgin bride to sensual woman, and is also popular in nightclubs. On the other hand, residents of the Greenland believe that the dancing and drum can be used as a tool to dissolve conflicts between people.

As we may see from the above examples, dancing is an integral part of many cultures. Of course, dancing does not have the same functions in our modern life, but many people in our society still find dancing an enjoyable form of entertainment and art. Young people go to disco with their friends to release their energies, and they find dancing a good way to relax and make friends. Older people dance together as a social event and a good means of exercise. In addition, many people go to theatres to enjoy performances of ballet and modern dances. Enjoying those beautiful dancing, music and costumes in a dance performance, can give us a beautiful experience, and help us develop appreciation of art, and enrich our after work life.

In conclusion, no one can deny that dancing plays an important role in a culture.

(Essay ID: 183 )

## Topic: 95

When we see photographs of starving children, it's hard to say that we should spend billions of dollars on space exploration. But that's just what we should do. Children don't need to be starving, but we do need to explore space. Right now, we have enough money to feed every person on Earth. Children are starving because of mismanagement of resources and simple human greed. Those are problems we can solve right here on earth. That shouldn't stop our need to find out what's beyond our own solar system.

We may never make contact with whatever other species there may be out there in space. Even so, there are still two very practical and positive consequences of space exploration. One is a certainty and the other is a possibility. The certainty is medical research. Yes, we can conduct research here on earth. But much of the research done in space, for example, on the effects of gravity on bone marrow, is making a difference in medicine here on Earth. When we do research in space, we also learn more about space exploration. Also, many of the inventions that were developed for space travel have been adapted to good use on Earth.

The possible consequence of space exploration is finding another planet human beings can colonize. Overpopulation is a huge problem on our planet. People are living longer, more healthful lives, and that's a good thing. But it means there are fewer people dying and more people being born. Eventually we'll have less space, fewer resources, and major distribution problems. If we can find another planet to live on, we can relieve the problems of overpopulation on our planet.

It's a tragedy that there are human beings suffering on Earth. However, if we wait until everyone has a perfect life, we will never explore space-and that, too, would be a kind of tragedy.

(Essay ID: 184 )

## Topic: 96

In today's society, everyday we may face some kind of stress and difficulties from work, school or family. In order to escape them, people have different methods. Some read, some exercise, while

others work in their gardens. From my point of view, I would like to use different ways according to different stress.

First, the stress from work and school maybe the most common stress. In this circumstance, I like to listen to music, especially some inspiring music. When I appreciate it, I can transiently forget those unpleasant things and let my head sober. After listening to those inspiring music, I feel that I am full of encourage overcoming difficulties. Then I will calmly analyse my circumstance and find the way to solve problems.

If my stress comes from my family or my friends( foe example, some misunderstanding and squabbles), I think that the best way to erase this stress is a sinere conversation. I will positively converse with my relatives and friends. I hope that I can know what is their opinion and also let them understand me. I feel that when we understand each other, all conflict will disappear.

In a word, everyone can find the best way that is suitable for himself/herself. But conservation and appreciating music are the most suitable for me to erase stress.

(Essay ID: 390. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 96

Stress is one of our biggest enemies. It affects our health, our personality, and our relationships with others. In order to get rid of stress, I first have to identify the cause. I have different antidotes to stress depending on the cause. The most common types of stress I face are with work, with friends, and with myself.

Work-related stress is the easiest to combat. I simply stop working for a while. If I find myself picking up the same piece of paper four times a day and never doing anything with it, I blame stress. If I find- myself staring at the computer without finishing a report, I blame stress. The best thing to do is to do something else. Sometimes, I get up from my desk and go down the hall to talk to my colleagues, but I don't talk about work related subjects. Other times, I will take a short walk around the block and get some fresh air. Work-related stress can be cured by getting away from the work.

Stress caused by friends is more difficult to cure. Often the cause is more complicated. My friends could have a personal problem that causes them and me both anxiety. Or my friends could be angry at me or vice versa. Here, the cure for stress is talking about the problem and being with my friends. Unlike work, you can't walk away from your friends.

Stress I cause myself is also not so easy to get rid of. If I feel bothered by an exam or anxious about the future, there is very little for me to do. I just have to tell myself that I can only do my best and leave the rest up to fate.

It is important to try to lead a stress-free life. If you can avoid stress by walking away from it (like at work), talking through it (like with your friends) or facing it head on (like with yourself), your health, personality and relationships will benefit.

(Essay ID: 185 )

## Topic: 97

Some communities have decided to base evaluations of teachers on students' test scores. It's these evaluations that determine how much teachers will be paid. I don't think this is a very good idea for several reasons.

First of all, if teachers' salaries are going to be based on how much students learn, then some teachers will start to teach their students only what they need to get high test scores. This means that students will miss out on a lot of education that can't be measured on a test.

For instance, one of the best methods to help students understand a subject is encouraging them to discuss it. A common practice is to divide the class into groups, have each group discuss the subject, and then have them report back to the whole class. This kind of shared learning can lead to a fuller understanding. It also teaches students how to discuss and debate ideas. However, it doesn't supply facts to show off on a test.

Another problem with basing teachers' salaries on how much their students learn is that teachers may ignore students who have learning difficulties. Some students learn more slowly than others and need more personal attention. If a teacher is worried about tests, he may feel he has to push the majority of the students to cram facts. That effort will take all his time. He won't be able to help the less able students.

It's true there are teachers who "burn out" after many years teaching and just don't care how much their students learn. Basing their salaries on their students' test scores may improve their efforts. However, it's not fair for the majority of teachers. They deserve and need to be judged by other criteria.

(Essay ID: 186 )

## **Topic: 98**

If I were asked to send one thing representing my country to an international exhibition, I'd send something unexpected: one week's worth of television programming. These programs would best represent my country. They show how the citizens of my country live and what they think and feel.

The dramas on television are very realistic. They show how people in different parts of the country go about their daily lives. They show how they earn their livings, how they deal with crime, and how they interact with each other. The dramas also show how people in various economic groups dress, what kinds of houses they live in, and what kinds of education their children receive.

The comedies indicate what people in my country think is funny. Even though the situations are exaggerated, they reflect how my culture deals with very basic human situations. People everywhere understand falling in love, raising a family, and earning a living.

(Essay ID: 187 )

## **Topic: 99**

I'd rather have the university assign a roommate to share a room with me. As far as I'm concerned, this is part of the university experience. Students should meet new people and be open to new experiences. I like leaving this up to chance.



Actually, even though the university will choose, it's not totally a matter of chance. We all filled out information sheets. The school knows what we're majoring in, what our interests are, and our study habits and our goals. I think they're probably very good at matching roommates using this information. They've had a lot of practice. Besides, if a mistake is made, I can change my room assignment next semester.

If I did want to choose my own roommate, I'd first pick some candidates from the list supplied by the university. Then I'd write to them and they'd write back. Through our letters, we'd find out if we shared common interests, such as sports or movies. More importantly, we'd find out if we liked doing the same things in our free time. Because of my investigation, I'd probably get someone compatible with me. It's a lot of work to go through, though. Besides, the process of finding similar interests isn't all that different from what the university does.

Trying to predict whom I'm going to get along with is not a science. I might choose someone who sounds just like me and still find that the two of us just don't get along as roommates. Besides, I think it would be boring to room with somebody who's just the same as me. I'd rather be with someone who has different interests and likes to do different things. Maybe I'd even get a roommate from another culture. After all, one of the reasons I'm going to the university is to be exposed to a lot of new experiences. So, I'd rather have the university choose my roommate for me.

(Essay ID: 188 )

## Topic: 100

I realize that it's important to stay up to date with our technology. So much, like our space and defense programs, depends on it. I've also read that we shouldn't let other governments get ahead of ours in the race for better technology. This could eventually put us at a disadvantage and our whole economy could suffer. Despite all this, I think our government should spend our tax dollars on more basic items before it gets into the business of developing computer technology.

We have so many problems in our society, and it seems every solution needs money. For instance, we talk about getting people off welfare. To do that we need money to give them jobs until they can support themselves. That means support training, day care for their children, and probably a monthly rent subsidy. All of those things can cost hundreds of millions of dollars. However, if we could solve a major problem like that, wouldn't it improve our society even more than new technology?

Another problem is that our transportation system is falling apart. Bridges have cracks in them. Highways buckle. Accidents happen because of these problems. We shouldn't put money into improving a computer chip when we have basic needs like these.

Besides, why should the government be in the business of developing technology? Aren't there several very successful corporations doing just that? Yes, it's probably less expensive in the long run for the government to develop the technology. Nevertheless, in the short run, there are basic needs in our society that aren't being met. I think that's where the money should go.

(Essay ID: 189 )

## Topic: 100

Some people think that government should spend as much money as possible on developing or buying computer technology, while others do not. As far as I am concerned, this money should be

spent on some more basic needs, such as protecting the environment and improving the public service.

In the first place, nowadays the pollution of environment has become the main concern in the advanced society. The research said that human being would not find the clean water to drink if they did not do some work to keep their water clean. There would be no fresh air if every people in the city drive car to go and from work. And there would be no more wild animals if people let the forest be destroyed like what is to be done now. For example, the forest, which is the main habitat of the various animals, has been destroyed. More and more wild animals face the danger of extinction because of the shortage of habitats. Therefore, there are more basic things that a successful government should do such as keeping the water clean, keeping the air fresh, and keeping the animal healthy.

In the second place, some public service, such as the public transportation in the city, also is a big problem. The bus in the rush hours is overcrowded; some people cannot go to work on time because they do not catch the regular bus; some commuters spent too much time on the bus or train because of the traffic on the road. Consequently, government should spend more money to improve their public transportation, which will benefit their people a lot and benefit them instantaneously.

From what I have discussed above, everyone can see that there are more things a government should do than buying computer, such as protecting the environment and improving the public service. Therefore, I think a successful government should spend more money on the basic demands of their people instead of spending as much money as possible on developing or buying computer technology.

(Essay ID: 296 )

## **Topic: 101**

Here's the problem. I'm sloppy. That's why I like to use machines to do my work rather than do things by hand. Machines can be creative, precise, and efficient.

Most people think that you can only be creative if you do things by hand. However, it takes creativity to set the machine up. Once it's set up, it can repeat the same task over and over and over perfectly. If you want to write ten letters, you can set up your word processor to do it, press a button, and ten letters will be printed. It would take me forever by hand, and I would make a lot of mistakes. By hand, each letter would be different. By machine, each one is perfect.

Machines are very precise. They don't get tired and cut the wrong way. They don't get distracted and drop some mustard on the paper. As I said, I'm sloppy, but I like neatness. That's why I prefer to use machines.

Machines are also more efficient. I'm too tired to pick up the phone and see who is calling me. My answering machine isn't tired. It's always on duty. It doesn't get tired, upset, or moody.

I can depend on my machines, but I can't always depend on my hand to be creative, precise, or efficient.

(Essay ID: 191 )

## **Topic: 101**

In general, there are two ways of making products, one is by hand and the other is by machine. It is undeniable that products can be manufactured easily and efficiently by machine due to simply repeated operations. But for me, I prefer hand-made items for their features of individualism, acceptability, and flexibility.

First of all, hand-made products are more personal. Take birthday cards as example, instead same pictures on selling cards in the market, the well-chosen images on a self-made cards, such as people's own photos, surely distinguish the card from those selling ones. Owing to the uniqueness, the self-designed card will be of greater value for the person who receives it.

What's more, things made by hand are fitter and more suitable. This can be seen from the story of ordering formal clothes, such as men's suit and lady's evening dress, the ready-made kinds of which actually are easy to find in fashion shops. Needless to say how often famous figures, like Princess Diana, visit worldwide known fashion designers. Nowadays more and more ordinary people go for tailor-made clothing rather than buy those machine-made clothes from market simply because tailors can make clothing precisely according to customer's measurement and their own styles. Obviously, fitness and suitability are what those people care about most. Finally, producing items by hand is more flexible. It releases people from being confined by some models that are necessary for machine-made manufacturing. For example, in hand-made pottery making, people can work out their new design at any time. In machine-made manufacturing, however, models have to be developed in advance, and afterward all finished products based on one model have completely same looks. If a different look needed, people must devise another model first. Moreover, there are still some things cannot be produced by machine because of no matched models.

(Essay ID: 190 )

## Topic: 102

I agree that school should ask students evaluate their teachers. There are three reasons:

The first, the education is a activity that communicate each other. The information that students evaluate is given to their teacher. The teacher can improve their education skill by this information. If there are no evaluated information by student, the education activity become unilateral activity. The teacher spread their information to students, but the students' informations reflects back to teacher are very few. The evaluation can help teacher improve the their skill from time to time.

The second, the evaluation is favor to school management. The management of school evaluate the education of teacher by students' evaluation. The management may prize the good teacher and criticize the bad, and lay the disqualificational teacher.

Finally, the evaluation is in favor to protect rights of students and parents. Students and parents are consumers, they hope that their children will receive good education certainly, they should protect their rights for themselves. When they find the educational skill of the teacher is bad, they may have school changed the teacher immediately.

In a word, I agree this point that students evaluate their teacher.

(Essay ID: 492. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 102

I think it's a good idea for schools to ask students to evaluate their teachers. This informs teachers of how students react both to their teaching methods and to them as individuals. Teachers can weigh the criticisms and change what they think needs to be changed. Praise from students is also valuable. It can reinforce teachers' opinions about how they're teaching and give them confidence.

It's also helpful for school administrators to hear what students think about their teachers. It keeps administrators in touch with what's going on in the school. It also gives them some idea of which teachers effectively reach the students. However, good administrators know that student evaluations need to be reviewed with a keen eye for prejudice and adolescent attitudes. After all, an evaluation is a good way for students to get back at teachers who expect more of them than they want to give.

Evaluating teachers is also a good exercise for the students. They have to organize their thoughts about what they think of their teachers. In that way, they pinpoint for themselves what they expect of those teachers. They begin to understand what they value in a teacher and what is phony or useless. Evaluating their teachers is also a way for students to think about how they would evaluate themselves. Are they working as hard as they should in class? Is that why their teachers are sometimes critical of their work? Isn't that what a teacher should do-push us to try harder? Thinking about these things can help students do better in class. At the very least, they will understand better what is expected of them.

Student evaluations of teachers also make students feel as if they have a voice in what happens in their schools. It makes them feel as if they're part of the education process when their opinion is valued by the administration. Finally, it teaches them responsibility.

(Essay ID: 162 )

## **Topic: 103**

Although honesty, intelligence, and a sense of humor are all worthwhile characteristics, I feel the most important one in life to have is sensitivity. A sensitive person is aware of him/herself and the way their actions affect others. A sensitive person knows the place of honesty, intelligence, and a sense of humor.

Honesty is not always the best policy. There is such a thing as a white lie. You don't want to insult someone by saying that their new dress doesn't fit properly or that you wouldn't live in their new house if they paid you. You must be sensitive to when it is necessary to tell the truth and when it is better to tell a white lie.

Intelligence is a wonderful thing to have, but not all intelligent people use their intelligence sensitively. You don't want to show off and make others feel stupid. You must be sensitive to the reactions of the people around you. It might be appropriate for you to admit that you have the right answer, but in some cases, you might have to say, "I think this is the answer, but we might want to check it." A sensitive person would not make someone else look dumb.

A sense of humor is always valued. Different people, however, laugh at different things. You don't want to make someone feel uncomfortable by laughing at his/her mistakes. A sensitive person would understand whether a person could be teased or whether a person would appreciate a certain joke.

A sensitive person would make everyone feel comfortable. A sensitive person understands that people are different and that the values of honesty, intelligence and humor can be applied differently.

## Topic: 104

Basic to any social development in the 20 years after 1980s in China is the deeply recognition of the people, which is the gradual process of thinking a lot of the existed value of the scientists and the artists. Scientist or artist, who is the domination, makes people difficult to choose. The purpose of my issue is to provide sufficient evidence, details and examples from various perspectives to substantiate effectively and efficiently that significance of scientist is grossly greater.

To live, the most basically living requirement is food, clothes and place to live, which their entire source is the intelligent inventions of the scientist but not those of artist. Undoubtedly, fantastic paintings of Georgia O'Keeffe, wonderful music of Bach, moving dramas of William Shakespeare and the like which are the top articles in the world, make us live a life that full of beauty, wonder and fantasy. However, when we feel hungry or cold, no thing including music, painting, drama and so on, is greater impact our mind than the fresh bread or the down jacket, not mention to the person who create the articles----the artist. At this time, the person who invent and improve the farming machine to make crops strongly grow, the oven to bake the delicious bread, the machine to produce cloth, the scientist, will be appreciated, praised and thanked to. Because we can not live without food and clothes but can the articles.

The articles and the artists are only the talking topics while we sitting in front of the furnace, having coffees after dinner and the like, not in the time we facing problems in working or in living. Once we meet a difficulty in doing something, the idea that solve the problem in a science method or look for help of scientists, spark at first in our mind. For example, a complex and confused math subject makes me extremely exhausted, the first and only thing I want is a calculator which can work it out by pressing a few buttons in seconds. Meanwhile, my favorite Bach, Mozart, Shakespeare and their articles are all out of my mind and have no help with it.

Therefore, the significance of the scientists among the contributions for human beings is more considerable than that of artists because the science has the superiority that the art can not surpass in the basic life of people.

(Essay ID: 438 )

## Topic: 104

Artists and scientists both make valuable contributions to our society. It may seem sometimes that artists are more valued. That's because those artists who are famous make a lot of money. However, they are relatively few. The fact is that scientists are more valued. They get more respect from society for the work they do.

Artists reflect their times and their culture. A painter or a writer shows us in pictures and words what we're like as a people. They record our culture for future generations. Actors and other performers, like singers and dancers, entertain us. They take our minds off our troubles, and remind us how beautiful and exciting our imaginations can be. Artists also help keep their societies mentally and emotionally healthy. For example, children that participate in the arts, such as painting or music, in school do better in their other studies. Art of all types is necessary to the human spirit.

The contributions scientists make to society are more obvious. They include the cars we drive, the computers we use at home and at work, and the appliances that help us cook our meals and clean our houses. All of these come from the ideas and hard work of scientists. Because of scientific discoveries, we're living longer and more healthful lives. Scientists also contribute to the arts. Movies are the result of science. So are television, radio, and the recording of music on CDs.

Generally, scientists don't make as much money as famous artists like film stars, opera singers or successful painters. However, our society gives them more respect, and they generally make a good living. Scientists are considered to be serious professionals, while artists are sometimes viewed as flaky, irresponsible people. So overall, I'd have to conclude that we value scientists more.

(Essay ID: 193 )

## **Topic: 105**

I think it's better for college students to live on-campus their first two years, and then move into an apartment off-campus their last two years. Freshmen and sophomores need the stability of campus life, while juniors and seniors need the independence of off-campus life. Students' needs change over four years, so their housing should too.

Living on-campus makes it easier to get oriented to the way things are done. You get the whole university experience. Plus, you interact more with other students. This includes not only your roommates, but everyone in your dormitory. The older students in the dormitory can be a big help for the new students. Keeping up with studies your first year is hard enough. You shouldn't have to worry about finding your way around and figuring out the university bureaucracy.

Living in the dormitory also makes a student feel more apart of the university community. There are more opportunities for becoming involved in university activities and networking with student leaders and university administration.

Living off-campus, however, is a definite advantage for older students. Finding an apartment, dealing with leases and the landlord's regulations, cooking meals, and figuring out budgets are all good practice for life after graduation. This kind of independence helps older students grow into adulthood.

Off-campus housing also gives students a better perspective on what's going on around them. Campuses can be like little worlds of their own. There are few children or older people and everyone is focused on education. Getting to know neighbors who aren't students is good for students coming from different places. It's a chance to find out what other people think and feel.

I think a combination of two years on-campus and two years off-campus is a winning combination for most students.

(Essay ID: 194 )

## **Topic: 106**

Now I face a choice that I am in decision which transportation I should take to go to another city, which is 40 miles from my location.

While by bicycle, train, bus, and on foot are the basic four choices for me. The first one is a good way to excise my body, but too tiring and time consuming; The sencond way is economical to

save time, while not always convenient, for sometimes there is no train at the exact time that available for me, that is to say, maybe I need to wait more than half an hour for the train; As for the last method, it is not in my consideration at all for I do not think one can do a good job by driving as long as forty miles expect that he has ever do some professional training in long run.

Obviously, I would like to choose bus as my tool for this journey. Firstly, bus facilitate me in schedule, for , as a matter of fact, almost there is a bus available each ten minutes for my travel or even more often. Secondly, it is also efficient by bus to fulfill this journey. Thirdly, I will really enjoy myself during the travel for the comfortable in bus, with TV or music supplied through out the traveling time.

To summary, having a journey like forty miles, bus, as a transportation, is definitely the first choice. while if it is a much longer one, train will promote to be a replacement among these four. Lastly, bicycle or running can fit for a short one.

(Essay ID: 300. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 106

Now I face a choice that I need to go to another city which is 40 miles from my location, and decide which transportation I take.

While by bicycle, train, bus, and on foot are the basic four choices for me. The first one is a good way to exercise me, but too tiring and time consuming; The second way is economical to save time while not always convenient, for sometimes there is no train at the exact time that available for me; As for the last method, it is not in my consideration for I do not think one can do so good job like that expect he has ever do some professional training in long run.

Obviously, I choose bus as my tool for this journey. Firstly, bus facilitate me in schedule, for , as a matter of fact, almost there is a bus available each ten minutes for my travel or even more often. Secondly, it is also efficient by bus to fulfill this journey. Thirdly, I will really enjoy myself during the travel for the comfortable in bus, with TV or music through out the time.

To summary, having a journey like forty miles, bus, as a transportation, is definitely the first choice. while if it is a much longer one, train will be better one. Then bicycle or running can fit for a short one.

(Essay ID: 297. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 106

There are many different types of transportation which I could use to travel 40 miles from my home. The type of transportation I would choose depends mainly on how fast I need to get there and how much money I have. Some possibilities are walking, horseback riding, driving, or using a taxi, bus, or train.

The most economical choice is walking. It costs nothing, is healthful, but it is time consuming. The average person can walk about 4-5 miles per hour, so this trip would take at least 10 hours to complete. That means I would probably have to spend the night somewhere along the way. If I have to spend money for a hotel, then this choice really isn't free. Plus, I might arrive at the end tired and with sore feet! After walking comes animal transportation. In my area, horses are not common, so it wouldn't be a likely choice. I believe that a 40-mile trip would take 2 or 3 hours on

a horse. If I had free access to a horse, the cost would be minimal. Of course, I'd have to know how to ride!

With a car, the travel time is minimal (under one hour), with only the cost of gasoline to consider. However, I don't own a car, and car rentals are expensive. Shared taxis are one form of affordable transportation, with 4 or 5 people sharing the cost of a car trip to a common destination. The only downside is finding people to share the fare with me. Fortunately, I live in an urban area, where there are buses and 'trains to ride. One of these would be my first choice.

In short} the kind of transportation depends on how fast I need to get to my destination and how much money I have. If I need to get there fast, and money isn't important, I can hire a private taxi. Since I don't own my own car, I don't have that option, and I have never walked 40 miles in one trip. I usually depend on the bus and trains, and would do so in this circumstance. They are cheap, dependable and reliable.

(Essay ID: 195 )

## **Topic: 107**

Both good and bad students should have the opportunity to attend college. Everyone should have a period to learn about themselves before they begin to work and earn money. An education is an investment in yourself and in your future. Good or bad, a student must decide to invest real money and real time.

Higher education is very expensive. It might seem like a waste of money to send someone to college who might not be able to handle the course work. Still, education is a valuable investment in future career earnings. People with college degrees make more money and have more opportunities later. If people have a desire to improve their lives, do we have the right to say no?

Higher education is also a big investment of time. Some people think a weak student should get a job and earn some money. They think poor students shouldn't waste their time at college. But college is a time to meet different people, separate from your parents, and begin to define yourself as a person. I think that's an experience every student should have.

I think every student should be given a chance to see how far she can go. Students who got poor grades in high school might do very well in a different environment. College may be expensive and take time, but it's an investment in one's self and one's future.

(Essay ID: 198 )

## **Topic: 107**

Some people believe that a college or university education should be available to all students. Other people take the view that higher education should be available only to good students. While both methods may have their advantages and disadvantages, they can be applied under different circumstances. Afterwards, I will explain my opinion about it.

For every student, having the opportunity to being educated in a college is truly a good news. If a country can afford higher education to each of its students, we can call it a great country, because education is the power which enhances a country's economy. America, Germany and other countries which have highly developed education give us good examples.



But this also demonstrates that offering higher education to every one does not mean that a country can receive the corresponding profit from its investment. Is it a truth that each student who receives higher education can eventually become a qualified graduate who can find a suitable place in the society?

Moreover, offering higher education to every student will result in the decrease of the educational efficiency. Suppose that if everyone can go to college without any restrictions, the campus will be crowded, the library will have less space for students and lose its calmness. Teachers have to face hundreds of heads in the classroom. We couldn't expect any good educational quality from such condition.

Making higher education available to good students, on the other hand, is no doubt an efficient way. Limiting the quality of the students is like selecting good mineral source. Only locating the miner in a potential place can we get what we need. For example, in Germany, students of different levels go to different schools. Those students who is promising have the chance to enter university for higher education. Under this circumstance, various schools produce various competent persons serving in various places of the country.

In my opinion, offering higher education to good students is better than to every student in two ways: First, it can keep the quality of the high education from decreasing. Second, it will help the development of the economy by producing excellent graduates who is available in different parts of the country machine.

(Essay ID: 197 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 107

Depending on personal experience, personality type and emotional concern, some people hold the opinion that a college education should be available to all students; meanwhile others consider the idea that higher education should be available only to good students in somehow more preferable. As far as I am concerned, I have to declare myself as one of these who agree that higher education should be offered to all the students. Among countless factors which influence my choice, there are three conspicuous aspects listed as follows.

The first and foremost cause for my propensity is that all students should have the same opportunity to attain a further chance of studying. Born equally as all of us, it is impartial that we all can approach a better education. From the view of equity, it will be unfair that some students get the best possible education while others are denied from a college education.

Another reason why I cast my preference for the point that higher education should open to all students is that our high-education should serve the function of educating the whole country, not merely for a minority of its people.

Beyond these obvious aspects, there is a further subtle point which we must take into our account. It would not be too kindly disposed to the bare idea that allowing barely fantastic students to enter universities, because it is economical for part of people to be better educated with limited resources of all kinds. Nonetheless, pound for pound, I reckon that the consideration that higher education should be accessible to all students is awfully advantageous.

To sum up, a higher education is never absolutely just a dream of the students without a terrific mark. It is a dilemma for the public to choose from the two object opinions because they are from time to time confused by the seemingly good qualities of the thinking that higher education is available merely to good students but neglect the genuinely good qualities of the true one. From

the factors presented above, I strongly commit to the notion that a further education should be rendered more widely and openly.

(Essay ID: 196 )

## Topic: 108

Both learning through personal experience and learning through the advice of others can help you in life. If you don't have a lot of knowledge about something, the advice of people you trust can be very valuable. They can tell you about their own experiences, and about the advantages and disadvantages of a situation. Then you can consider your own wants and needs and decide what you should do. Pretty soon, you'll have more experience of your own.

When you 're thinking about what you want to do with your life, friends and relatives are a great resource. They can give you information about things like jobs, school, volunteering, and traveling to other parts of the world. They've done a lot of learning in their lives, and you can use it to decide what you want to do with yours.

In some cases, there's no real substitute for personal experience. For example, I really don't like to make presentations in class. I know I'll make mistakes, even if I'm thoroughly prepared and know all about my topic. Nothing but experience can help me deal with the nervousness I feel. I know that the feedback I get from the teacher and from the other students will help me learn from those mistakes. At least I'm confident that the next class presentation I make will be much better than the last one.

In the end, I think that the best way to learn about life is by experiencing it firsthand. No one else can teach you how to get along with other people, how to realistically judge your own abilities, or how to understand who you are. You can only learn these things by dealing with situations every day. Experience is the best teacher.

(Essay ID: 199 )

## Topic: 109

Nowadays it is quite common for people to immigrate to ther countries. When they move, some of them decide to follow the customs of the new country while others prefer to keep their own. If I were forced to agree with one of the two positions, my choice would be the former.

To illustrate my point, let us first take a look on why some people dislike the idea of following the customs of the new country. For one thing, these people are so accustomed to their own culture, religion and customs, and it is very hard for them to accept the new cultures. For instance, people from a Islamic country may find a lot of customs in western countries offensive.

Although I agree that some customs are hard to change, I insist that the advantages of adapting to a new culture are apparently seen. In the first place, by following the customs of the new country, you can learn about the country and understand the people more easily and become a real member of the country. People who stick to their way of life may sometimes feel lonely and isolated. To share the same custom means that having more things in common, and it can pull people together. Furthermore, you have to adapt to some customs of the new country, if they are written into the law. As a result, it is much more sensible to do as the Roman do.

In conclusion,I believe that the advantages of following the customs of the new country is obvious because you can easily learn about the country and be a real member of it. What is more, you can live more easily in a foreign country.

(Essay ID: 366 )

## Topic: 109

Some people adapt quickly to the customs of a new country while others keep their own customs. How do they decide? It's a difficult choice, and the decision is not always conscious. Many practical and social factors influence people.

Very often it depends on age. Older people have spent a lifetime doing things a certain way. Their social customs are part of who they are as people. It's very hard for them to start doing things differently. The younger generation finds it easier to leave behind the culture of their native country and adapt to the customs of their new country. They're not as set in their ways as adults are. Children also feel the pressure to fit in from the other kids in school.

A major part of adapting to the customs of a new country is learning that country's language. Children learn the language in school, and use it all day while going to class and playing with other children. But many times adults coming to a new country don't have time for formal language classes. Their first priority is getting a job. Sometimes they work with people from their own country, and they don't-have to use the new language. Or they may find a job that doesn't require much speaking at all. This means even if they're trying to learn the language, they don't have a lot of opportunities to practice it.

Another way of adapting to the customs of a new country has to do with how family members interact. Different countries have different ideas about how family members should relate to each other. Sometimes the adults will oppose changing what was normal in their native country. This can be a difficult adjustment to make, especially if their children are visiting new friends at home and seeing how different things are in the new country.

I believe that people who want to make their home in a new country need to find a balance. They should keep the best of their native culture and adopt the good things they find in their new country.

(Essay ID: 200 )

## Topic: 110

If I had to choose between spending time alone or spending time with my friends, I'd rather be alone. I need this time alone to "recharge my batteries," to re-energize my mind and spirit. Being with friends can be fun and can help you get through the rough spots in life, but it's the time alone, I think, that forms you as a person.

When I'm alone, I have time to think about my goals and to develop a strategy to reach them. Of course, lean think about these things when I'm with others, but it's harder to concentrate in a crowd. Being alone gives me the quiet time to really think about my life and what I want to do with it.

Being by myself is also a good way to listen to the silence and relax completely. When I'm alone I can practice meditation and lower my stress level. That's a very good way to sharpen my powers

of concentration. Too much time with friends means filling my mind with a lot of chitchat. That's enjoyable for a moment, but can dull my concentration.

Being with other people can also distort my view of things. It's easy sometimes to become too worried about what other people think of me, or what other people have that I don't. When I'm alone I have time to step back. I can see the real value of things, without being influenced by the opinions of my friends.

It's natural to want to be with other people, but I find the time I spend alone is more valuable to me in the long run.

(Essay ID: 201 )

## **Topic: 111**

I think I prefer to have many different friends because we can learn more from having many different types of friends. If we have just a few close friends, then we cannot learn as much as we can if we have many friends. Therefore, I think it is better to have many different friends.

First, having many different friends can teach us about life and the world. I think you can learn many things about many different countries if you know people from all over the world. For example, if you have a friend from China and one from Iran, you can learn more about those two countries. If you just have friends from your country, then you do not learn very much about the world.

We can also have many different kinds of experiences if we have many different kinds of friends. For example, some people like sports, others like music, still others like to study. If we have many different friends with many different interests, then we can never feel bored and we can have a happy life.

Finally, if we have many different friends, then maybe we can have more help from people when we need it. For example, if we need some kind of help with something, but we don't know too many people, then it might be difficult for us to get help. However, if we know many people, then it will be easy for us to find help when we need it.

Therefore, I believe that it is better to have many different friends in our lives. Having many friends can teach us about the world, we can have more fun with different friends, and we can get help more easily if we have many different friends.

(Essay ID: 298. This is a 5 point essay)

## **Topic: 111**

We all need to have friends, and I think the more friends we have the better. Friendship helps us learn how to trust others, what to expect from others, and how to profit from experiences. I want to have a lot of friends around me so I can learn more about myself from different people.

I want to have people around me that I trust and that I can depend on. We all need friends, both in times of trouble and in times of happiness. If I only have a few friends, it's impossible that they might not be available if I need them. If I have a lot of friends, it is more likely that they will be able to share my troubles or my good fortune.

I want to have people around me that surprise me. If I have just one or two friends, I know what to expect from them. I know how they will react. If I have a lot of friends around me, I will always be surprised. Each will have a different way of reacting to a situation. Observing this reaction and responding to it will teach me how to deal with strangers whom I might meet.

I want to have people around me that can teach me something about life. If I only have a couple of friends, I will know everything about them very quickly. If I have hundreds of friends, think what I will learn. Each day they'll teach me something new and show me a new way of thinking about something.

I have a lot to learn in life, so I want as many people as possible to help me. I want a lot of friends to show me how to have a good time. I'll do the same for them.

(Essay ID: 202 )

## Topic: 112

There is much discussion above when should children begin to study? Some people think that children should start learning as early as possible. Other people, however, argue that young children could begin to study late. As far as I am concerned, young children should spend most of their time playing and not begin studying too early.

Why do some people think that children should begin to study early? For one thing, children are very good at learning because they have good memory and accept new things quickly. If they waste their time when they are young, they probably need to spend much more time in learning the same thing when they are older. As we all know, learning a foreign language is a pain to adults, but is very easy to a child under ten.

Although I agree there may be one or two advantages for children to begin to study early, I insist that the advantages of learning late far outweigh them. In the first place, people who spend most of their time playing could be more creative. Learning more means that children can know more, but also more restrictions will be pushed on them. If children play more, they may find many things interesting in their playing and raise many questions, such as "why can this happen", "Can I invent such a thing to help me?" As a result, they always have more wonderful thoughts than those who begin studying very early, which helps them to study and work creatively when they grow up.

In the second place, children could be more anxious to learn when they grow up if they spend most of their time playing. It is known that children like to play. Even if parents force them sitting in front of the table, they cannot concentrate on the studying stuff. Instead, they are thinking how to finish the study early and go to play. They will be bored in studying when they grow up, since they think they study for their parents. But Children who spend most of their time playing do not have the bad memory of studying. When they grow up, they will be willing to study even if parents do not monitor them, because they feel they are studying for themselves.

In conclusion, I believe that young children should play more not only because that they will be more creative, but also because they will be more anxious to learn when they grow up. Therefore, I strongly hold that all parents should not push their young children into studying too early.

(Essay ID: 538. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 112

Should children play more or study more? The question is what will be better for the child. There are benefits to both activities, but the answer depends on the details of the situation.

There are many things that could affect the outcome of the argument. What kind of a school is it? It could be a school where children sit at their desks all day long memorizing dates and facts. Or it could be a school where the teacher helps the children learn what they want to learn. I think the second kind is a lot better for a child than the first kind.

Similarly, what kind of play are we talking about? The child could be alone all day long watching television, which could make him or her bored and lonely. Or the child could be involved in group activities with neighborhood children of the same age, which could help him or her learn how to get along with others.

I think both study and play are valuable, so I would prefer to send my child to a school where there is a combination. I think a variety of activities makes learning easier for anyone at any age.

(Essay ID: 203 )

### **Topic: 113**

The first advantage of having a new university built in my community would be the jobs it would bring to the community. Initially, the jobs would be those connected with the actual building of the university structures, such as brick layers and carpenters. Once the buildings were completed, the jobs would be those on the campus itself. Those would include teachers, office workers, custodians, and librarians.

Not all of the people the university hired would already be members of the community, so that would mean a lot of new people coming to town. Of course, a lot of students would come too. Two advantages of new people in town would be more taxpayers and a more diverse population. With more people paying taxes, there would be more money for schools, libraries and other community needs. With a more diverse population, there would be new stores, new restaurants (to serve different tastes) and new cultural influences.

Of course, there would also be disadvantages. More people living in the community could mean more houses being built. There would be more traffic on the streets, with the combination of new residents and students who bring their cars. Plus, more people would mean more public services would be needed. These services could include everything from trash collection to more schools to hold all the children of the new residents. New services might mean local taxes would have to go up, even though there would be more taxpayers.

Another disadvantage is that the personality of our community would change. It would go from being a place where everybody knows everybody else to a place where a lot of people are strangers. It would become a place with a lot of short-term residents, like the university students, who might not care as much about the town.

Communities always change over time, though, and overall I like the atmosphere of a "college town." A new university would bring a lot of challenges, but I think it would be worth it.

(Essay ID: 204 )

### **Topic: 114**

Although friends make an impression on your life, they do not have the same influence that your family has. Nothing is as important to me as my family. From them, I learned everything that is important. I learned about trust, ambition, and love.

Your family is with you forever. They are not going to leave you because they find another daughter they like better. They are not going to leave you because they think you are too much trouble. A family is permanent, while friends come and go.

Your parents are your role models. They will encourage you to do your best, to push yourself, and to improve yourself. Friends want you to stay the same; they don't want you to be different. A family is ambitious for you. Friends are not.

Your family teaches you about love. A family's love is not judgmental. They love you for everything you are. Friends may love you because you have a new car or because you go out with them on Saturdays. A family loves you. Friends only like you.

Without my family, I wouldn't know what to do. I wouldn't feel as secure. I might not have the ambition to go to school. I probably would be afraid to love. My family is my greatest influence.

(Essay ID: 205 )

## Topic: 114

It is true that both of the family and friends play important roles in influencing young adults, and it is really hard for us to tell which is the most important influence.

In my opinion, the family plays the most important role. When a young child is born, he is brought up by the family not by his friends, and a child has the keener sense in learning than a older one. I think the family can mold the child in the following ways.

Firstly, the family is the first school a child should enter. There he learns and is taught how to learn. It is safe to say that the character of a person is determined in his childhood, and when it is the family which to make the determination.

Secondly, a good family will afford good education for the child. Now more and more Chinese family realize the importance of education, some even make their children study in foreign countries. All this is unchoosable for the child, that is, the family has the undeniable influence on the young adult.

Thirdly, when the child is in his young adult, the family still plays a important influence on him. For instance, I always feel the expectation of my parents and struggle to favor them. Which is a hard work, but I still think it is naturally that I, as a son, should meet the expectation of them. Thus, the family is really a strong influence on the young.

I make the family the important influence doesn't deny that the role of friends on the young adults. Only that friends' role is not as important as the family.

(Essay ID: 262. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 115

Both leisure time and working time form the whole parts of one's life. Here leisure time has a broad definition. Because of its importance, people face the dilemma whether to plan or not plan

for the leisure time. Which one I prefer depends on my own experiences, life style and emotional concerns. To be frank, I prefer to plan in my point of view.

Before rendering my opinion in detail, it is necessary to take a glance at the position of not planning at all. People who claim the opinion advocate that leisure time is the time for relaxing. Enjoying the time is the most important, why they have to plan for it by taking time and energy. If they want to watch TV, they will sit down to watch it without any hesitation. If they want to swim, they will change to the swimming suits. Enjoy everything at any time.

It is true that there are some advantages about not planning for the leisure time, but I would explain a few important reasons why I prefer to plan for it. The main reason is that planning for it carefully can avoid a lot of troubles. To illustrate this, there is an example that is very persuasive. Take swimming for example, if we plan it first, we would prepare the swimming suit, sun glasses, towels, cream and so on for it. We can enjoy the swimming time fully and pleasantly without forgetting anything.

Avoiding troubles is only part of the most important aspects, and another equally significant role of planning lies in that we can promote our studying and working effectively. This demonstrates the undeniable fact that suitable leisure time can help one to relax fully. For instance, when we work or study for a whole week, we have a plan to spend the weekend in the seaside. It is wonderful. Careful plan can make us fresh and exciting.

If all the factors are considered, we will find out that the advantages of planning for leisure time outweigh those of not planning. It is true that both views have strong foundations, but no one can ignore the added convenience and satisfaction offered by planning for it. Such experience will definitely be helpful in one's later life.

(Essay ID: 206 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## **Topic: 115**

I think that free time is a precious thing for most of us. When we're working hard, it's nice to imagine what we'll do when the weekend comes. We juggle one idea with another, trying to decide what best suits our budget and the amount of time we have. After all, anticipating free time is part of the pleasure.

It's good to plan what we're going to do with our free time. That way we won't waste any of it trying to decide. It's so easy to just sit around and think about this or that activity. Before we know it, half the day is gone. If we decide ahead of time, we can get started in plenty of time, and we can get the most benefit out of the time we have. For instance, if we're going on a picnic, we can get all our supplies ready to go. Or if we're going to a movie, we can find out the time and how long it'll take us to get there. Also, if we plan what we're going to do with our free time, we can invite others to join us. If we wait until the last minute, our friends may have other plans.

On the other hand, it's also fun sometimes to do things without apian. We can just leave the house and walk around and see what catches our attention. Often, this is how we discover places we never knew existed. We might end up doing something we never thought we'd try. We might just happen to find ourselves outside a new bookstore or a bowling alley and go in on a whim, because we have some free time.

It's nice if we can have the best of both worlds. We can plan our free time activities for one day of the weekend, and let the other day plan itself. This way our free time also gives us the enjoyment of having it both ways.



## Topic: 116

The effectiveness of a learning method varies from person to person and also from activity to activity. Learning by doing, learning by reading, and learning by listening all have the transfer of information as their goal, but the information is transferred in very different ways in each case. Each has its benefits. In my own opinion, learning by doing is the method that works best for me.

Learning by doing works because it gives a learner first-hand experience. Other methods are more passive; you're either listening to a conversation or trying to pay attention to words on a page. However, learning by doing means actually participating in the activity. Can you imagine learning how to play a musical instrument from a book? As the saying goes, practice makes perfect. Frankly, I can't think of a way that better ensures one has truly learned than by seeing and doing.

In contrast, reading makes learning less easy to visualize. Not only that, learning by reading often requires extra research, such as looking up unfamiliar words. Also, you might not be a good reader, or you might be learning in a second language. If so, you might find it hard to concentrate or become frustrated by the slow pace. So while reading is fun and useful for many people, for others it may not be the best way.

Learning by listening can be enjoyable. Lively debate is interesting, and interesting things are usually easier to learn about. Plus, unlike reading, you can ask questions if you don't understand. However, as with reading, it is all too easy to become a passive listener and not truly learn anything. If you get bored, you might even fall asleep while you're listening! When you're actively participating in something, you're more likely to stay alert.

Overall, when it comes to learning, I believe that nothing substitutes for the firsthand experience that physically doing an activity provides.

(Essay ID: 208 )

## Topic: 117

There are a lot of advantages to having friends who are different from you. For one thing, they'll give you a different way of looking at the world. Friends who are different can introduce you to foods, music, politics, and books you've never tried before. If you're a spontaneous kind of person, someone who is more scheduled can help you get better organized. You, on the other hand, can help them loosen up a little bit, and do things more on the spur of the moment.

Someone who is different from you won't have the same reaction to situations. This can be a big help. If you're the kind of person who gets very impatient waiting for your meal in a restaurant, it helps to have someone calm with you. Your friend can help you keep your temper. If you're a little timid about standing up for yourself, a more assertive friend can help you develop a little more self-respect.

However, there can also be advantages to having friends who are similar to you. You usually enjoy doing the same things, so you don't have to argue about what you want to do. Sometimes it's fun experiencing new things. Other times, it's more fun doing what you know you'll enjoy.

All things considered, I think I'd like to have a lot of acquaintances who are different and a few close friends who are similar to me. That seems the best of both worlds.

(Essay ID: 209 )

## Topic: 118

It is often difficult for people to choose whether staying the same or changing for a new experience. Each of the two has its own advantage and disadvantage. As a youngster with unlimited energy and enthusiasm, I will choose change without any hesitation.

The first reason I choose change is that change is the propeller that push the world to develop from an ancient tribe in which people hunted for their life, to today's earth on which people can study and work in their comfortable homes without worrying about life. What makes the thousands of years' development possible is that people like to change the world. As we all know, by changing stones into stone axes, people could gather more meat for their families; by changing breast's fur into clothes, people keep themselves warm; by changing solar energy into heat and electricity, people can find a new way to prevent the energy shortage. Thus, it is change that develops the world we live in.

Second, let's come to our daily life. Change gives people a feeling of curiosity and drive him to discovery various new things around him. Every one is curious about the new objects he saw and the news he heard, and has the pulse to detect everything. We are excited about moving into a new house, and we are excited about our new jobs. Even a little change of the furniture placing in our rooms can make us excited for a few hours.

The last and in my opinion a very practical reason is that change can improve people's adaptability. When you move to a new school, or come to a new job, your environment has changed. Therefore, in order to get used to your new surrounding quickly, you have to change yourself first. Perhaps, you have kept your regular habit for such a long time and it is a painful process for you to change yourself. But by doing this you will observe in the future that you are able to be adapted to more changes around yourself and that there is an expanded world in front of you. All of these result from that you have the courage to change yourself.

For the reasons presented above, I strongly commit to the notion that change makes our lives colorful and trains us to adapt to our world. People should enjoy change and look forward to new experiences.

(Essay ID: 210 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 118

There is a famous Chinese proverb says, "The world is so big that it includes all kinds of men". Different people have different life styles. Some people enjoy change and new experiences. Others like their lives to stay the same. Frankly, I prefer to change in my point of view.

Before rendering my opinion in detail, it is necessary to take a glance at the position of the opposite view. A lot of people, especially the old, advocate that staying the same is safe and pleasant. They think that the life has no up and down is the best one. Someone will also say if you stick to one point, it would be better. For example, the famous Chinese Opera actor Mei Lanfang kept his usual habit to observing birds and fish. At last, he succeeded in his eye acting.

It is true that staying the same has a lot of advantages, but I will explain some important reasons why I prefer to change. In modern society, the world is changing in every minute. If we do not change, how can we keep pace with the world? A small example could give some light to this

point. Some young people like traveling from one place to another. New experiences could let them understand the world fully.

Another equally significant advantage of changing is that we can explore our talents better and deeper. Some people like to change jobs. They believe that new jobs can give them chances to understand themselves and choose one is the most suitable for them. Take Chancer for example, he had been a courtier, a soldier, an ambassador and a legislator. Finally, he became the noted writer.

Considering all the factors, we will find out that the advantages of changes outweigh those of staying the same. Both views have strong foundations, but no one could ignore the convenience and satisfaction offered by change and new experiences. Such experiences will definitely be helpful in one's later life.

(Essay ID: 211 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 118

There are those who prefer things to stay the same, while there are others who prefer change. My personal preference is to establish a routine and stick to it, though this has not always been true of me.

When I was younger, I wasn't a creature of habit. I enjoyed change. When summers came and I was free from the responsibilities of school, I would travel, take off with friends at a moment's notice, and make decisions from day to day. In this way, I had lots of new experiences, met new and interesting people, and learned a lot about life.

These days, I enjoy sticking to a routine. This is partially due to the fact that I am a mother of two small children. I find that their lives are happier if I don't upset their schedules too much. For example, we give the children a bath every night at 8:00, put them in their pajamas, read them stories and put them to sleep by 9:00. There are times when this is inconvenient, but everyone in the household is happier if we stick to our routine. In addition, our friends know when to find us at home and when we are free. This makes visiting easier.

In conclusion, the type of person I am has changed with the circumstances of my life. The obligations of my family force me to have a routine. When I was young, I enjoyed the suspense and adventure of living a crazy life. Now the stability of a household routine suits me better. I think that while most people need a minimum amount of security, those who depend on you often make a difference in your lifestyle.

(Essay ID: 212 )

## Topic: 118

living in this world, people keep different rules and preference to their life. Some people prefer to experience what they do not know, some choose to regular their life and enjoy the quiet. Obviously, no one is wrong, while as for me, my personal opinion is similar with the former.

By positively changing their life people can enrich their knowledge. As for from the change of their job, People will meet the new environment where they must work hard to learn new techniques and skills to catch up with the new coming requirements. Staying in a stated position, people tend to be involved in their daily activities with all their time and energy without further progress.

Consciously changing their life will also benefit people to live happily. The feeling of life is boring is for sure coming to human being step by step if they always keep a stagnating living. As we all know, lots of couples complain their life is full of dull, and he or she also grumble that can not feel their affection existing anymore. Why? it is, to some extent, for that they do not realize they should change their every day life from being stagnation. No changed life tends to make people tired and lose interest. A report said the contemporary social problem of youth suicide is very serious, and investigation shows the reason is mainly for the kids feel their life is no novel. If only they were taught how to absorb the fresh air into their life!

I would like to claim again, keeping old habits and enjoying a stated life are not bad also, what they need is to use another way to make their life positive.

(Essay ID: 289. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 119

I agree to the statement that people behave differently when they wear different clothes. Clothes play an incredible role in our daily life. It rules our behavior and defines to new culture in modern society. I am also keeping observing the way people's behavior with dressing different clothes.

The results of these observing are surprisingly similar. Person dresses in clean suit and wear polished shoes, his gesture would comport to be elegant. On the contrary, the same one dresses in leisure sporting T-shirt, sneakers, correspondingly, he will act arbitrarily with involuntary movements.

The reason is simple. The clothes are crucial dimensions to insinuate people's routine behavior every day. Psychologist calls it "Psycho-hint". So a clean suit and polished shoes would keep us in happy at some extent. Or some people have proclivities to dress in bright color to relieve the pressure they faced. I think that a nice dress will give us more confident to handle the problem. We also build professional, sophisticated impressions for other people.

Otherwise, People will probably be unresponsive to deal with things in casual dress. This is related to our future career directly. Such as, we should dress tidily for job interview, just to give an examiner a good impression. Nice clothes are perfect advertisement for individual image as same as the package in the shop market. We choose the attractive package, same, we feel close with a stranger dress in proper clothes.

To this extent, clothes reflect our special national custom and culture. These reminds root at our customs, personal discrimination, and occupations. Calvin Kelen is famous for his simple style that defines the apparel of the whole American young generation in the early 20th century. We also find that people in different occupations wear differently. Bank employees, businessmen usually dress in dark suit since they should offer clients reliable impressions. Teachers wear nice clothes that let their student feel kindly.

Track to the long human history, our predecessor have developed the complete clothes system. From the primitive leather to elaborated modern metal, clothes offer us the chances to express our unique views and show us the colorful life. So do you consider that buy a nice apparel for yourself when go out next time?

(Essay ID: 213 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 119

People do behave differently depending on what they are wearing. The reason is not because they have changed, but because people's reactions to them has changed.

Certain clothes are appropriate for certain situations. A man can wear a suit to work and a woman can wear something professional looking like a skirt and jacket.

When everyone dresses the same, there is no problem. It is like a uniform. Imagine going to a law office to hire a lawyer. One of the lawyers is wearing a suit; the other is wearing jeans. Which lawyer do you want to hire? Similarly, a mechanic works on cars all day and wears clothes that can get dirty. It would be strange to find a mechanic wearing a coat and tie to repair an engine.

People will treat you differently depending on what you are wearing. It will depend on how well they know you and where you are. If your clothes are unusual for the situation, they may treat you with disrespect. I remember once I had an old army coat. I wore it into a fancy candy shop to buy some chocolates. The woman was very suspicious and a little afraid. I couldn't understand her reaction since it was still me underneath my big, old ugly green coat. I was dressed like a bum and this caused the salesperson to react negatively to me. Consequently, I was even more polite than usual.

This experience shows me that sometimes I do behave differently because of what I'm wearing. In this case, I had to balance my appearance. Still, that doesn't mean that I'm rude if I dress up.

(Essay ID: 214 )

## Topic: 120

I disagree with the statement that the decisions people make quickly are always wrong. However, I think those decisions probably turn out to be wrong more often than carefully made decisions do. Usually, fast decisions are based on what we call our "gut reactions," or feelings we have about a situation. Sometimes these gut reactions are based on good sense backed by experience, but sometimes they're based on nonsense or poor reasoning.

Let's say you're at work and the boss calls you to his office and tells you there's a big project that needs to be done. He thinks you're the best person for the job, but he needs an answer from you on the spot. He hasn't told you what the project is, but you make the quick decision to accept. This is the right quick decision, because you're basing it on a lot of factors that will occur to you later. One is that it wouldn't make sense for the boss to ask you to do something he didn't think you could handle. That would only hurt his business. Plus, doing a good job on this project might help your career. You realize it's good to reach higher, if you want to get ahead.

But let's say you're on a deserted highway late at night and your car breaks down. Along comes a car driven by someone who doesn't seem quite right to you. He offers you a ride to the nearest gas station. You make the quick decision to accept the ride because it's late, you're cold and tired and you don't want to sit there waiting for the highway patrol to arrive. This is a case where a quick decision is a wrong decision. You shouldn't trade your personal safety for physical comfort, and if you thought about it, you wouldn't.

How do you know when it's okay to make a quick decision? You have to be able to guess at the possible benefits versus the possible dangers. If it's a small decision like where to go to lunch, who cares? However, if my whole future were at stake, I'd want as much time as I could get to think about it.

(Essay ID: 163 )

## Topic: 120

Some people argue as if it is a general truth that to make a wrong decision is better than to make no decision at all. But to be frank, I can not agree with them. In my point of view, it is sagacious to spend more time on preparing to decide rather than hurry to make a wrong decision. There are numerous reasons why I hold no confidence on them, and I would explore only a few primary ones here.

The main problem with this argument is that it is ignorant of the basic fact that a bad decision will influence the subsequent steps, and produce an unsuccessful result even a failure. There is a famous saying, a good beginning is an half of succeed. This proverb explain the important of decision of the beginning, while something say the a deleterious effect of a wrong decision. For example, when a graduate is confronted with the choice the job after leave the campus, the first decision is every important for the future work and live. An inapposite choice could bring him or she successive problem, even mistaken the direction.

Another reason why I disagree with the above statement is that I believe that not hurry to decide let people have more time to prepare and maybe they find an appropriate approach. Since careful plan and deliberate arrangement will become the precondition of succeed, then spend more time on preparing is necessary. In the instance above, the graduate should think over all sorts of the factors, such as the qualification of himself or herself, the condition of the job and the advisement from consuler of the college and parents.

The argument I support in the first paragraph is also in a position of advantage because careful arrangement will discovery the errors and mistakes in the decision. And that will have the chance to correct them, in order to make a right decision. The errors or mistakes could exist in everyone's thought. I think the best way to eliminate them is think them over. So it is sagacious to spend more time on preparing to decide rather than hurry to make a wrong decision.

General speaking, the deliberate consider can help to avoid the appearance of trouble effectively and to resolve problems successfully. Taking into account of all these factors, we may reach the conclusion that, it is wiser to make no decision at all than to make a wrong decision.

(Essay ID: 279. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 121

In our daily life, we will always be told a wealth of such cases as a guy who has fallen into love with a girl at the first sight, one of your friends who impresses your mother deeply on his or her first visit to your house and then is treated exceptionally well by your hard-to-be-pleased mother, and even the applicant who attracts to the HRM (human resources manager) immediately at the first sight of the interview and then is easily employed, to name just a few. All of the abovementioned cases tell us many people in the world trust the first impressions of a person, his or her character, her conduct and her eloquence, etc., all of which he or she displays at each other's first meet. But is all that he or she displays, or all that you understand through what he or she displays or hints correct or just a blur image which needs to be proved in the later days?

Before we get the question to be treated, let's think of the most probable (not absolutely) results of the cases mentioned in the first paragraph:

The guy who has just experienced the above-said romance has to say goodbye to his newlyknown girlfriend because later on he finds out that the girl is not as good as she looks; the friend of yours who has just won your hard-to-be-pleased mother's trust is criticized by your mother because of

his or her great incoherency in the manners, and even the newly-employed employee is dismissed because of he is not telling the truth in his resume. Till now, do you still think the first impressions of a person's character are dependable?

Psychologically, in our head we had a very perfect image of a person, of course, which varies from one another owing to his or her specific experiences, education and family background, his or her own opinion about a special view, etc. and when such a person as confirms with the image in our head pretty congruently presents, we will, to great extent, overestimate or even exaggerate the his or her merits, while omit the shortcomings as we can help it. Maybe this is the psychological reason, thus we can ourselves lead to the answer to the question referred above that the first impressions of a person are generally incorrect and also irresponsible for yourself. In a word, to judge a person needs time and the first-sight impression is always undependable.

(Essay ID: 421 )

## Topic: 121

Any opinion is, in fact, a judgment. I feel that as Americans we would do well to judge others less often. Still, we must be able to decide whom to spend our time with and whom we'd rather forget. In my opinion, this type of judgment is best after we get to know other people. First impressions are not always accurate impressions.

Judging a person based on a first impression does save time. There are more people than anyone could possibly get to know in one lifetime. It is frustrating to waste time getting to know someone, only to find out that your first impression was correct and that you really don't like him or her. So is it a waste of time getting to know people you probably won't like? That seems to be a valid point of view, but I believe that it is not the best attitude to take.

It's more humane to spend time getting to know people before judging them. I know that I don't always make a good first impression, even when I truly like the person with whom I am interacting. We all have bad days. I wouldn't want to lose a job or a potential friendship simply because I picked out the wrong clothing or said something wrong. I think everyone deserves the chance to make a second impression.

If we all based our final opinion of others on first impressions, it would be hard to get to know anyone. There is always more to people than meets the eye. If we don't give someone a chance, we may be missing out on meeting a life-long friend. That would truly be a shame.

(Essay ID: 215 )

## Topic: 122

I think it's probably true that people are never satisfied with what they have. They always want something more or something different from what is theirs. This just seems to be part of our human nature. Look at a toddler. Give her a toy to play with and she's happy-until she sees something else. Then she wants that other toy to play with. If she and her brother are each given a cookie, she'll look to see whose cookie is bigger. She'll protest loudly if she thinks her brother is getting more.

"The grass is always greener" is an old expression, but it's a good expression of how many of us feel. We're always striving for a better job, a nicer place to live, a fancier car, or more expensive clothes. Part of this reaching for more and better is because we care about what other people think

and want to impress them. Part of it is trying to make ourselves feel successful. But there's also something in our nature that tells us we can do better and reach higher.

This isn't always a negative quality. There's another saying: "A man's reach should exceed his grasp, or what's a heaven for?" It's a good thing to be constantly pushing ourselves and looking for something different. If we don't try for more and different things, we begin to, stagnate, like a pool that doesn't get any fresh water.

The problem comes when we won't let ourselves be satisfied with anything we have. If we have a comfortable life and still feel as if something's missing, then we need to look inward. The something that's missing may be in our spirit.

(Essay ID: 216 )

## Topic: 122

Many of the world's religions share a belief that when a person is able to look at and confess his or her problems that person can begin to travel the road to emotional recovery. A problem cannot be solved until it is clearly recognized. I agree with the above statement because I believe that dissatisfaction and suffering forces people to change.

History presents many examples of dissatisfaction and change. The history of China in this

century might be seen as one of dissatisfaction and progress. Sun Yet San was discontented with the decaying imperial order, and so he created "revolution"; Mao was dissatisfied with the course of events and so he intensified the revolution; finally, Deng pushed the Chinese economy towards free-market economics. Hence, China progressed towards its new-found "superpower" status.

In a not dissimilar way, during the eighteenth century many Americans became annoyed with direct British rule, and so the United States fought for and gained political independence.

On a personal level, dissatisfaction can lead to change within friendship and marriage. Perhaps it might even be said that true love cannot remain static. Matrimony and friendship are explorations of the higher emotions: they are pilgrimages towards the city of true values. If husband and wife are prepared to confront and discuss their problems, a blue period can give way to many years of happiness. Sometimes, for instance, a spouse may not recognize that the source of marital unhappiness is that the other partner has developed a need to have children. Whatever else may be said, most people would agree that children change the lives of their parents.

The best method of utilizing dissatisfaction is to change things before they get out of hand. An intelligent man will constantly monitor his emotions; an intelligent politician will understand the mood of his people. Some people might suggest that the transition to independence for Canada and Australia was much smoother than that of the United States because Britain allowed those two dominions to evolve with time. To take the idea further, a good parent or an astute politician will even anticipate potential dissatisfactions and therefore take precautions.

I agree with the above statement because, I believe that we mature through dissatisfaction. Without the ability to recognize our discontent, we could collapse into illness. Suffering sharpens our senses.

(Essay ID: 487 )

## Topic: 123



How could anyone suggest that people should only read about real events, real people, and established facts? For one thing, that means people wouldn't be reading half of all the great books that have ever been written, not to mention the plays, short stories and poetry. For another, it would mean that people's imaginations would not develop as children and would remain dulled throughout their lives.

Reading stories as a child helps develop our creativity by teaching us a lot about how to use words to create mental images. It opens our world up, exposing us to other times and different ways of living. Reading histories of those times would serve kind of the same purpose, but it probably wouldn't stick in our minds as sharply. Reading an essay about poverty in Victorian England is not the same thing as reading Charles Dicken's *Oliver Twist*. The images of a small boy being sold are more horrifying than simply reading the statement, "Children were sold into labor" because a novel makes that small boy seem real to us. Reading fiction makes a more lasting impression on our minds and emotions.

Besides, storytelling is an emotional need for human beings. From earliest times, humans have taught their children about life, not by telling them facts and figures, but by telling them stories. Some of these stories show what people are like (human nature), and help us experience a wide range of feelings. Some make us think about how we should act. Telling a child that it's wrong to lie will make little impression, but telling him the story of a little boy whose nose grows longer every time he tells a lie will make a big impression.

Fiction is too important to our culture, our minds, and our emotions. How could we ever give it up?

(Essay ID: 217 )

## Topic: 124

I have always considered that general knowledge is the best choice for me and universal learning the perfect means to support the phrase "knowledge for the sake of knowledge itself". But if I have to choose between the above-mentioned subjects I would definitely concentrate on art and literature which I consider fit better my personality.

Art and literature have a lot in common in that they require a different, quite often universal approach to the world around us. They concentrate not so much on the black and white aspects of living but on the colourful side of life; on tints rather than brightness. Maths and science study the form, the physical shape and its laws, but it is art and literature that fulfill this form with that ultimate meaning that only the human soul can sense.

And it is the human soul that has so many faces, so many aspects and interpretations to all things. That is why I appreciate the subjectivity of art and literature-the numerous realities they impose are closer to our inner world than the strict powers that rule that of science.

One is free to tolerate, to criticize, to accept the form of art but not obey them.

It is believed that Order came from Chaos. And if we can associate science and maths with Order it sounds logical to claim that Chaos has a lot to do with art and literature. The well of our unconscious brings forward the strangest powers and they show more of the universe than maths and science do. For Chaos is the beginning of life.

Having in mind the above, I definitely support art and literature as a better means for achieving universal knowledge. What is more, while maths and science closely deal with laws, they cannot

in any way teach us about that "thin red line" separating bad and evil, while art and literature I strongly believe can.

(Essay ID: 314. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 124

Many people hold that studying scientific subjects is more beneficial than studying literary ones. However, I do believe that each field has its own importance on our lives.

Scientific subjects are definitely crucial to our development. We wouldn't have come that a long way in scientific and cultural advancement if we didn't have subjects like math, physics, chemistry and so on. We, wouldn't have conquered the space if we didn't have astronomy. Also, we wouldn't have found cures for dangerous diseases if we didn't have medicine. Our life relies great deal on those subjects, so they are greatly vital to us. Yet, I believe that some people are born with the skill to handle scientific research while others tend more towards literary subjects.

Therefore, people born with literary talents are also very useful to us. Many aspects of our lives need to be treated by art and literature. As human beings we also have feelings and emotions and those things need to be cared for as well. So writers, painters and actors are functional elements in our everyday life. When you're tired and you want to relax you might watch a comic movie or take a nice romantic book to read. Moreover, arts like sculpture and painting play a huge role in our lives, in the sense that they add a beautiful and artistic touch to everything around us including our houses, offices and even the streets. Consequently, art is indispensable in our lives.

In fine, I believe that art and science are interrelated and binary coexisting in our lifestyles. In my opinion, one cannot replace the other. Each is necessarily needed in to improve our lives. We need the mathematician as much as we need the painter. Each has his own role to perform in the society.

(Essay ID: 318. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 124

The importance of playing games for adults has always been underestimated over the past years. However as newer studies are being undertaken in the field of human behavior, the value and significance of play in an adult human being's life is gaining vast importance.

From time immemorial, play has been a significant means of communication among children as a role model to the complex inter-personal communications among adults. The effectiveness of play to bring about bonding among other children/adults has been highlighted by scientists and sociologists all over the world.

In addition to the benefits of play on the physical systems of humans such as toning of the various organ systems to their optimum levels of functioning, the effects on the mental health of the individual are seen to have a greater bearing.

Furthermore, since man is more of a social animal, play tactics are often found to further enhance the individual's sense of self-esteem among the society he lives in. His functioning as a productive member of the community is further enhanced, and this also is seen to have an inhibitory effect on the negative aspects of one's personality. This holds good even in the face of the highly stressful lifestyles of today's people.

Truly, one cannot but agree whole heartedly with the old grandmother's saying " All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." Indeed, play for children and adults alike ensures a healthier, happier society.

(Essay ID: 319. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 124

At an early stage of human civilization science was not developed in random way. But today with the development of technology, science becomes more useful and cultural aspect for mankind. At every stage of life we use many scientific instruments.

Again science helps to provide entertainment for human beings. Nowadays science is progressed in more advanced way. By using technology, men are able to invent many new things. Mathematics is an important subject among other science subjects.

At every moment, people can able to calculate any problem by applying mathematics. To study other science subjects like physics, statistics, chemistry, etc., the knowledge of mathematics is very essential as it is very useful to solve any problem related to above subjects. With development of science we can able to use internet system.

By using this system we can able to collect any information about any topic. Or in other words human beings are completely related and depended on science.

To study art and literature is very useful for human beings. People can know about many past events by reading different history books. They can easily familiar with different culture by reading many literature. By studying geography, we can know about nature and environment. We can know about life style of many different cultural people by reading art and literature.

From the above discussions, it is clear that to study science is more important than to study art and literature. To study science helps us to live in more advanced way. Science stream is too vast and is developed in more advanced way that students in science stream have more facility to work in that field compared to art students.

(Essay ID: 323 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 124

In general, the knowledge can be divided into two types: natural knowledge and social knowledge. Science and math are the important component of former, while art and literature are essential parts of the latter. In my opinion, both of these are very important to any individual. The reason goes as follows:

First, only complete knowledge can make a really knowledgeable man/woman. We know that the world consists of not only the object studied by the subject like science and math, such as stars and flowers, but also consists of the beautiful and attractive things such as poems, paintings, which is studied by the subjects like art and literature. Lack of knowledge will lead to an incomplete view about the world.

Secondly, the study subjects like art and literature are helpful for the development of subjects like science and math. There are some rules that govern both types of subject, the master of one subject may be beneficial to the development of another subject. It is because of this reason that many great people are great artists as well as scientists. It is known that Einstein played well in violin

while he is acknowledged as a great physicist. It is believed by some people that grasp both types of knowledge is essential for anyone wish to be successful in the new millenium.

Ofcourse, the study of science and math is very important. It is the study of them produce our modern society. However, an additional master of art and literature will make our life more colorful, and even more successful.

(Essay ID: 334 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 124

In general, the knowledge can be divided into two types: natural knowledge and social knowledge. Science and math are the important component of former, while art and literature are essential parts of the latter. In my opinion, both of these are very important to any individual. The reason goes as follows:

First, only complete knowledge can make a really knowledgeable man/woman. We know that the world consists of not only the object studied by the subject like science and math, such as stars and flowers, but also consists of the beautiful and attractive things such as poems, paintings, which is studied by the subjects like art and literature. Lack of knowledge will lead to an incomplete view about the world.

Secondly, the study subjects like art and literature are helpful for the development of subjects like science and math. There are some rules that govern both types of subject, the master of one subject may be beneficial to the development of another subject. It is because of this reason that many great people are great artists as well as a scientists. It is known that Einstein played well in violin while he is acknowledged as a great physicist. It is believed by some people that grasp both types of knowledge is essential for anyone wish to be successful in the new millennium.

Of course, the study of science and math is very important. It is the study of them produce our modern society. However, an additional master of art and literature will make our life more colorful, and even more successful.

(Essay ID: 220 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 124

I think it's more important for students to study history and literature. These subjects help us understand the human race and feed our spirits and our imaginations. That's more important than understanding how to split the atom or do algebra.

People talk about a crisis of spirit in our country. They mean we've forgotten how to believe in and understand our own better natures, I think part of this is because we've become too excited about facts and not enough about things we can't see and measure. Reading books from our own culture helps us understand our roots. Reading books from other cultures helps us understand the way other people think and react to situations. It also teaches us that we're not so very different from others, and that leads to better relations between cultures.

Reading literature also feeds our spirits. Even when the material we're reading is about terrible sadness and hardship, it still brings us in touch with our inner selves. It makes us think about issues other than the new car we want to drive or how much money we're making.

Studying history gives us more information than just who died when or who won which war. It tells us about how human beings have related to each other at different periods in our development. It gives us the big picture. So often, when international crises occur, we only see the problem of the moment. We have no idea how something that happened twenty years ago was the beginning of this current problem. Without that information, we can have only a shallow understanding of what's going on in the world.

Both history and literature are necessary subjects for students to prepare for more than just careers. These subjects prepare students for the way they want to live their lives.

(Essay ID: 218 )

## Topic: 124

It has long been a controversy amongst students and critics in prospective majors of the sciences and arts to conclude which subjects would be more beneficial to study. While science students claim that its field of study involves intellectual ability, arts students feel that the understanding and study of art is far richer in its importance chiefly in the influence through evolution of human history. While I conclude that a balance in the knowledge of both the subjects are essential, let me lay down my reasons.

Science and Math subjects are intellectually rewarding as they teach the understanding of theories that improve human's living standards, such as researches conducted in universities and science laboratories to enhance the lives of human beings with vaccines constantly being researched, produced and tested for incurable diseases. Without such a study, the world be in serious trouble of poor health and living standards. Every theory that is founded would have been tried and tested to prove its success, concluding how the study of science and math subjects requires intellectual capabilities in its challenging field. While it is essential that the study of the sciences and math continue to ensure a healthy living environment, it is also important that a science student receives adequate education in the arts subjects to develop an artistic side of his life.

A distinct culture of the arts student is his detailed and subjective approach toward a subject which he has particular interests and talent. It is the beauty of life amidst all the things that could be explained by a science student and a mystery to study. While history had taken place, the study of human evolution is equally beneficial in developing a knowledgeable individual. It helps enhance an individual's life in the ability to appreciate the beauty that life comes bundled in.

In conclusion to my opinion, it is essential to have a balance in the study of arts and science subjects as they complement an individual's life with knowledge and facts and the ability to appreciate the beauty of life, with god's gifts of music, literature and art.

(Essay ID: 219 )

## Topic: 125

I agree that all students should be required to study art and music in high school. 'I've read that young children who study art and music in grade school do better in their other studies. That argument aside, we should study art and music for its sake alone. We should study art and music to learn more about ourselves, our culture, and our world.

Both art and music feed students' imaginations and help them express themselves. There's a reason our ancestors in caves drew on the walls and made music with drums. Wanting to express ourselves is natural. It gives us an avenue for our emotions and fears. It may not always be music

other people want to hear or art others will appreciate, but the activity itself is enjoyable. It shouldn't matter if the end result isn't perfect. In the process, we learn what we like and dislike.

Studying art and music means more than drawing or playing an instrument. Students usually go to art galleries and concerts, too. By studying the pictures on the museums' walls or by reading the program notes at a recital, students will learn what society has decided is worthy of praise. They learn what is important in their own culture.

Students may also learn about other cultures by looking at art and listening to music from other countries. When they do that, they'll see similarities and differences with their own. They'll learn about what is important in other societies. Students will also learn how the art and music of other cultures affect our own.

By studying art and music in high school, students begin to understand themselves as well as their own culture and other cultures. What could have more value than that?

(Essay ID: 221 )

## Topic: 126

There is much disagreement over whether there is something that young people can teach older people or not. Some people claim that the older know everything better than the younger. Other people, however, argue that the younger can master something that the older do not know. As far as I am concerned, the older can still learn something from the younger even if the former know more than the latter.

Why do some people think that the older is more knowledgeable than the younger on anything? The main reason is, people accumulate knowledge from experience day after day, most of which cannot be gained through books. For instance, an old accountant can handle many difficult accounting affairs while a young one cannot because the former has more experience.

Although I agree that the older can teach a lot of things to the younger, I insist that it pays for the older to learn something from the younger. In the first place, there is something that the older never know before. The computer is the best example. As we know, the computer was invented in the beginning of 1900's and was becoming popular after the Microsoft Windows operation system was released in 1990's. The older had rare chances to learn and use the computers. On the contrary, the younger begin to get to know the computer very early. No doubt that the younger know computer better than the older. When a person older than 30 years attends a computer course, he/she will not be surprised if the teacher is younger than he/she.

In the second place, the younger are more creative and imaginative. When the older do something, they normally follow some rules they got before. It is true the older seldom make mistakes but they also hardly make something new. While, the younger do not have much experience and do not have many restrictions as well. They make mistakes very often but also can make something magnificent.

In conclusion, I believe that the older can learn many things from the younger not only because that the younger know more later technologies, but also that the younger have more creative thoughts.

(Essay ID: 387 )

**Topic: 126**

Who says only old people can teach young people? We admit that elder people have much more experiences than our young people, and it is true that they can give us many guidance when we meet problems or unsolved difficulties. However, with the rapid development of a modern society, young people can also teach the elder people a lot. They can update new technologies for the elders, share attitudes towards life with them and bring freshness into their lives.

Since living in a very fast developing society, we need to make contact with many new technologies everyday. In other words, we need to learn everyday to keep up with the latest development. For example, computers are now very popular, but we seldom see the elders to use computers. If they can learn how to use them from young people, they will definitely be beneficial from this new machine because computers have brought a lot of changes to our lives and made us experience a different life. Young people are known for their quick understanding and acceptance new things, so I think they can teach the elder about new technologies used in our daily life.

The attitudes of young people are totally different from old people. Mostly they are more positive and energetic than old people. They have a different angle to judge something. Sometimes the elders are passive towards life because they went through a lot of frustrations, on the contrary, young people are full of energy towards the life, they are always optimistic even though they met some frustrations. They proudly say because they are young, they can try millions of times. In some degree, young people's attitudes may influence old people.

Young people also can share with old people what they like, which may lead a change of old people. As we know, most young people like popular music or even rock-and-role. However, most old people hate that kind of music. But I have an example to show that young people can change an elder: I have a friend who likes Japanese music very well, everyday she plays this music at home. Her grandmother often asks her to stop the music and asks her why she likes them very much. My friend tells her grandmother about the history of Japanese music and shows a lot of clippings. Gradually her grandmother likes Japanese music as well, which made us so surprised. Now if we go to their house, we can see my friend and her grandmother listening Japanese music together and share the feelings as well. You must be surprised like me when you know the story, but it did happen!

So, no matter what age group you belong to, we must believe that everyone has something to share with others and to teach others. Old people can give the youngsters lessons and guidance, on the other hand, young people also can teach the elders new things and different ways towards life!

(Essay ID: 380 )

**Topic: 126**

As is well know, older people have experienced this wonderful world a lot, and they are surely to have acquired much more knowledge about this world than the young people do. Gradually there exists a saying, there is nothing young people can teach older people. But actually I do not appreciate this statement. Young people need to learn a lot from the older people, but it is also reasonable for the older people to keep the pace of this world by the means of communicating with the youngsters due to the rapid evolution of this world. It means the older people also need to get something new from the youngsters.

Admittedly, from the standpoint view of philosophy, young people start to learn about everything from both the theoretical books and experiences, then they will grow up in respective way. They will put themselves into this practical world, trying to find and solve new problems. Also many new discoveries and principle will be found by the practice of young people. Only through their practice do this world evolve very rapidly. Thus everybody in this world can share the results of the social development. Otherwise, if no new things were found by the young people, no creative developments would be made, and the society would stop developing. It is not our expectation. It is just these new things that the older people are sure to be lack, so the young people have the responsibility to show the older people what these new things are and how they work. For example, the advanced usage of computer is just the recent result due to the rapid growth of information technology. Many older people do not know how to use the computer, those older people get accustomed to the traditional methods, and refuse to adjust themselves to the new concepts of this computer times. Then young people have the obligation to show those older people how to use the computers, because everybody in this society has right to enjoy the advanced computer technology.

In conclusion, on the one hand, young people need to learn a lot from the older people in order to meet the practical needs, on the other hand, the older people also need to communicate with the youngsters. Only in this way can the human being benefit from each other, and the society evolve rapidly eventually.

(Essay ID: 293. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 126

Many of us believe that young people have nothing valuable to teach older people. However, that is not always the case. Young people can teach older people about technology, youth culture, and youth-related social issues.

Young people are usually better at using new forms of technology than older people. Children these days become familiar with computers at an early age. Older people can learn to use computers from young people. This is true of other technology too. For example, I taught my grandparents how to use a video cassette recorder when I was thirteen years old. They didn't know what it could do until I showed them. Now they use it regularly.

Older people are usually not familiar with youth culture, and younger people can help here too. This is important because it can help older people live a more enjoyable life. For example, popular music is generally youth-oriented, and older people don't always listen to it. However, when young people teach them about it, they may come to enjoy it. My grandmother, for example, never listened to popular music before! Introduced her to it. Now she and I listen and dance all the time. I plan to teach her about another piece of youth culture-rollerblading-very soon!

Of course, there are more serious issues about which younger people can teach older people. As with computers, today's children have grown up knowing about AIDS and school violence. That is not true for older generations. Here, again, children can teach older people about things that are important to everyone.

I know there are people who would say "you can't teach an old dog new tricks." However, it's plain to me that the young have plenty to teach the old if they take the time to try. When they do, I think both gain a new appreciation for each other.

(Essay ID: 222 )



**Topic: 127**

Reading fiction, such as novels and short stories, is more enjoyable than watching a movie. Of course, the images in a movie are much more vivid, because you're seeing them on a large screen in a dark room. The images you "see" in a novel are only as strong as your own imagination. But the more you read, the stronger your imagination becomes. Reading exercises your imaginative powers. Watching a movie dulls them. Imagination, like a muscle, needs to be used. Otherwise it can disappear.

When you read, you're an active participant in your own enjoyment. That's one reason reading develops the imagination. You're reading the words on the page and translating them into images in your mind. When you're watching a movie, you're a passive viewer. The movie is giving you everything. Nothing comes from you except your reaction to what you're seeing, and even that can be given you by the movie. Some movie plots are so simple, you can predict what's going to happen before it does.

Reading fiction also develops your storytelling skills. The more reading you do, the better you become at creating plots and characters. The plots and characters in movies are often very simple, because the emphasis is on action rather than on language or character development.

Still, going to the movies is a great community experience. Sitting in a large theater with a lot of other people is fun. You experience the same reactions to what you're seeing together. Reading is a one-person experience. It's a chance to go into an imaginary world by yourself. Both experiences can be fun and rewarding, but I think reading fiction is more enjoyable.

(Essay ID: 223 )

**Topic: 128**

Though physical recreations and intellectual activities are two basic ways in which people spend their leisure time. In my opinion, the former is more important for my generation, who is in twenties and is studying hard for their academic achievements. This is based on a consideration of age, our main occupation and the characteristics of two forms of recreation.

People of my age are full of energy and physically active, but we have to sit for hours a day racking our brains. We need a complement that can give us more physical exercises and divert our attention from studying. A intellectual activity, like reading a book, playing a chess game can help us escape from the worries and forget our study for a moment. But there is no physical activity, what's more, they are more or less still a form of mental recreation. For instance, we may feel mentally tired after games of chess and our study will be affected. In contrast, a physical recreation can provide us with a lot of physical activities and real mental relaxation. A ballgame, for example, can build up muscles, flex joints, speed up blood circulation and enhance bodily organs. We may feel physically exhausted, but we can be absorbed in study more easily.

In the view of above, however, it doesn't mean that one form is "meat" and the other is "poison". Occasionally, when we are physically exhausted and we are in good mood, a chess game or a good TV program can be very helpful.

(Essay ID: 343. This is a 5 point essay)

**Topic: 128**

While physical exercise is important, I do not believe that it is the school's responsibility to provide physical training for its students. That is something that everyone can take care of on his or her own.

Many students get plenty of physical exercise as part of their daily life or recreation. A student who bicycles ten miles to and from school does not need more exercise. A good physical education program must take a student's outside activity into consideration. Otherwise, some students will spend valuable class hours repeating physical exercise.

If a school offers such activities, it also suggests that students will be graded on them. The range of possible physical activities is great: football, swimming, weight lifting, ballet, ballroom dance, yoga, skiing, horseback riding, and golf are just a few. However, the number that a school could offer is small. Some students could get bad grades in physical education simply because the school could not provide an activity they enjoy or do well. This seems unfair. Research suggests that participation, not excellence, in these activities determines the physical benefits the body will get.

Another issue is economic. Many schools do not have the money to provide gym facilities, playing fields, and athletic equipment for their students. Other schools are located in cities where that kind of space just isn't available. A few schools would rather keep money for academic purposes.

Schools can certainly encourage physical activity. They can provide space for notices about activities, events, and classes for physical activities. They can encourage students to plan time away from academic studies to get some exercise. However, I think that providing exercise should not be the school's responsibility.

(Essay ID: 224 )

## Topic: 129

The importance of agricultural and business research centers cannot be underestimated. Success in farming and success in business each can improve a country's standing. I think that agricultural research tends to improve the quality of individual citizens' lives, whereas successful business practices improve a country's economy in relation to other nations. Choosing between an agricultural and a business research center is a difficult decision. However, I believe that the agricultural research center would be most beneficial because its benefits are more widespread.

Business practices in the United States already serve as a model for many other countries. While we certainly have much to learn, the U.S. already has a fairly solid economic basis. Further, businesses are already well-connected internationally. They have the advantage of the Internet and other means of electronic information transmission. I think that a business research center would really only help a few directly. Businessmen would get richer. For the rest of the country's people, there might be little obvious benefit.

On the other hand, an agricultural research center would help all people. No country can survive without adequate means of food production. While the U.S. is able to produce or import enough food now, that may not remain the case if current trends continue. Natural resources are eroding, and more and more American farms are closing. Farmers need to build stronger networks across the country and internationally, much as businessmen already have done. Ultimately, better systems for farming will help all people. For example, food prices can be reduced as farmers discover more effective means of food production.

Morally, I believe that it is best to do what will benefit the most people. I believe that the university's decision to build an agricultural research center could do just that.

(Essay ID: 225 )

## Topic: 129

Since the announcement of the University's plan to develop a new research center in our country, many people have showed their concern for the project and expressed their views of type of center it should be. It is now clear that the diversified views have converged to two: a business research center or an agriculture research center. Now that we have to make a decision, I think we should choose the latter without hesitation.

As everybody knows, our country is an agricultural country whose farming produce is not enough to feed its own people. We have no way out but to develop our agriculture because agriculture is the foundation of our national economy and because it would be a disaster to the whole world if we rely on foreign food to feed the biggest population in the world.

To develop our agriculture, we cannot just call on the peasants to work harder because they have been working the hardest from generation to generation. What we should do is to raise their educational level and provide them with better seeds, more fertilizers, advanced machinery and equipment, and up-to-date technical advises. In short, we have to rely on science and technology to develop our agriculture.

Some people would say that this cannot be a convincing reason because science and technology are needed not only in agriculture but also in all other fields. My view is that our situation in agriculture is the most serious and the challenges are the greatest. Ours is a big country with widely different climates and soil conditions. If we are to assist the peasants, we have to study all types of crops and all the farming conditions in this land. With a research center, these problems can be studied and solved systematically. But so far, no agriculture research center worthy of the name has been set up while there is already a business center in the southern part of the country.

Because of the above reasons, I strongly recommend that we develop a research center for agriculture purpose and I also strongly recommend this center be well funded. If we take this step and succeed in this endeavour, our agricultural produce will be greatly increased and our whole national economy will have a solid foundation.

(Essay ID: 444 )

## Topic: 130

Currently some young children spend a great amount of their time in practicing sports. Most parents feel quite happy because sports are good for their kids' development and team work spirit, however they are quite worried about some negative effects such as practicing sports occupies too much time, distracts their attentions on schoolwork and loses certain interests on other activities. In my opinion, everything has its good side and bad side. The important thing is to handle it properly.

Admittedly, practicing sports can help children's physical development, which makes them grow faster and stronger than before. As we know, during children's development periods, especially from 10 to 16 years old, sports are really helpful for children to develop. Sports can create a strong body that reduces the possibility of contracting some diseases easily. Definitely we believe that children benefit from sports.

Another good thing is that sports teach us to learn how to cooperate with other members in a team. Most sports are team work. If we want to play them well, we must master some skills to care about what our team members are thinking and how to adapt each other to achieve a common goal. Sports are not an individual activity, it needs corporation and mutual understanding. This is not easy to master. Of course, for parents they are delightful to see their children to get this skill from sports.

On the other hand, practicing sports seem to occupy too much of children's spare time to concentrate their schoolwork. As a student, one's major task is to study hard and try to learn as much as possible, which needs students to devote much time on study or their spare time. If children devote themselves in practicing sports, it is not denying that they cannot concentrate them on schoolwork at the same time. The consequence of practicing sports too much leads children to distract themselves, which influences their future.

Actually, besides sports, there are still many kinds of activities, such as drawing, collecting, good for their developments. If a child is too concentrated on sports, it is inevitable that he will lack of chances to explore other activities and lose some happiness when engaged in different experiences.

Overall, on one hand, we should encourage our children to participate in sports activities; on the other hand, we must also remind them not to be too engaged because they should put study at the first place during their school time. There is a limit of doing everything.

(Essay ID: 381 )

## Topic: 130

Most kids love to play sports. It's important to them, but for the majority, it's just one type of activity out of many that they do. For a small number of kids, though, a sport becomes their whole life. They spend almost all their time and energy practicing. This has both advantages and disadvantages.

Sports are good for young children in many ways. Kids who enjoy sports are likely to have better health. They develop good habits of daily exercise that will keep them healthy as adults, too. Today, many children and adults are overweight, but those who love sports stay in shape. Plus, by developing their physical abilities, they will learn how to work hard towards a goal. Their achievements in sports will make them feel good about themselves. They'll also make friends and learn teamwork. Sports, whether a little or a lot, can have positive effects.

We admire the talent and dedication of young athletes, but we also wonder if they're losing something. Their focus is very narrow. If they devote most of their time to sports, are they neglecting schoolwork? What about other interests? Children should try out many different activities. In addition, many young athletes are pressured by parents or coaches to succeed. Kids whose drive comes from inside usually do okay, but others can be unhappy and have health and emotional problems. So sports, like anything else in excess, can have negative effects too.

When I was young, I liked books and hated sports. I saw other people who loved sports and hated school. Now that I'm older, I've found a better balance. People have to figure out what's right for them. Is there such a thing as too much sports? There is no right answer, because there is no "right amount." Everyone is different.

(Essay ID: 226 )

**Topic: 131**

Is it true that only people who earn a lot of money are successful? Recently the controversy has been brought into focus. We cannot deny the fact that money is one of the yardsticks against which how much one has achieved is measured. However, in stark contrast, many people would rather stick to an opposite view.

The rhetoric that only when people have earned a colossal sum of money can they be regarded successful is not only unreasonable, unconvincing, or misleading but also absurd and ridiculous in that it has obviously neglected the celebrated scientists, sociologist, psychologists, philosophers and anthropologists who may have never had enough money to live a comfortable and convenient life yet they are virtually successful. For instance, Albert Einstein, The greatest physicist of the 20th century who created the theory of relativity and was awarded the Nobel Prize, was immune to becoming wealthy.

Besides, not all wealthy people are successful. A good case in point is that in West China, some farmers cut down millions of trees each year and sell the timber at a high price. As a result, environment has been devastated. Innocent people have to suffer floods and air pollutions. Although the farmers are rich, they are never successful but guilty.

Last but not the least, besides money, there exists a diverse array of other calibrations to measure one's achievement. The society awards its members in different ways. As long as one makes contributions to the society, he or she would earn respects.

Taking account of all these factors, we may easily reach the conclusion. Undeniably, people who disagree with the statement have a much stronger argument. Besides the wealthy, other people could also be regarded successful.

(Essay ID: 4 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

**Topic: 131**

Nowadays, many people who are living in the material world tend to believe that money is synonymous with success, and thus only people who earn a lot of money are successful. But is it the case? I beg to differ.

On one hand, the riches are not necessarily successful. To some extent, we can not consider an officer who was charged for his abusing his authority for personal gains successful, nor can we call a rich man who was left dying without care, while his sons were quarrelling for bigger share of his legacy a successful person.

A person's success is measured by, as far as I am concerned, a good reputation in the community, a desirable role in the family, and satisfaction which comes from within.

On the other hand, not only those who earn a lot of money are successful. Numerous people who are universally deemed to be successful not because they make big bucks. An eastern Orthodoxy sister of great altruism, Mother Theresa threw this eager vitality of hers into a vehement striving after the social welfare of the needy and won the Nobel Prize; Michelangelo achieved immortal with his painting and sculpture, Beethoven with his music. Outside the spotlight, even common civilians live their respective life of success, seldom of which have something to do with large purse. Doctors are respectable with their patients, teachers with their students.

It is manifest from the above argument that the proposition "only people who earn a lot of money are successful" is still subjected to serious reconsideration.

(Essay ID: 3 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 131

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, some day 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 rich. Mother Theresa was one. Certainly, no one would say she was not successful.

I also believe that being respected by coworkers 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 wasn't 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 are 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.

(Essay ID: 5 )

## Topic: 131

Since people's criteria for success differ, there is much debate over whether only those who make a lot of money are successful. As far as I am concerned, in today's society which stresses on individual achievement, money provides the best evaluation of one's accomplishment.

To begin with, as a standardized measurement used for comparing values, money is objective rather than subjective, so it is considered an authentic reflection of one's achievement. As different people hold different understandings of success, assessing the amount of one's earnings has become universally accepted as a rule to measure one's success. Each year, *Fortune Magazine* publishes a special issue to rank the top 100 most successful people throughout the world according to their yearly income, because there is no other methods to rely on.

In addition, the amount of money one makes is the consequence of one's hard work and talent. To deny the accomplishment wealth brings is equal to deny the sources from which it springs. In the past, I only believed in spiritual values and then leapt rashly to the conclusion that the best thing in life involves no money at all. It is my uncle who showed me the significance of money and changed my opinion. He told me he respected money and made it a goal to strive for in his way towards success. Because he would have to pay a price for it in terms of time, thought and energy. Gradually, I came to realize it is the mental and physical labor he devotes in the process of making money that paves his way for self-accomplishment, and thus deserves appreciation and respect.

Finally, money is the most powerful possession in one's lifetime. As everyone knows, success is the ability to do whatever one wants to and to be satisfied with oneself. There is hardly anything that can be done without a certain amount of money. Indeed, with money, one can meet his or her material demand in life, such as taking effective medicines, living in magnificent houses, eating various delicious food, and so on. Also, with money, one can do a lot of meaningful things to benefit others, such as donations to poor people. All these will not only satisfy one's need for personal fulfillment, but also add grandness to one's success.

In conclusion, money serves as a measurement of one's achievement. But we should keep in mind that only those who obtain money by hardworking and use it to benefit the society are really successful.

(Essay ID: 2 )

## Topic: 132

If I could invent something new, I'd invent a device or pill that could put people to sleep immediately and would have no side effects. The proper amount of sleep is important for our concentration, mental health, and physical health.

Getting enough sleep is a vital human need. For one thing, without sleep our concentration is strongly affected. We're easily distracted, we can't remember things, and we don't notice what's happening around us. For example, a lot of car accidents are caused by tired drivers. When we get enough sleep, our powers of concentration are sharper. We're more focused on what we're doing. We perform better.

Mental health is also affected by lack of sleep. It's easy to tell if people don't get enough sleep. They're on edge, cranky, and out of sorts. They lose their tempers easily and over-react to situations. In fact, experiments have shown that lack of sleep over a long period of time can cause a complete mental breakdown. When we get our proper rest, we're more alert and responsive. Our outlook is positive, and we're much easier to get along with.

Our physical health shows the strain of sleeplessness, too. We have less energy, and everything seems like a major effort. Over a long period of time, we become slow and unresponsive. The wear and tear on the body from lack of sleep can be a very serious health problem. Every doctor will tell you that getting enough sleep is a basic factor in maintaining good health.

Wouldn't it be great to go to bed every night knowing you 'd have no problem getting to sleep, no matter what's going on in your life? Getting enough sleep is always going to be an important part of how you respond to your situation. I think this device would be very helpful to all of us.

(Essay ID: 6 )

## Topic: 132

People will normally invent something that they want very much in the real life if they have the ability. As a father of a two-year-old boy, I would make a baby sitter robot. The reasons are as follows.

In the first place, a baby-sitter robot can take care of my baby when I go to work. There will be a dilemma in front of parents when they have a child, who should stay at home and who should continue to work, mother or father? With a baby-sitter robot, they do not need to make a choice. Parents will no longer give up their jobs because of their child.

In the second place, a baby-sitter robot can make my baby stay away from danger. A person cannot concentrate on one thing 24 hours a day. It will be dangerous when he/she is taking care of a baby. A baby is so unpredictable that you never know what he/she will do in the next minute. For instance, the baby may swallow a coin or fall to the ground from the bed when you just do not look at him/her for a second. However, a robot does not have such a problem because she is never tired. She can keep an eye on the baby all the time. Any potential dangerous action will be prevented. Even when the baby is sleeping, the robot can still watch the baby if you want. In addition, a baby-sitter robot can entertain the baby. Songs and stories can be inputted in the robot's memory and replayed whenever the baby needs them. It is so easy to change them that the baby will never be bored on one song or story.

In conclusion, I would like to invent a baby-sitter robot not only because it can take care of my baby for me, but also because it can make my baby safe and happy.

(Essay ID: 451 )

## Topic: 133

I can't remember how many times when I was informed that a person's childhood years played a rather important role in the whole life; I can't remember how many times especially when a VIP was interviewed by a journalist, he or she, more often than not, would mention his or her childhood years, regardless of its toughness or happiness. Just as the famous poet Wordsworth's poem goes, "Child is the father of the man"! So, I think, the several childhood years are the most important years of a person's life both psychologically and physically.

The famous psychologist Sigmund Freud had once put great emphasis on the importance of a person's childhood, to put aside the academic debate, I think whether a person spends the crucial couple of childhood years in a happy-go-lucky way has a lot to do with his or her later life psychologically. For example, a child who was maltreated when in his or her childhood may be under the shade in the adult life, which has been proved either experimentally or empirically. As a matter of fact, these examples are defying enumeration.

On the other hand, the period of childhood is a very vital stage for the child to grow up physically, because at this special stage, the main organs of the body and their functions begin to develop and become mature gradually and this stage matters a lot regarding laying a sound foundation for the teenage stage and the later adult stage.

Thus, we, if as parents, should develop a happy atmosphere for our children to make sure they spend this very special period in a safe and happy way; we, if as children, should live a happy way ourselves. Do remember these several childhood years are the most crucial years of a person's life psychologically and physically!



## Topic: 133

I agree that a person's childhood years, from birth until twelve years of age, are the most important. All the information I've read about that time of life states that these are the years that form us. These years determine what kind of a person the child will become. During these years we learn about relationships, begin our formal education, and develop our moral sense of right and wrong.

The early years are the time when we learn about relationships. First we learn about our parents and siblings, then about rest of the world. We learn how to respond to others based the treatment we're given. If we're loved, then we know how to love others. If we're treated harshly, we may grow up to treat others harshly. We also form our ideas about our own self-worth from the way others treat us during these years. They can convince us we're worthless, or they can teach us we deserve love and respect.

These are the years when we begin our formal education. We acquire the basic skills-reading, writing, working with numbers-that we'll use throughout our lives. We need a good foundation in these subjects. Otherwise, anything we try to do later will be undermined by our lack of skills. Perhaps the most important thing we can learn during these years is how to analyze information and use it. These are skills that will always be useful.

Most important, from my point of view, these are the years when we develop our moral sense of what's right and wrong. Others teach us about good and bad, but later in our early years we begin to decide for ourselves. It's also during this time that we begin to develop the self-discipline to live according to our morals.

I believe a person grows and changes for the better throughout the many stages of life. However, the foundation is laid in those first few years of life.

(Essay ID: 7 )

## Topic: 134

In the past in America, children were valuable workers. For example, they helped on the farm or in the family business in order to bring in money. Just a couple of generations later, attitudes have changed. Now children are hardly expected to work at all. Modern children often don't even do household chores. This is sad, because I think that they are missing something if they don't help out at home. Sharing in household tasks benefits children of all ages.

First of all, household tasks build skills. Very young children learn motor skills and classification skills when they pick up their toys and put them away. Talking about how to do things helps them learn to analyze situations. Older children learn skills they'll need as an adult. Cleaning and cooking may seem dull, but knowing how to do them well makes life a lot easier. How many young adults leave for college unable to do their own laundry or cook anything besides a frozen microwave dinner? It's amazingly common.

When everyone in a family helps out, the family is happier. Nowadays it's common for both parents to work. When they come home, they have more work to do. Life is stressful and there's no time for fun. By sharing household tasks, everyone gains. Children can help their parents with simple tasks such as picking up their own rooms, putting away their own laundry, starting dinner

occasionally, or taking care of younger siblings. Then the family can relax together, and parents won't feel like servants to their "couch potato" offspring.

The most important thing children learn from helping with household tasks is responsibility. Handling everyday tasks teaches organization and time management skills. Children learn that chores have to be completed before they can play, or before ? They get their allowances. Children who understand that effort pays off will be more successful later in life.

Kids should not work all the time. A happy life needs balance. But if they can successfully handle tasks at home, they will handle life better too. They will know the satisfaction of doing a good job, be involved in family life, and become more confident and responsible adults.

(Essay ID: 8 )

## **Topic: 135**

Many high schools, both public and private, require students to wear uniforms. I think that such a policy is an excellent idea because uniforms can make things more equal for all Students.

First, uniforms make students equal on an economic level. With uniforms, students from poor families dress the same as students from rich families. This can prevent envy and jealousy about stylish clothes. It can also encourage students to form friendships based on personality, not clothes.

Second, uniforms can reduce unequal treatment by teachers. Research suggests that teachers often have higher expectations for more attractive students, which include those students with nicer clothes. This special attention can include providing more challenges and opportunities for these students. Uniforms help teachers make judgments based on ability, not appearance.

Finally, uniforms encourage the individual students of a school to feel like part of a bigger group. Their feelings of being together, working together and having something in common are all helped by uniforms.

It is my opinion that all schools should have a policy requiring uniforms. Uniforms give every student an equal chance.

(Essay ID: 9 )

## **Topic: 136**

Everyone has the experience of palying games with others. Why we play games? One obvious reason is that we want to relax, to enjoy our life, to have fun. Anyway, some games , including tennis or badminton, will produce the winner and the loser. In my opinion, I disagree that only the winner has got fun.

The first and farmost reason is that the purpose of playing games is to escape from your boring data, or office to smell flowers. Wining or losing has nothing to do with your fun, because it is not your job, it is just a game. For example, we students have to spend ten to fifteen hours in lab or in reading textbook, when we have a chance to play football with our friends, who will really emphasis on the results. Everyone has got fun.

Another reason why I contradict the title statement is that we can learn something useful by playing games. We may take long running as an example. As we know, the last part of long

running is hard to stand. Even though you lost the game, you also learn that persistence can lead to victory, which will do good to your career.

Finally, some games such as football help shape your body in spite of loss. So, why not depress?

Taking into account all of these factors, we may safely arrive at the conclusion that both winning and losing in many games give us fun.

(Essay ID: 511. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 136

I agree with the old saying, "It's not whether you win or lose, it's how you play the game. "I don't need to win. I have fun playing all games because it gives me time to be with friends, learn new things, and work as a team.

Tennis is one game that I enjoy. It's a great opportunity to socialize. Of course, you can't carry on a conversation while you're playing, but my tennis partner and I talk a lot before the game. Since we have to reserve a court, we have to talk to one another to find a convenient time to meet. Then we have to make sure that the court is available at that time. This often takes many phone calls and, of course, we talk about many other things during the same conversation. Once we get to the court, we often have to wait. That gives us another opportunity to chat. After the game, we usually go out for a soda or a meal and talk some more. We don't even talk about how well or how poorly we played. Tennis is just an excuse for us to get together.

The board game Scrabble, on the other hand, is a real skill builder. It's a challenge to form words from the letters in front of you and on the board. I always learn a new word from my opponent, although sometimes I'm suspicious whether the word really exists. Often we don't even keep score. We just do it because it's fun and we learn new English words.

Soccer is the most competitive sport I'm involved in. I do my best, but it doesn't matter to me if my team loses. I enjoy just being with my friends and traveling to different schools in different cities to play. I learn a lot about teamwork when we practice. Our coach tells us the most important thing is to play well as a team. It seems she just wants us to have fun and not worry about winning.

All in all, I just enjoy having a good time. Presumably that's our purpose in life. Isn't that better than worrying about who wins and who loses all the time?

(Essay ID: 10 )

## Topic: 136

The statement in the direction is a long term consideration of many people including me. Many people will argue that playing a game is only fun when you win. I, however, after thinking about it on many occasions, decide to stand up against this view for the following reasons.

The first and the most important reason for my opposing the idea is that playing a game, no matter you win or lose, helps release a person from the heavy pressure, in most cases, resulted from intellectual activities. There is no better example than myself when I was trying so hard to enter the university. At that time, when I was too exhausted to memorize any single incident in the history book, a play of badminton would refill me with fresh energy to go back to my

studies, though I hardly won any of these badminton games as my partner is an excellent player. Therefore, the biggest advantage of playing games lies in the fact that it helps people relax.

Another reason for my disagreement is that one will find out his or her capacity of making progress while playing a game. When learning a new game, if your opponent is a more mature player than you are, it is for sure that you will not win him or her at the beginning, but in the process of the game, if you are a conscientious player, you will definitely learn to grasp the basic skills of a certain game, which enable you to play better and better. Consequently, the awareness of your ability in learning new things is the best award you can find in game playing.

Therefore, I will conclude by saying that playing a game itself is worthwhile and to win or not to win is not a matter to concern since you could get rid of the feeling of exhaustion and confirm your confidence as a learning-capable being.

(Essay ID: 481 )

## Topic: 136

Recently, many people argue as if it is a general truth that playing a game is fun only when you win. In various games and matches, the main aim of players from both sides seems to be winning. And winning is not only for the players themselves, but also for the honor of their team, and even for that of their nation. But to be frankly, I can not agree with them. There are numerous reasons, and I would explore only a few primary ones here.

The main problem with this argument is that the real meaning of a game is to enjoy the process of the game; the result, whether it is win or lose, does not seem matter. Think of the original games of our ancestors, the goal is to show their love of sports, their physical strength and celebrating the hunting. And the true intention of their game is for relaxation and amusement. Another good example is that children enjoy playing games more than adults. When we watch children play, we can understand that they are more concentrate on the game itself, and do not care for the result. There are too young to realize the importance of winning the game, therefore they enjoy it more.

If the players play a game for winning, they will concentrate on scores too much, and forget to enjoy the game. In this society, everyone wants to be a winner, for they will not only win the honor, but also win fame, money, and so on. In the same way, the loser will lose everything. It seemed that playing a game became a way to get material comfort, but not fulfillment of spirit.

Furthermore, when players play a game for winning, they face the stress from the team, even for the nation, and they struggle to win. Sometimes, players do everything by fair means or foul in order to win. They may use illegal drugs, or bribe the judges. There are various scandals about athletes almost in every international game, and this thing became more and more serious. These are all because the results of games have been linked to money and the honor of a country.

General speaking, when you only want to win, you will lose the fun of playing a game. Taking into account of all these factors, we may reach the conclusion that, it is wiser to learn to enjoy playing without regard of the result of game.

(Essay ID: 352 )

## Topic: 136

Recently, many people argue as if it is a general truth that playing a game is fun only when you win. In various games and matches, the main aim of gamers of both sides seems to be win. And win is

not only for the gamer themselves, but also for the honor of their team, and even for that of their nation. But to be frank, I can not agree with them. In my point of view, the real meaning of game is to gain fun from the procedure of the playing, but not get the result of win or loss. There are numerous reasons why I hold no confidence on them, and I would explore only a few primary ones here.

The main problem with this argument is that it is ignorant of the basic fact that playing a game for win will not only make gamer lose the fun, but also result in many things breaking the rule. In this society, everyone want to be winner, for they will not only win the honor, but also win money, house, and so on. In the same way, the loser will lose everything. It is seemed that playing a game become a way to get creature comfort, but not enjoymet of spirit.

Furthermore, when game does not only the honor and shame of individual, the gamers facing the stress from the team, even for the nation must struggle for win. For gain their end, many people take any kind of means without regard to whether break the rule of normal or law. There are various scandals about athelte almost in all the international game, and this thing become more and more serious.

Another reason why I disagree with the above statement is that I believe that the real meaning of game is to gain fun from the procedure of the playing. When we observe the playing of children, we will find that they are more like the game per se, not care for the result. There are so little adult can realize the joy of the procedure of the playing as a child. On the other hand the original game of our ancestor is comparing the physical strength and celebrating with the hunting. And the true intention of their game is for relaxation and amusement.

General speaking, when you only want to win, you will lose the fun of playing a game. Taking into account of all these factors, we may reach the conclusion that, it is wiser to learn to enjoy playing without regard of the result of game.

(Essay ID: 278. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 137

I think high school students should be allowed to choose some of the subjects they study. However, the basic subjects, like mathematics, literature, and science, should be mandatory for all students.

When I was in high school, we were allowed to choose three electives each semester. Electives were subjects that weren't part of the bask curriculum. They included things like music, journalism, art, and various kinds of team sports. Choosing some of these subjects to study gave me a chance to experiment. I was able to get a head start on what I was going to study in college.

However, college preparation shouldn't be the main factor. I think all students should be allowed to take a certain number of courses just because they're interested in them. For many students, high school is the last chance to learn about things they're interested in. Maybe once they have a job there won't be time for studying.

Of course, it's also important that students study certain basic subjects. If I'd had a choice, I know I wouldn't have studied mathematics or science. I wasn't very interested in them. However, once I was in class, I found myself getting interested. I wouldn't have known this if I'd been given the choice, because I would have chosen not to take the courses.

High school students aren't always the best judges of what they'll find useful in the years ahead. They need the guidance of experts in the field of education. However, they also need some freedom to follow their curiosity and individual interests. They should be given the freedom to choose some courses, while being required to take others.

(Essay ID: 11 )

## Topic: 138

Maybe in someone's opinion ,to be a member of a group would not have to shoulder some responsibilities ,deal with a variety of persons ,and spend a wealth of time in its daily affairs while the leader have to ;but,when taking the beneficial factors into consideration ,compared with the so-called negative aspects mentioned above ,we can safely say that it is better to a leader of a group than to be a member of a group!

Of course ,a leader of a group ,is intrinsically a member of the group ,so in this sense ,the leader should answer for the duties a common member should do and also can enjoy the relating rights a common a member can do .Beside as a leader of the group ,he or she should be responsible for many other duties like the management and the development of the group ,and maybe someone takes these obligations as a burden ,but for me ,I think it is an opportunity to fullplay a leader's talents and potentiality and thus to win the respect as well as trust of the members of the group ;and from this standpoint ,no more beneficial and challenging is than to be a leader of a group .

Then as a leader of a group ,he or she will be endowed with more chance to deal with shades of peoples and thus can learn how to get along with them well and also can win a pool of friends ,who maybe of specail importance for his or her future .

As a matter of fact ,there are a good numbers of reasons to support my view , but I think the ones said above are to the point.So my choice is definitely to be a leader.

(Essay ID: 491. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 138

Which kind of role do you like to play in a group? Some people would like to be a ordinary member, while some others prefer being the leader of a group. For me, I want to challenge myself as the leader of a group. There are at least two reasons for my choice.

Firstly, being a leader of group, could have more opportunities to improve all sorts of abilities and skills by dealing with various kinds of issues. Just take my experience as an example, I am responsible for the marketing and business development in my company and there are four subsidiary staff in my department. Since I started to work as a leader of this group, I have developed my ability in leadership, decision making, communication skills, teamwork and negotiation skills etc., which have greatly benefited me.

Secondly, being a leader especially being a qualified leader in a group, you can get more chances of personal advancement and gain more satisfaction from your job. In the leader's position, you have to meet and deal with various challenging tasks, by doing it with your staff, you can demonstrate your leadership and secceed in your company. In additon, you will enjoy the happiness and fulfillment that the job has given to you.

All in all, for me, being a leader in a group can make my life more splendid and wonderful. I will get different experiences from it.

(Essay ID: 357. This is a 5 point essay)

### Topic: 138

According to my opinion, it's always better to be a leader than a follower. True leaders show initiative. They take action and they assume responsibility. A leader makes a decision. Some followers may approve of the decision; others may complain

about it. However, these followers all chose to follow, not to lead. They chose not to make a decision. That's how I'm different. I'm not a follower. I want to make the decisions.

Good leaders will not react to events, but will anticipate them. A leader will start a plan of action and then will persuade others to follow. For example, a class president at a local college may feel that the relationship between the community and the campus is not a good one. The citizens may feel that the college kids make too much noise on the street, litter public areas, and shop in other communities. A good class president will recognize that the community and the campus depend on one another. The president ' will ask the student body to keep noise down, help clean up the neighborhoods, and work with businesses to attract students. A good leader takes the initiative.

Good leaders must be action-oriented. Having taken the initiative, they must see the job through. They have to take charge and lead the followers. They have to motivate and encourage the followers. The followers (in this example, the student body) must understand why good relations with the community are necessary. The followers must be persuaded to do something about it.

Good leaders must be ready to accept responsibility. They accept responsibility for their actions as well as those of the followers. In the end, any credit will be shared with the group; any blame will be the leader's fault. The leader who fails is always alone.

I enjoy taking the initiative, determining the direction, and being responsible for my actions. I don't want to suffer through other people's stupid decisions. If there are ' going to be stupid ways to do something, let them be mine. Wouldn't you agree?

(Essay ID: 12 )

### Topic: 139

Basically, a house is composed of a living room, a dining room, washrooms, and bedrooms. Even though each room has its valuable features, I fully believe that a bedroom is the most significant one. In this place, I can rest, study and chat.

To begin with, a bedroom allows me to recharge my physical and mental batteries. To illustrate, when I am exhausted, I choose to sleep there. With a cozy bed I can gain sufficient energy to work effectiently and effectively. Besides, I can just sit on a couch and read a newspaper and magazine. It makes me relaxed and release my stress. Furthermore, I can meditate or look out at the scenery. These activities can enable me to forget my troubles temporarily. So, I cannot deny that my bedroom is the most appropriate environment to recess.

Moreover, to avoid being disturbed, studying in my bedroom is the best choice for me .I can prepare exams, do projects, complete assignments, and review homework in this tiny and quiet room. On top of that, if necessary, I can surf the Internet for relevant infommation. For example,

if I am assigned to make a presentation about "Civil War". I can simply use a search engine like Yahoo or Google to find out "Civil War" and its origin and its historical importance. In this way, I will come up with ideas to organize how to present perfectly. Therefore, without a bedroom I might get distracted while studying.

Last but not least, in a bedroom, I can talk to someone through a phone. For instance, I chat with my boyfriend for hours. It would not be easy to chat with him in a public room such as a kitchen or living room. Under these circumstances, I can share my feelings with him. Also, when I am either enlightened or depressed, I can make a phone call to my peers. Thus, communicating with someone in a bedroom appears less embarrassing.

Overall, it seems dull to stay in a bedroom. The more time we stick in this spot, the less time we gather with our friends and families. Nevertheless, I wholeheartedly think a bedroom plays a significant role in a house because other rooms cannot substitute its characteristics: a better rest room, a quieter study place, and a more private room for chatting.

(Essay ID: 295 )

## Topic: 139

What is the most important room in a house, the kitchen, the living room, or the bedroom? Different people have different opinions. From my point of view, I think that the living room is the important room in a house. There are numerous reasons why the living room is more important than the other rooms, and I would explain a few ones.

First, in my recollection, the living room reminds me of a lot of rosy memory. In the past, our living room was always a center of congregating. All family members sit together here. Sometimes, we watched TV. Other times, we played chess. Our living room was always full of happiness and pleasure. Now I have my own family, I hope that my living room also becomes the source of our family pleasure.

In addition, the living room is also a place for parties and guests. When our family friends came to visit, we always entertained them in our living room. Sometimes, we even buy some ornaments such as flowers to decorate our living room. The purpose of all of these is to show our sincere welcome to our guests. We always made our living room spotless. If we take our friends to a messy living room, perhaps our friends will not visit us again. Therefore, a living room always plays a very important role in our social activities.

In a word, a living room always plays an important role in both our family life and our social activities. Therefore, I think a living room is the most important room in our house.

(Essay ID: 397. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 139

The kitchen is my favorite room in a house, because it is where families gather. To me, that is the most important thing. So many of the memories people have of growing up revolve around the kitchen. My childhood memories concern the kitchens in my grandparents' homes.

My mother's family lived in a row house in the city. The rooms were all small, and that included the kitchen. In the summertime, when we'd visit, the back door of the house would be left open. People would be sitting on the back porch and in the kitchen, talking and laughing, while my grandmother made dinner. There was no air-conditioning, but I don't ever remember feeling too



hot. There was always a breeze coming through, along with the sounds of traffic and kids playing ball in the street.

My father's family lived on a farm in the country, and their house had a huge kitchen with windows on three sides. It seems like the windows were always open and the curtains blowing with the breeze. The main door to the house was almost never used. Everyone came in through the kitchen, and sat at the big table in the middle of the room. When dinner was being prepared, all the women would bustle around, while the men sat at the table talking about farm prices. Sometimes my grandmother wouldn't even sit down during dinner, but would be refilling bowls of food and people's glasses. From outside, we could hear the cows in the field near the house.

These two kitchens are the background for some of my happiest memories. From the beginning of time, human beings have gathered together near the fire where the food was being prepared. I hope that never changes.

(Essay ID: 13 )

## Topic: 140

Basically, the production of items can be divided into two groups: one is made by hand and the other is made by machine. Some people always ask which one is better, by hand or by machine? For me, both of them have advantages and disadvantages.

Items made by hand are delicate and beautiful in an appearance. For example, most of people like Chinese silk made by hand. The reason is that not only the silk is too delicate to use machine to sew, but also a good piece of hand-made silk will make customers feel it likes a master piece in a degree. In addition, when hand-makers do their jobs, they usually devote more energy and time in them, which allows the possibility of pursuing the accuracy to come true. As we know, there still have many ladies to prefer the tailor-made clothes. Why? The reason is very simple because they think only tailors can meet their needs. We can imagine after the tailor sews the piece stitch by stitch, how it is marvelous to be!

On the other hand, items made by machine have been widely accepted around the world because of the introduction of the machine. It is highly appraised of fastness and durability. Actually, these two characteristics are basic criterion for products. Suppose that the washing machine is out of work only after one-month use, I believe a user definitely feels angry and irritating about the bad quality of this washing machine. In some degrees, we can make sure of the quality made by machine. Furthermore, by machine, people can save time. I don't believe any manufacturers will make furniture by hand at most time. Although this does happen in some cases, they are very special. Furniture made by machine can be sold to customers as soon as possible, which increases company's profit through fast moving.

However, I agree some advantages about items made by hand and made by machine, there are still have some disadvantages we cannot ignore as well. For items made by hand, it usually takes a quite long time to finish and the cost is accompanied to be very high; for items made by machine, it sometimes is quite rough and not ideal as what users expect.

In view of advantages and disadvantages I mentioned above, I suggest we should see what items we are going to buy first, then decide to choose them made by hand or by machine. If I were a customer, I would prefer choosing clothes made by hand and some furniture by machine. In a short, it is unwise to say which one is better in an arbitrary way.

(Essay ID: 14 )

**Topic: 140**

From my point of view, there are many factors affecting whether to choose an item made by hand or by machine. The main factor to make a judgment is whether we use the item for our daily life or for collection and decoration purposes.

For items used in our daily life, the choices we make depend on the following factors: function, form, and price. Function is the most important thing for us. If a product is beautiful, but it is not able to perform the function, it can only be called a decoration, or a piece of garbage. For example, when we buy a TV, what we really care about first is the quality of the picture and sound, how many stations it can receive, and whether it can be connected easily to the VCR and DVD player at home. The second factor which affects our choice of a product for daily use is its form. Is the TV too big, too small, or too ugly? Will it fit into the living room? Will it be compatible with the colors of other appliances and the furniture? The third factor we may consider is the price. Even if we are very happy with the item, there is no meaning if we cannot afford it.

So, in our daily life, there is really no difference whether our clothes or furniture are made by hand or made by machine. It just doesn't matter as long as they can perform their function. For items for collection and decoration, it is a completely different story. Ancient tools and historical artifacts have more market and educational value than modern day massively produced products, and traditional handicrafts make good tourist souvenirs and beautiful decoration for the house. Therefore, when it comes to items for collection and decoration, I would definitely choose items made by hand, because they are just so special.

In conclusion, depending on different items and different uses, I will make different choices.

(Essay ID: 15 )

**Topic: 141**

Most of the schools that I attended had excellent programs and instructors. Unfortunately, at one school this was not the case. The foreign language program there needed both better planning and better instructors. If I could, I would make changes in three major areas.

The first step would be to offer third and fourth year language classes. This particular school had no language programs above the second year level. Students who started language classes in the first year ran out of classes to take by the time they were halfway through the school. This was frustrating for those of us who loved learning languages. It also had bad effects when we tried to resume language studies in college after a two-year break.

Next, the foreign language program should be staffed with well-trained instructors. The current teachers in the program don't speak the languages well enough. In our classes teachers frequently made errors which the students repeated. If the teachers were well-trained, they would be good models for the students.

Finally, the materials in the language courses should be updated. They need to use modern technology. Even though the school has a computer laboratory, our language class never used it. We were limited to using the assigned textbook. If software was available, the students could search the Internet for current, real-life materials, such as newspapers from other countries.

Understanding people from other countries depends on being able to communicate with them. Poor language instruction makes this impossible. Improving the foreign language program would really make a difference to the students of the school.

(Essay ID: 16 )

## Topic: 142

To enhance children's development, some parents select a fairy tale book as a gift; others choose a stuffed doll; still others pick a basketball up. Although every item has its value, personally I find a stereo advantageous for a child's growth to learn languages, music, and communication.

First, children can gain knowledge through language cassettes. For example, while listening to tapes of beginner English, children follow the directions to speak out simple words such as "A" means "Apple", "B" refers to "Bird" and "C" defines "Cat". With a "Rewind" button, children can repeat these basic vocabulary as many times as they want. Under these circumstances, repeated stimulation enables them to memorize quickly. So, a stereo can benefit children to study languages effectively.

Another contribution of a stereo for children's development is that children can learn the rhythm, melody and lyrics. Like "Elephants", the famous song tells kids why an elephant has a long trunk. Also, according to various rhythm, children can express feelings in different ways. To illustrate, romantic music like Celine Dion's "My heart with go on" has smooth and slow pace. It makes the listener tranquil. However, pop music like Michael Jackson's "Thriller" thrills children. So, music inspires children's minds.

Most importantly, a stereo allows children to communicate with hosts of broadcasts. For example, they can turn into talk show on 99.1 FM. There is a program called "Take a guess" at 9:00am on weekdays. Usually, the host asks questions like "what is the largest animal in the world?" Every child can respond through a phone. If someone gets the wrong answers, the host would provide more hints and clues to children until they get the right answers. In this way, children can improve their imagination and creativity; in addition, they learn how to communicate with others.

All in all, little kids can feel frustrated playing tapes and CD's. Also, impatient children cannot stick with hour long or more cassettes. Nevertheless, I strongly think a stereo is worthwhile for children's development because it helps them become gifted in language, music and speech.

(Essay ID: 294 )

## Topic: 142

When I was about 10 years old, my older sister gave me a present. It was my first real grown-up bicycle: a three-speed, yellow and black, shiny and new. I still remember how excited I was. That bicycle was very important to me over the next few years. If I wanted to give a gift that would contribute to a child's development, I would choose a bicycle.

Bikes are great exercise. They encourage outdoor play. Television and video games, which are the most popular children's activities nowadays, involve mostly sitting and staring. Riding a bike makes exercise fun.

Bikes are convenient transportation, too. Without a bike you have to depend on an adult to drive you almost everywhere. With a bike you can go farther. You can ride to your friends' houses. If your school is close enough, you can take yourself to school. You have control over where you

go, and you 're not always waiting or begging for a ride. Now you can say "Can I go... ?" instead of "Please take me!"

To me as a child, a bicycle meant independence. Not only could I go farther, but no one was watching where I went. The road went past the park, the pond, the woods, the 7-11 store, and more. I saw the network of little neighborhood roads from a different viewpoint. Everything was much more interesting up close than it was through a car window. I could stop anywhere and look at whatever I wanted. Everything was my choice. Bike riding was active, not passive.

My bicycle gave me fun exercise, easy transportation, and freedom. For all these reasons, I think that a bicycle is a special present for a child.

(Essay ID: 17 )

## Topic: 143

I like the idea of students having several short vacations throughout the year. I'm a working parent with two school-age children. Every summer I have to come up with a plan for keeping my children safe and entertained for three months, while my husband and I are at work. Summer camps are expensive, and finding the one your children will enjoy can be a challenge. Getting rid of that one long vacation would make life a lot easier.

Having several shorter vacations would also make it easier to schedule vacations. My husband and I both work in small offices with other working parents. All of us need vacation time during the same three months. This is hard on our businesses and our careers.

We also find that wherever we go in the summer, it's crowded. It would be nice to go places throughout the year and find smaller crowds. I'm sure the attractions themselves would like that better, too. It would be better for the economy to spread things out, too.

I think my children would be more focused on their studies if their vacation time was divided up throughout the year. The final month of the school year, they're just not paying attention. They've been in School for nine long months and they don't have a lot of energy. Plus, they're anticipating vacation time. If vacations were throughout the year, they would concentrate better on studies.

Of course, many older school buildings aren't air-conditioned, because usually people aren't there during the hottest months. That might be a problem. I think, though, that new air-conditioning would be worth the cost. During the last few weeks of summer, my children are bored with their long vacation. I doubt that would happen if there were several vacations throughout the year.

(Essay ID: 18 )

## Topic: 143

Hello,friends!As students,what period is your happiest days?--Holidays!I think everyone will agree with this answer,so do I.But what kind of holiday do you like better--the longer one or several short vacations in a year?I think each of them has its advantages and disadvantages.As for me, I like the latter one.

Now, let's look at the good and bad points of the two kinds of holidays. Of course, I'd like to begin the topic with my favorite one--short period of vacations. First, short vacations are a great relaxation after busy final exams.When we finish the exams, we know that we'll have a month to think freely, to do other things besides classes, to visit friends, to be with our family, to go to

concerts, to watch sports contests, and so on. Second, we can plan to travel during the short vacations. In spring, we can go to mountains, to see the various flowers that can't be seen in cities, to see the stream flowing, to climb the mountains, and to appreciate the beautiful scenery on the summit! What a wonderful picture, especially for we students always swimming in the "sea" of books! And in summer, we can go to the seashore to enjoy the sunshine and long beach. In winter, we may go to see the snow scenery! It gives us a lot of pleasure. At last, the most important one is that we will not forget classes after the short vacations. The shortcoming is that, for those students who want to make some money to cover their school expenses, the vacations are too short for them to make enough money.

As for the longer vacations, we can have a longer relaxation, we can have a longer relaxation, we can go to remote areas or go abroad to travel. But if we only have one long vacation for a year, isn't it dull for us? And we also may forget some of our lessons after we return to school. From the above, I think the short period of vacations have a lot of advantages comparing with the longer ones. So why not join us in short holidays and enjoy everything we'd like to do!

(Essay ID: 504. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 144

I know there are advantages to living in a modern apartment, but I'd prefer to live in a traditional house. My main reason is that I love traditional design. It's graceful and warm and inviting. I think modern design is very empty and sterile and not very inviting. So, because of the way it looks, I'd choose a traditional house.

I recognize the fact that a modern apartment is going to be in much better shape. Being new probably means all the plumbing works, the roof isn't going to leak, the windows are properly sealed, and the kitchen appliances are in working order. A traditional house can't guarantee any of that. In fact, it's likely that things will break down or need replacement, simply because of age.

Still, if the appliances are old, so is the wood, and that's a big advantage as far as I'm concerned. Very few new buildings have the kind of beautiful woods that were used years ago. It's something that can't be copied.

Space is always important to me, too. I need a lot of room for my home office, my clothes, and to display all the knickknacks I've picked up in my travels. I also like to have interesting space. I don't want all the rooms and windows the same size or a boxy design. A modern apartment usually comes in one size and shape. A traditional house is going to have a variety of spaces where I can put a little table or a window seat. And it will have lots of room, from basement to attic. These are all good reasons for me to prefer living in a traditional house.

Some people love modern design, but it's not for me. The space and beauty of a traditional home are more important to me than having everything new and perfect.

(Essay ID: 441 )

## Topic: 144

I know there are advantages to living in a modern apartment, but I'd prefer to live in a traditional house. My main reason is that I love traditional design. It's graceful and warm and inviting. I think modern design is very empty and sterile and not very inviting. So, because of the way it looks, I'd choose a traditional house.

I recognize the fact that a modern apartment is going to be in much better shape. Being new probably means all the plumbing works, the roof isn't going to leak, the windows are properly sealed, and the kitchen appliances are in working order. A traditional house can't guarantee any of that. In fact, it's likely that things will break down or need replacement, simply because of age.

Still, if the appliances are old, so is the wood, and that's a big advantage as far as I'm concerned. Very few new buildings have the kind of beautiful woods that were used years ago. It's something that can't be copied.

Space is always important to me, too. I need a lot of room for my home office, my clothes, and to display all the knickknacks I've picked up in my travels. I also like to have interesting space. I don't want all the rooms and windows the same size or a boxy design. A modern apartment usually comes in one size and shape. A traditional house is going to have a variety of spaces where I can put a little table or a window seat. And it will have lots of room, from basement to attic. These are all good reasons for me to prefer living in a traditional house.

Some people love modern design, but it's not for me. The space and beauty of a traditional home are more important to me than having everything new and perfect.

(Essay ID: 19 )

## **Topic: 145**

The whole point of advertising is to encourage us to buy things we don't need. Advertisers are in the business of making money for themselves and their clients. If they manage to sell us something that's good for us too, that's fine. But their primary goal is profit.

It begins when we're children. Saturday morning children's television is full of commercials. Over and over again, children see images of toys and games. They see other children who are having the time of their lives. They watch these children and get the message that if they want to have that much fun, they need to buy those things. Thus, at a very early age, we're introduced to two ideas: that we want to be like everyone else, and we want to have what everyone else has.

This continues throughout our lives. We spend a lot of our money trying to keep up with our neighbors. We buy the latest model cars, have all the latest gadgets in our homes, and live a lifestyle beyond our budgets. Advertising encourages us to define ourselves by what we own rather than by who we are. It encourages a competition of false values and shallow measurements of what matters in our lives.

Advertising can be damaging. However, it is also one of the ways in which our economy keeps growing. People need to buy products in order for other people to have jobs manufacturing, transporting and selling those products. Advertising also keeps us informed about new products that may actually help us in some way. For these reasons, you could say advertising is a necessary evil.

(Essay ID: 20 )

## **Topic: 146**

If I had to choose where to spend my leisure time, I'd rather spend it outdoors. I spend all my working hours inside at a desk. When I have some free time, I want to completely change my environment. Getting outdoors gives me a new perspective and helps clear my mind.

Being outdoors gives me the opportunity to try new things, see new sights, and meet new people. Staying indoors means reading a book or watching television. Sometimes it involves visiting with friends. Those are all relatively inactive. Being outdoors means a chance to stretch my mental and physical muscles. I can go hiking in an area I've never been before. I can go swimming or rafting on the river. I can go on a nature walk with a ranger and learn about flowers and trees. I can visit all the outdoor monuments in my city that I've never seen before. In each case, I'm doing something that helps me relax while also enjoying the excitement of something new.

Of course, weather is a factor. I have a hard time functioning in extremely hot or cold weather and like to stay indoors when it's below freezing or the heat is scorching. At times like that, it's fun to sit inside with a good book or a good friend looking out at the weather and enjoying the comforts of home. But if the weather cooperates, it's fun to read that book outside on a park bench or go swimming with that friend.

Enjoying leisure time outdoors can also mean making new friends. Getting outside my own environment gives me the opportunity to meet new people. All in all, leisure time is better when it's spent with Mother Nature rather than a television set.

(Essay ID: 21 )

## Topic: 146

People would show different preference to indoor activities and outdoor activities. Some may be interested in spending their leisure time indoors, while others may be fond of the latter. As far as I am concerned, I would always prefer to be outside for my leisure activities.

In the first place, outdoor activities can provide me a pure natural environment in which I will feel more relaxed and refreshing. For example, I can always feel regenerated only after one-hour jogging along a quiet street, with the fresh cool air and balmy wind around. Moreover, it is a real fun to travel and enjoy so many wonderful sightseeings in different places. During their vacation, most people would choose to travel to enjoy a period of leisure time so that they can refocus on their studies and businesses.

In the second place, participating in varied outdoor activities can help us increase knowledge through our own experience and widen our horizon. As a famous Chinese saying goes: to become wiser, you need to not only read 10 thousand books but also travel 10 thousand miles. It is true when we go out we have the chance to meet different people and different things, which cannot happen if you stay indoors. We chat with people and exchange ideas, we visit many places and learn different cultures, all of which can let us know more about a true world.

In conclusion, I personally prefer outdoor activities to indoor ones not only because I can enjoy the relaxation and refreshment in the nature but also through participating in varied outdoor activities, I gain valuable opportunities to convert theoretical knowledge from books into a kind of real experience.

(Essay ID: 463 )

## Topic: 147

A gift of money is generous and welcomed at our school. There are many things that my school could use. To decide, one must consider the amount of the gift and understand that it is a one-time thing. Keeping this in mind, I think that my school could most benefit from new classroom fixtures.

If you looked at our school, you would agree that nearly all of the classrooms could use new desks, chairs, chalkboards, bookshelves and cabinets. Our school is old and the people who live here aren't very wealthy. New equipment would provide students with the tools that they need to learn. It is hard to write papers if there aren't enough desks and chairs. It is hard to learn when the blackboards are so old that they can't be erased properly. It is also difficult to organize school supplies without proper bookshelves and cabinets.

Another plus that new equipment would provide is that it would make the school more attractive to the community. It is hard for a community to be proud of a school that is falling apart. If the community felt that our school was important, perhaps others would give more money in the future. That would allow us to further improve our school. In addition, maybe community members would feel encouraged to come and help out in the school. That would make it even better.

Students would be happier with new equipment. It would make them want to come to school and learn. There would be fewer dropouts. By continuing in their education, these students will be able to better contribute to our community in the future-perhaps even becoming future schoolteachers.

While there are many things that can be purchased with a gift of money at our school, I believe that new equipment is the best choice. New equipment would improve the learning environment, the community's attitude, and the students' feelings about their school.

(Essay ID: 22 )

## Topic: 148

Almost everyone, from little children to adults, loves games. The types of games may change and get more complex as we grow up, but our enjoyment never changes. Playing games is both fun and useful, because games teach us the skills we need in life.

First of all, playing games teaches us that everything we do causes something else to happen. If we hit a ball, it will land somewhere or someone will try to catch it. If we make certain combinations with cards, we'll earn points. So when we play a game, we learn there is always a cause/effect relationship. We learn to pay attention to what's happening around us and see how people react to what we do.

Playing games also teaches us how to deal with other people. We learn about teamwork, if the game has teams. We learn how to assign tasks according to each person's skills. We learn how to get people to do what we want, and we learn that sometimes we have to do what other people want.

Game playing teaches us how to follow rules to achieve something. In a game, the rules have been worked out in advance and make the game go more smoothly. We find out that if we want to reach a goal, we need to know the rules. We learn how to go step by step towards a desired end. We also learn how to make adjustments when things change. We learn how to devise a plan for reaching our goal. We learn strategy.

Most people understand that "all work and no play" is bad for you. Learning all these things would be much slower if we didn't play games. Life would be much duller, too.

(Essay ID: 23 )



**Topic: 148**

Nowadays, some people hold the opinion that games teach peoples about life, but others have a negative attitude. And they think that only children play game, so game is only for amusement, and is nothing with the true life. As far as I am concerned, I agree the first statement. There are numerous reasons why I hold on, and I would explore only a few primary ones here.

The main reason for my propensity is I believe that the procedure of playing teach people the rulers of games similar to that of society. We can discover when children play games, they often imitate to do the things that occur in the socirty of adult. For examples,boys and girls like to act as father and mother of family, doctors and patients, teachers and students. These kind of games will make children begin to study to how to deal with things and how to get alone with other persons. And there are the other kind of games such as chess which can devolope their intelligence. Like the lesson in the school, these games teach them the other kind of rulers, the method of study knowledge.

Another reason can seen by every persons is that like life itself, game is full of intense and attracted competition. Everyone can experience the joy of win and the pain of lost from game. In the form of playing game,people would realize what is the competition, how to take on the stress and how resolve problems. And those are very helpful for them in the future work and live. In addition, game tell us that only making great efforts, one can get the desired result. There is an old saying, no pains, no gains. No matter the game is simple or complex, if you want to win, firstly, you should treat it seriously, and then cast about various meanings to resolve the problem. In this way, you can learn how to deal with things and how to cope with difficulties in the society.

General speaking, game tell us the principle and truth of life, and people can learn from game how to deal with problem, how to take on the duty and experience the life in the society. Taking into account of all these, we may reach the conclusion that, games teach peoples about life, and people can learn many knowledge from that.

(Essay ID: 277 )

**Topic: 148**

Playing games has always been thought to be important to the development of well-balanced and creative children; however, what part, if any, they should play in the lives of adults has never been researched that deeply. I believe that playing games is every bit as important for adults as for children. Not only is taking time out to play games with our children and other adults valuable to building interpersonal relationships but is also a wonderful way to release built up tension.

There's nothing my husband enjoys more after a hard day of work than to come home and play a game of Chess with someone. This enables him to unwind from the day's activities and to discuss the highs and lows of the day in a non-threatening, kick back environment. One of my most memorable wedding gifts, a Backgammon set, was received by a close friend. I asked him why in the world he had given us such a gift. He replied that he felt that an important aspect of marriage was for a couple to never quit playing games together. Over the years, as I have come to purchase and play, with other couples & coworkers, many games like: Monopoly, Chutes & Ladders, Mastermind, Dweebs, Geeks, & Weirdos, etc. I can reflect on the integral part they have played in our weekends and our "shut-off the T.V. and do something more stimulating" weeks. They have enriched my life and made it more interesting. Sadly, many adults forget that games even exist and have put them away in the cupboards, forgotten until the grandchildren come over.

All too often, adults get so caught up in working to pay the bills and keeping up with the

"Joneses" that they neglect to harness the fun in life; the fun that can be the reward of enjoying a relaxing game with another person. It has been said that "man is that he might have joy" but all too often we skate through life without much of it. Playing games allows us to: relax, learn something new and stimulating, interact with people on a different more comfortable level, and to enjoy non-threatening competition. For these reasons, adults should place a higher priority on playing games in their lives.

(Essay ID: 333 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 149

Having some free land has always been a deep wish of mine. When I was a child my family and I often went to the country on weekends, because one of Dad's brothers owned a piece of land not too far from the city where we lived.

I enjoyed myself riding horses, playing with cats and dogs, picking up eggs from hens, looking at rabbits, watching birds, "driving" tractors and so on. Since then, I have been dreaming to have some free land of my own property, in order to do what I most like without annoying any neighbours.

First of all I would fill it with trees, flowers and grass, because I love to stay outside and have walks under the trees' shadow.

Secondly, I would buy some German Sheepdogs. Actually I'm very fond of this race of dogs and I wish to grow up some exemplars and win premiums at dog competitions. Dogs are the real passion of my life. I love to stay with dogs and speak to them and teach them some basic things. Finally, in order to stay there always, I would build a small country house, made of stone and wood but with all comforts and a swimming pool to bathe in when it's very hot.

Probably it's a dream, but don't say it's impossible to accomplish. In fact, I would only need to work in some place neither too near, not too far from the country. There I could find some free land and do what I've just said. So I would realize the child's atmosphere that I can only remember now and that is so distensive when just thinking of it.

(Essay ID: 315. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 149

What should I do if some day I had some land of myself? I take it as a serious question although if it is just a hypothesis. While, definitely, I will facilitate it to built up a public school! The reason is that education is so important to both this society and individuals. It is my dream to develop a school for the children who have been bereft the opportunity of acceptance education.

Firstly, widely well-educated population can benefit the society they are in from enjoying an orderly circumstance. It is a common sense that intellectuals are more conformable than the others. Bandits or brigands are usually composed of those uncivilized people. With their knowledge, people are much more positively to comply with their national laws. Caution are also be taken by those knowledgeable people to stay away from criminal.

Secondly, our society needs to be constructed by their civilian with their technique or skills much more than just their nature strength. It is the advantaged technology that makes a nation standing in the first line among the world.

Thirdly, individual in this earth should be equal with all rights including being educated. What tragedy it is that so many kids abandoned or are abandoning their study for their poverty. So many films about these poor children always made me in tears! I swear if only I have the power I will do my best to help them other than just donate those little faint money!

If I have some land, I will open a school, definitely!

(Essay ID: 311. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 149

If I have received some land to use as I wish, I would use this land to build a library. I like to use the following reasons to explain my choice.

The first and most important reason is that library can bring plenty of knowledge to people. I remember the famous words that knowledge is power. Apparently, a library is the ideal place for people to attain knowledge. In a library, we can get all kinds of valuable information that we need, such as knowledge of geography, history, music and politic, and so on. We can imagine that it is so comfortable and enjoyable when we sit in a quiet library and immerse in the world of knowledge that we cherish.

Another equally important reason is that people can spend their spare time in a more meaningful way in a library. Now the life pace is faster and faster, so people, especially young people, like to go to see a movie, or a disco party. In comparison with those places, I think that library can provide a quiet and comfortable atmosphere for people who want to reduce the pressure of life. Moving on to wider themes, a library is a good and safe place for children. Parents would rather let their children go to the library frequently than see their child spend lots of time in playing the game or watching television. After all, a good book can provide children with enormous help in their future life.

From what has been discussed above, I may safely draw the conclusion that using this land to build the library for people will be my first choice.

(Essay ID: 24 )

## Topic: 149

The world is becoming increasingly smaller and smaller. The world's population is now at six billion. The world cities are getting larger and larger. At least two cities, Mexico City and Sao Paulo have almost 30 million inhabitants. In this context, one could say that a gift of land is the greatest gift of all. Land is perhaps the most permanent thing in the world. Unlike diamonds, which really have little value in and of themselves, land actually has great value. Unlike televisions and cars, land cannot be destroyed—if you remove land, there is still more land under it. In this context, I will discuss what I would do were I given some land as a gift. It will be necessary, however, to discuss four things first: First, it is necessary to establish the size of the land. Second, we need to know where the land is. Third, the topography of the land is important. Finally, the weather in the location is fundamental.

For the purposes of this essay, I will assume that I have received a rather large parcel of land (it is a gift, right?!) in a temperate climate with four seasons. I will assume that the land is fairly flat. Most importantly, I will assume that this land is mine and that I have control over the land, i.e., that no other government controls the land.

Having grown up in a rather poor family, I think I would be quite excited about receiving some land. I have never owned anything of any great value and to own some land would be a wonderful thing for me. For a long time, it has been a dream of mine to be able to build a beautiful house for my mother. My mother is still living in poverty and it saddens me to think of her living in that situation. She often does not have enough money to use the heat in the wintertime and cannot afford to buy new clothes. I would love to be able to give her the gift of a house and a happy place to live for the rest of her life. Since we lived in a country with very cold winters, my family often felt very cold. I would love to bring my mother to a warm place to spend the rest of her days.

However, I would not devote all of the land to houses for my family. I would use most of the land to develop a business. In my case, doing this would be very important since I grew up poor. I would need to ensure that I would have a source of income and a way to sustain the activities on the land. An efficient way to do this would be to develop the land in some way suitable to the land. In this case, I would use the land to develop a language and confidence training camp. It has long been my dream to build a perfect language learning center - a place where people could go to learn a language, to immerse themselves in the language, to meet other people and to have fun while doing so. In conclusion, I would like to make one more point. I must admit that I feel somewhat guilty about the idea of accepting such a gift of land. There is a part of me that is somewhat idealistic and would like to think that the world is a beautiful place and that all humans should live together peacefully. From this viewpoint, I would say that no one can own land. As an American Indian once said, "Own the land? You might as well own the air or the sky!" However, this idea is inconsistent with the world today. Being more realistic, I would do what I detailed above.

(Essay ID: 299 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 149

Land is a valuable resource, and it is important to use it effectively. I think it would be most effective to create something that all people can enjoy. I therefore propose to use the land to build a campground. At the present time, there is little low-cost recreation in the area where I live. Building a campground would change that. Ultimately a campground would make a more enjoyable environment for everyone.

Local entertainment is simply too expensive. A nice evening out can cost as much as one hundred dollars. Even movies and other less expensive types of entertainment are no longer cheap. Further, there are no real recreational facilities nearby. There are no parks within 30 miles. There are very few basketball courts, and most of those are in poor condition.

Building a campground could change all that. Staying overnight at a campground is very inexpensive. It can cost as little as thirty dollars. Further, there would be a sports area and picnic tables for use by campers and also those who do not wish to stay overnight. A campground would provide a lot of activities for very little money. That would definitely improve this area.

The result of building a campground will be that many more people will be able to afford an enjoyable evening out. A campground also promotes healthy living. People can get out and breathe fresh air. They can walk and hike and play basketball or other sports. That is certainly better than spending an evening sitting down, eating buttery popcorn in a movie theatre.

A campground will make the area beautiful as well as functional. We have many wonderful natural resources, but we need to cultivate them. In addition to all the other good things it can bring, building a campground will help us do just that.

(Essay ID: 25 )

## Topic: 150

Television has increased the speed at which news travels and it can bring situations and images into our homes that previous generations would not have had the opportunity or regret to witness.

Television is commonly criticized as being bad for children that an important fact sometimes gets overlooked. In my personal opinion some types of television viewing may actually enhance children's intellectual development.

Television contains an enormous variety of forms and content. The effects of television viewing depend on program content and genre. According to a research, young children who spent a few hours a week watching educational programs such as Sesame Street, Mister Rogers' Neighborhood, Reading Rainbow, Captain Kangaroo, Mr. Wizard's World and 3-2-1 Contact had higher academic test scores 3 years later than those who didn't watch educational programs. On the other hand, children who watched many hours of entertainment programs and cartoons had lower test scores than those who watched fewer hours of such programs. Good educational programs can provide lasting benefits to children.

Children are most likely to become actively engaged with television content that is neither too easy nor too difficult to comprehend, that is, content that provides some challenges, but also allows a child to gain a sense of mastery. Just like our muscles, the brain gets stronger when it is used, and atrophies when it isn't used. It seems that lack of use also leaves it vulnerable to degeneration later in life.

Of course, there are some bad sides for children to watch TV. Our TV-watching children increasingly view life as an entertainment extravaganza, in which they yearn to play a starring role, and here the nasty content of so much modern broadcasting comes into play. Besides, it is hard to watch an evening of TV without encountering unspeakable violence, whose perpetrators are celebrated. Again, the effects of television viewing depend on program content and genre, and parents should teach their children on choosing the right TV program to watch.

(Essay ID: 26 )

## Topic: 151

In the United States there are many important animals. They help us in a wide range of ways from food production to scientific research. An animal that is not only helpful to us but close to us emotionally is the dog. That is why I feel that dogs are the most important animal in my country.

Dogs provide a very important chance to learn or maintain social skills. Children who have dogs learn responsibility while caring for them. Dogs also help older people: The elderly often feel lonely as they get older and have fewer living friends and relatives. They are able to maintain a positive outlook and to feel needed because they are caring for a dog that needs them.

In addition to social benefits, dogs also provide some very important assistance. Seeing-eye dogs help the blind live fulfilling, fully mobile lives. Dogs that act as shepherds on small farms are also very helpful. Lost animals mean lost money for farmers, and that can mean going out of business.

Police dogs help find illegal drugs, catch criminals, and protect their handlers. Dogs' intelligence and desire to please people made them ideal for all kinds of work.

Finally, dogs can save lives. Dogs have been known to find lost children. In extremely cold conditions, they have provided them with life-saving warmth. Dogs have alerted people to fires and other dangers. And we cannot forget guard dogs, which save many owners' lives and property each year by scaring off potential burglars.

Again, there are many useful animals in the United States. In terms of the numerous ways in which they can be helpful, however, I believe the dog is the most significant.

(Essay ID: 27 )

## **Topic: 151**

Before I answer this question, I feel that I should introduce myself. I come from China, so I think that the pig should be the most important animal in our country because this animal plays a very significant action in our daily life.

Needless to say, the pig is one of the most important meat foods. Everyday, we eat it from its head to its feet. All parts of a pig are edible. We can use its different parts to cook all kinds of delicious food. In China, there are eight kinds of dish party. Every kind is closely associated with the pork.

The second, the pig is also a kind of important industrial material. We can use the pig skin to make all sorts of shoes, wallets and other leather goods. In addition, its feather can be used to make brushes.

The last reason is that raising pig is one of the important income sources of farmers. If you have a chance to China, you can find that almost every farmer family raises several pigs. Many farmers get their cash by selling pigs. At the same time , some provident and skilled farmers have become very wealthy through raising pig.

After understanding the reasoning above, I think that nobody should doubt my answer about this question. The pig is really the most important animal in our country.

(Essay ID: 258. This is a 5 point essay)

## **Topic: 152**

Many natural resources are disappearing or being wasted on our planet every day. One of the most important resources we are abusing is our trees. Each year, hundreds of thousands of acres of trees disappear in countries all around the world. In some countries, these trees are used for fuel. In other countries, trees are destroyed to build housing developments and shopping centers. Saving trees has become a major cultural and economic issue in many areas of the world.

Trees are essential to our survival. They are a major part of the process of photosynthesis. Photosynthesis is the process in which green plants use carbon dioxide to produce oxygen, and oxygen is something all of us need. The fewer trees there are, the more this affects our ability to breathe.

Trees are also important in the development of many medicines. The mainstream medical establishment did not recognize this for many years. However, those who use natural medicines

have always known how important trees are. Now scientists are agreeing with them. Many drugs come from the leaves of certain trees, along with other herbs and plants.

In rural areas, farmers have always known how important trees are to soil conservation. This is why you'll usually see trees lining a field. Tree roots help keep the soil in place, and are also a factor in water distribution deep beneath the ground.

Finally, we should save trees from disappearing because they provide so much pleasure. "I think that I shall never see a poem as lovely as a tree," wrote a poet. That is the truth. A tall, stately tree is beautiful to look at, and pleasing to the soul. It is also a great place to find shade on a hot summer's day. For practical and emotional reasons, we need to preserve our planet's trees.

(Essay ID: 28 )

## **Topic: 153**

Zoos are often controversial because many people believe they are unnecessary or even harmful. If properly managed, I feel that zoos have a lot of value. In fact, I believe zoos are useful in two main ways: educating the general public and advancing scientific research.

Zoos can be wonderfully educational places. They provide a safe, controlled environment to learn about a specific species. Children can feel safe exploring the world of the chimpanzee there, and adults can learn about and see types of birds they've never seen before. Unlike in the wild, there's no worry of being physically harmed by an animal.

Zoos are also important for the research opportunities they provide. Research is safer and easier to conduct than in the wild. Scientists can feel secure in the confined area of the zoo. For example, while conducting a medical experiment in an open field, scientists have to worry about both the animal they are working with, and also other animals nearby. In zoos, however, they need only worry about the research subject.

In the wilderness, animals are also much harder to track and monitor. Zoos make research less time-consuming and expensive. Long term follow-ups are easier too, since even with monitors, wild animals often are killed or disappear. In zoos, researchers can observe an animal's entire life span.

Overall, I feel that properly managed zoos provide excellent opportunities for education and research, and are therefore very useful.

(Essay ID: 29 )

## **Topic: 153**

Children like to go to the zoo on holidays. They find it interesting to watch monkeys or bears doing funny things. But how many adults go to the zoo not for children's sake? I think few. Because we finally find that a zoo has no really useful purpose and it's not a truly fun place for us.

When a person breaks the law, he will be thrown into prison. But the animals in the zoo have done nothing to deserve being locked in a small cage. No plants, no water, just brick walls and floors. Every animal is in the same environment and can do no other things except for wandering around in the little space. Do you think that's what an animal should look like? And after visiting such a living place of animals as a zoo, no one would ever be left a nice impression of beauty and harmony of the nature that the zoo tries to demonstrate.

In addition, going to the zoo is not a good chance for educating children. Children see animals being tamed and locked, just for people to watch and have fun with. That will give the wrong impression to them that animals are ought to be like that. In such an artificial circumstance, they don't realize that animals and people are friends and they are just as important in the ecological system as we are.

The last but not the least, animals in the zoo are often treated badly by the visitors. People like to feed them with whatever they bring with them: hamburgers, popcorns, or even paper. Animals are not able to distinguish which food is bad for them and thus they eat too much unfitable food. It is very harmful to their health.

So I don't see any useful purpose to build up a zoo in a city just for people's entertainment, but to sacrifice the animals' health and freedom. And it does no good to teach our children to have animals as our best friends.

(Essay ID: 482. This is a 5 point essay)

### **Topic: 153**

Every city has one or more zoos. There is no denying the fact that whether a zoo is useful or not is a popular topic which has caused heated debate over a long period of time. Some people think that establishing a zoo of course has its advantages, while others think it makes no sense. And for a while, people think that a zoo is no useful purpose. As far as I am concerned, I disagree with this opinion. There are no less than three reasons to disagree with the opinion as rendered below.

One chief reason, which can be seen by every person, is that children can obtain direct knowledge about a variety of animals. They can see what tigers like, hear various sounds of birds and differ one animal from another. If there is no such a place, how can they make direct impression of animals. They may never have a chance to see various animals even though they learn many from book.

A further reason why I disagree the statement is that most of us live in cities and have many things to do. We must work for living and learn for obtaining a better job. Everyday we live with a rapid pace and we want to relax. A zoo of course is a good place for us to have a relaxation. There are so many lovely animals and so beautiful environment in which we can learn more things about animals as well as relax ourselves.

Finally, to be frank, there is also a more personal reason why I think a zoo is useful. When I was a little girl, I liked animals very much, especially birds. But I could not feed them for myself, so the zoo which was located near my home was the place I went to most frequent. And I really love these places.

Based on what has been discussed above, I may safely arrive at the conclusion that a zoo has its useful purpose.

(Essay ID: 497 )

### **Topic: 154**

Not allowing smoking in public places and office buildings is a very good rule. I believe this for several reasons. Not only will banning smoking improve people's health, it will also increase worker productivity and reduce conflicts.



We all know smoking is not healthy. Unfortunately, when smokers are able to smoke in public buildings, they can make other people sick. They may work with people who are allergic to smoking, for example. In that case, the non-smokers have no choice unless they want to quit their jobs. They can only get sicker, which is unfair. Of course, banning smoking in public buildings and offices will please non-smokers. It will also improve the smokers' health. They will have fewer opportunities to smoke, so they will smoke fewer cigarettes.

Banning smoking in office buildings can also increase worker productivity. Smokers won't interrupt their work all the time to smoke. There will also be fewer worker absences. When smokers cut down the number of cigarettes, they will get fewer smoking-related illnesses.

Finally, it is a good idea to ban smoking in public places and office buildings because a ban can reduce conflicts. Non-smokers tend to get annoyed and jealous because smokers have an excuse to take frequent breaks. The most significant conflict, however, is over whether smokers have a right to smoke in public. As we have already seen, non-smokers feel they are not always given a choice. If smoking in public is allowed, they will be forced to breathe harmful air. This may violate their rights, and nonsmokers are angry with smokers because of it.

It seems clear that banning smoking in public places and office buildings is a good idea. It will reduce conflict and increase productivity. It will also benefit the health of smokers and nonsmokers alike. I believe that just about anything that improves our health is a good idea!

(Essay ID: 30 )

## Topic: 155

Plants can be considered the support of the life on Earth, due to their main feature: they are continuously providing oxygen because of photosynthesis process. Moreover, most plants are useful to people in many other different ways.

In my country, Romania (located in South-Eastern Europe), we consider wheat the most important plant.

During centuries, our ancestors had to fight numerous invaders in order to protect our most precious wealth: wheat. Until World War II, Romania had been considered the most important wheat producer of the entire continent. Unfortunately, after the war, my country was invaded by Soviet troops, having a sole purpose: stealing. They stole everything they found: money, jewelry, cars, industrial equipment and, last but not least, food. During that period, wheat flour was considered the most precious asset a person could own.

After the 60's, the situation returned to normal. Regrettably, however, wheat paddocks were considered a source for obtaining merchandise to be sold abroad, in return for foreign currency meant to fulfill Ceausescu's insane plans for "the new communist era". Dozens of trains full of wheat berries crossed our borders, while Romanian people were starving, fighting for a loaf of wheat bread.

After the collapse of communism, everybody believed that things would return to normal. However, another problem occurred. Irresponsible people stole most irrigation equipments (pumps, pipes), so wheat production has been continuously decreasing.

At present, wheat is still considered a precious gift of nature given to our people. Thousands of people working in agriculture are treating this plant as the most important thing in their lives.

I hope that, sometime, all my nationals will give wheat the importance it deserves.

(Essay ID: 329 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 155

Chiquita, the name brand that most people see here in North America when they go get some bananas at the supermarket, is the mark for all the bananas produced at the Chiriqui Land Co. What not so many people know is that those bananas are from my country, Panama, where the plantation of this fruit means a very important income into our economy.

The production of bananas in Panama is one of the most important in the country. Since the beginning of the last century, native Indians from Panama have worked in the plantation of bananas. Thus, it means this has been a way to bring some income to all these homes and to the national economy, too.

The plantation of bananas means millions and millions of dollars to our economy every year. The bananas are not only for the local consumers, but also to be exported. The exportation of bananas not only to The United States but to many other countries is a source of money to our internal economy. Therefore, it means more school, hospitals and other benefits for the local population.

The quality of the banana plants and their product are excellent. Quality control is very demanding and meets the excellence of ISO 900. The banana plant is protected with a special plastic that covers the whole plant from all kind of insects and other animals. The bananas are washed and packed in boxes, where they keep the fresh and delicious smell and taste to be exported later on.

For the quality, excellence and delicious sweet flavor that only the bananas have, is what makes it the most important plant in my country and which means millions of dollars every year into our economy.

(Essay ID: 321. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 155

Hundreds of thousands of plans grow in my country because of its good climate and geographic position. And it is not surprising that my county is well known all over the Europe with its delicious and natural raised fruits and vegetables, such as peaches, apples, and potatoes. Moreover, people of my country enjoy having many herbs and spices which help them in cooking. However, in my opinion, the most important plan in my country is the wheat. In is not only because the grain production is the most famous and developed agriculture branch but also because the wheat is the connected with our eating habits, our culture and our distinction as a nation.

First of all, the wheat is the staple for most of the people of my country. There are a lot of places on territory of my country with good climate and soil where wheat and other grain products can grow abundantly, so people choose wheat as their staple food. People eat bread and other bakery products on every meal they have. Indeed, almost each person gets for breakfast sandwich, pancakes or the famous baked rolls called "baniza". Moreover, nobody can imagine to have his lunch without slice of bread or small polled breads. And for dinner he got bread or other bakery products again on side to his home made meal.

Second, the wheat bread is the traditional meal of my county. In fact, wheat bread or wheat beens are always on celebrations and big events. There is no wedding without a big round bread for the bride and groom, christening without bread with fortune pieces inside, or funeral without cooked wheaten beens. Moreover, even in history books is written that when the R army liberated our country at the nineteen centuries, people meet soldiers with wheat bread and salt. Even now, on some big meetings when many relatives get together, there is bread in front of the door of the host, and everybody has to chop a piece of the read and eat it to show respect to the gathering and people of the family tree.

In conclusion, wheat is symbol of our nation. It is important for people of my country not only because it is their staple food but also because it is in their culture. Wheat is always and will always be a part of our nationality.

(Essay ID: 326 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 155

The coconut tree is a very important plant in my country. Coconut tree plantations are important sources of revenue, food and shelter.

Our country earns a lot of money from the export of coconut tree products like copra, coconuts, coconut oil, and coconut milk. This has been the main source of our foreign exchange for over a century. In fact, many of the coconut plantations were planted by various colonial powers and now, since independence, are run by our own citizens.

We not only export the food products of the coconut tree, we eat them ourselves too. The coco is the basis of much of our national cuisine-. We are famous for our curries made rich by coconut milk. We also use the oil to fry our foods as well as to add shine to our skin and hair.

The fronds of the coconut tree are also used to cover the walls and roofs of temporary shelters.

The breezes pass through the fronds and cool the interior, but the heavy rains, which fall daily, do not enter.

The coconut tree is a very versatile and useful plant. It is a tree that has served our country well.

(Essay ID: 32 )

## Topic: 155

Plants are vital to the survival of all life on Earth--plants transform the light of the sun into energy that is usable to other life on Earth. Without plants, animals would not be able to use the energy of the Sun that reaches the Earth. The removal of one plant from the ecosystem can cause many unforeseen changes, sometimes irreversibly damaging an ecosystem. However, some plants are more important than others, either for biological or cultural reasons. In my country, Korea, I would say that the grass that produces rice has come to be the most important plant, not just because rice is a staple food, but also for other cultural reasons.

Virtually every Korean eats rice at least twice a day. I, for example, had rice at breakfast, lunch, and dinner yesterday. For most Koreans, rice is an integral part of a meal, as expected in a meal as ink is to a pen or wheels are to a car--a meal without rice is not a meal. In fact, if I have dinner with my American friends and do not eat rice, I actually feel hungry even if I have filled myself with potatoes or other food while eating with them. Many of my friends have made similar

comments to me. So, I believe that rice is as much a part of our daily lives as work or talking on the telephone is.

However, rice is much more than just a staple food to most Koreans--it represents the very sustenance of much of our culture. Our history teachers tell us that the development of rice as an agricultural product was largely responsible for the advancement of Korean culture--since rice was portable and had a long storage time, people had more freedom to move and were less susceptible to changes in the weather. In many ways, rice has come to be considered the perfect food, so ingrained is it in the minds of many Koreans, and many Asians for that matter, as food that we often say "have you had your rice" instead of saying "have you had your meal." In fact, I have made this translation error many times while I have been in the United States. I have wanted to ask my American friends whether they have eaten, and I ask, "Have you eaten your rice?" Naturally, they often respond "no," leading to much miscommunication. For me, then, rice is more than just food--it is the very sustenance of most Koreans.

In short, rice is by far the most important plant in Korea. Were it removed from Korean society, Korea would change drastically, perhaps even have a famine much like the Irish Potato Famine of the 1800's. Rice is the very lifeblood of Korea.

(Essay ID: 31 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 156

Many people cannot afford to visit a foreign country, because either they have no time or they have no money. Fortunately, I have the opportunity pay a visit a foreign country as I would like. The first choice comes into my mind is Italy.

As we know, there are so many classical architectures in Italy. I am an amateur architect. But I could only study those great works in the book or on the internet. Now that I have the opportunity to go there, I could observe them in a direct way. I think that will be totally a different expience.

Also a football fan as I am, I am eager to watch the best football match on the spot. I am looking forward to applause for the stars together with other fans. If possible, I will be lucky enough to get the signature of my favorite stars.

Tired after sightseeing and shouting at the stadium, I would like to lie on the beach of mediterranean sea. It is the most beautiful sea shore in the world. Playing sand with children, drinking juice on the beach, and surfing on the waves are all my dream.

There are so many countries in the world, but Italy is my favorite. I could visit the great architectures, watch football matches, and enjoy the scene of mediterranean sea. Maybe two weeks time is too short for me.

(Essay ID: 305. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 156

If I could visit any foreign country, I'd like to visit Ireland. The scenery there is so beautiful. Ireland has a lot of rain and that makes everything very green and lush. It hasn't become a completely industrialized country yet, so there are still areas where the countryside is unspoiled by pollution. Often, you can drive for miles without seeing another car or coming to a big city. I'd like to take my set of paints and several canvases and try to capture some of the scenes there. It

seems every way you turn, you're looking at beautiful scenery. The area near the ocean is especially dramatic, with giant dark cliffs rising out of the water.

I also think I'd enjoy the slower pace of Ireland. It's so different from the busy pace of my country. Of course, Ireland's big cities are just as hectic as any big city anywhere. But many of the Irish live in smaller towns or on farms in rural areas. Visiting these places is very restful. People don't feel the need to stick to a schedule. Things get done, but in a much more relaxed fashion. In my country, there's the feeling that you're always late for something. In Ireland, it feels like you're never late because no one stays on schedule.

Most of all, it would be interesting for me to meet the cousins in my mother's family. They live in Donegal. I could see the house where my grandmother grew up and where my cousins still live. This house is connected to a lighthouse. Visiting there would give me a clearer idea of what my grandmother's childhood was like.

Ireland would be a refreshing break from the life I lead in my own country. I wish I could go there.

(Essay ID: 33 )

## Topic: 156

The answer of this statement depends on your own experience and life style. In my point of view, visiting China is as necessary as, if not more necessary than, visiting any other foreign country. So it is sagacious to visit China. There are numerous reason why I chose to visit China, and I would explore only a few of the most important ones here.

Certainly no other reason in my decision is more crucial than the one as bellow. China is the mother of more than a billion people, a fifth of the world's population. You can meet people of as many as 56 different nations. In some parts of China, you can even live with a family for one day or more, from which you can get acquaintance with and learn more about Chinese, who are eager to make friends with people from all over the world.

Also, it is arbitrary to judge the best choice is visiting China according to the excuse I mentioned in the above paragraph. It is generally acknowledged that China is a nation with a pure culture from the east, and she has a history of more than 5000 years old. Over those years, people here have developed brilliant skills, and have build numerous great sites, the most famous ones of which are the Forbidden City and Summer Palace, both of which you can visit when you are in Beijing, the capital of China.

What is more, China has become more and more open to friend of other nations in the recent years. People here would like to get more information about other countries, and they are also eager to share their experiences with foreign friends. As a result, when you visit China, you can acquire some important information which may be crucial for you.

Taking into account all these factors, we may reach the conclusion that when you have the opportunity to visit a foreign country for two weeks, to visit China is the best choice.

(Essay ID: 512. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 157

If I had a choice between studying at home using computers and television or studying in a traditional school setting, I'd choose the traditional setting. Maybe it's just what I'm used to, but I don't think that technology can replace teachers and classrooms.

After all, technology can fail. Computers go down and computer programs crash. Televisions break, and the electricity can suddenly go off. In those situations, who's going to teach me? If I'm at school, and the television or the computers stop functioning, there's a teacher to step in and change the lesson plan. Teachers can draw on their teaching experience and be creative. Computers and televisions can't.

I'd also miss the chance to interact with other students if I weren't going to school. I think learning to play and work with other people is one of the most important lessons we learn in school. It prepares us for life, and for working with other people. Being with other people also helps us discover who we are.

Another concern I have about studying at home is getting distracted. It's strange, but I think being home alone is more distracting than being at school with a lot of people. At school, we're all focused on the same subjects. At home, it would be so easy to turn off the computer or the television and go do something else. I might tell myself that it's okay to play a computer game now and make up the study hours later. Chances are, I'd never make up the study hours.

I'm all in favor of using technology in the classroom. I think computers and television are great ways for students to have access to a lot of information. I just don't think they should be the only tools I have as a student. I also need teachers and other students to help me get a complete education.

(Essay ID: 34 )

## Topic: 158

Everyone is entitled to have an opinion. When it comes to opinions, though, there's a difference between the majority of people and celebrities like actors, athletes and rock stars. If you're an average person, only your family and friends care about your opinion. If you're famous, the whole world listens, or so it seems sometimes. Is this the way it should be? I don't think so.

We shouldn't pay attention to famous people's opinions just because of who they are. Being a famous basketball player doesn't make someone an expert on environmental issues. However, that basketball player has a better opportunity to be heard than most people do. If that player feels very strongly about an issue, he can use his fame to draw attention to it and get other people involved. Often, people with causes that aren't well-known ask celebrities to get involved. That way they can draw attention and needed dollars to that issue.

People who are rich put their money behind a cause. In the same way, famous people are using their most valuable asset. In their case, it's not money. It's their name recognition. Should people pay attention to what they think just because of who they are? I don't think so. I also don't think we should discount what they think just because of who they are. They have a right to their opinion. If their name draws people to that cause, all the better for the cause.

I think too often we categorize people and try to keep them in their place. Celebrities have brains and should be allowed to use them. When they're advocating a cause, their opinion should be just one of many factors we use to evaluate that cause.

(Essay ID: 35 )

**Topic: 158**

Everyone is entitled to have an opinion. When it comes to opinions, though, there's a difference between the majority of people and celebrities like actors, athletes, and rock stars. If you're an average person, only your family and friends care about your opinion. If you're famous, the whole world listens, or so it seems sometimes. Is this the way it should be? I don't think so.

We shouldn't pay attention to famous people's opinions just because of who they are. Being a famous basketball player doesn't make someone an expert on environmental issues. However, that basketball player has a better opportunity to be heard than most people do. If that player feels very strongly about an issue, he can use his fame to draw attention to it and get other people involved. That way they can save attention and needed dollars to that issue.

People who are rich put their money behind a cause. In the same way, famous people are using their most valuable asset. In their case, it's not money. It's their name recognition. Should people pay attention to what they think just because of who they are? I don't think so. I also don't think we should discount what they think just because of who they are. They have a right to their opinion. If their name draws people to that cause, all the better for the cause.

I think too often we categorize people and try to keep them in their place. Celebrities have brains and should be allowed to use them. When they're advocating a cause, their opinion should be just one of many factors we use to evaluate that cause.

(Essay ID: 442 )

**Topic: 158**

As far as I have known, I think we needn't pay attention to the words of the famous people.

Those famous people may have their own opinions, but let us get down to the foundation and agree that they are not people different from us. They made themselves notable people not because they have enough wits to win a game or do well in act. They just have their good health or good feature and this is why they succeed. I once met a famous actress. She has lots of fans in China, but when she talked about Lu Gou Bridge, she didn't know why it is well-known among Chinese people, even questioned why such a bridge should always be talked by Chinese people. Let alone her opinion about life.

Furthermore, if they do have their own feelings about life, the famous people's opinions are not useful to us. We have our own experience in our life, and we can learn from our own experience. You may ask why cannot we learn from them then we can avoid the problems in our life. That maybe true, but we can learn these from books, and always books are good teachers of us, why should we bother to pay attention to those people's words.

More over, the famous people always give their opinions when asked by fans or reporters. In such a hurry they cannot even think enough about the question, and they split their words without knowing what they are speaking. In such a case, should we pay attention to their words. Almost the most devoted fan will not agree to say 'yes, sir, we should, whatever they may speak.' So, spare your time to do other thing more important than listen to those nonsenses.

SO I think we should not pay attention to these opinions.

(Essay ID: 306. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 159

Which invention was the greatest invention of the 20th century has been discussed many times. Different people have different views. Some think the greatest invention was television, some think it should be cars. But as far as I am concerned, the greatest invention of the 20th century would be computers. The reasons for my opinion are as follows.

First of all, computers save a great deal of effort people spend on calculating. Before computers were invented, people had to calculate manually. Sometimes it took scientists weeks, even months to have a result. Of course, they might made mistakes during their calculation. That affected the accuracy of data. But with the help of computers, people are freed from heavy calculation. It only takes seconds to have a result which used to take weeks in the past.

Second, computers can simulate different environments that can't be created in real life. In the science research, sometimes scientist need to have a simulation environment to improve their theories or as a basis of further research. Without computers it's difficult to have accurate and reliable results. But computers can make everything easy. Just input programs and data everything will be done.

The reason I think is becoming more and more important nowadays. That is computer is the way of access to the Internet. The Internet was developed based on the local area network(LAN) of computers. Today, the Internet has become the fastest developing medium in the world. You can find almost everything you need on the Internet, communicate with friends, read news, watch movies, listen to music etc. But you must do all the above things on a computer. Can't log in the Internet means behind times today.

Although many other inventions of the 20th century brought great convenience to human or changed people's lives, computers have the most valuable contribution to human, and it will have much more contribution in the future.

(Essay ID: 474 )

## Topic: 159

Many inventions have greatly changed the life of people. For example, when the electricity was invented, people can use light, so that they would not be afraid of night. When the car was born, people can not have to go everywhere on foot. When the television entered into the history, people can better know the world. But, what is one change that should be remembered about in the 20th century, the popularity of computer is undoubtedly the answer.

We can look into every good aspect of the computer, but I want to explore the most important role the computer plays is that it greatly increases the efficiency of working. If you want to type a paper, you do not need to worry about the errors, the word process will examine for you automatically. Also you should not be worried about losing the paper, you can save it in the computer. In fact, that is just a piece of a cake for a computer, it can not represent the function of a computer. When you enter into the international network, the computer will lead you into another world. In this way, you just stay at home, but you can know everything happening in the world in every corner. Isn't it wonderful? Nowadays, many people choose to work at home to do work, as they can connect the offices by a computer. They say it greatly saves much time.

Second, the computer makes the communication much more convenient. In the past, we got the news by posting letters, in this way, it at least needed three days. However, if you send an electronic



mail by a computer,you get the news only three seconds.Not only saving the time,but it can intense the emotion if you and your friends communicate more.

Third,computers also bring us much enjoyment.There are many games in the computer,for different kinds of people.So people find another way of relaxing themself except watching TV,seeing films.In fact,the computer games are not just only games,you can learn more from them ,and they can also make you alert.

As the advantanges I explore above,I think the computer should be remembered about in the 20th century.

(Essay ID: 455. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 159

There have been many changes, both technological and cultural, in the twentieth century. I believe that one stands out above the rest: advances in medical science. The changes in medical science go together with the changes in technological and cultural areas. One can move ahead only with the help of the others. We can see the results of medical advances in three areas: development of vaccines and antibiotics, expanded access to health care, and improved surgical techniques.

When medical researchers learned how to prevent disease and stop it from spreading, the quality of life for many people around the world improved. Today smallpox is a forgotten disease and vaccinations are no longer required. Polio is under control and the vaccine is widely available. The development of penicillin has helped many people recover from serious illnesses.

Although health care is not universal even in developed countries, it is much better than it used to be. Local clinics, visiting nurses, and specialty hospitals have all improved the health care for our communities.

If you should be unfortunate and require surgery, you are still lucky to have the surgery today rather than even ten years ago. Now with microscopic and laser surgery, operations are more efficient. You spend less time in the hospital and you recover faster.

I can't think of any other change that has affected the lives of so many people. Our health is important to all of us. We all are thankful for advances in the area of medical science.

(Essay ID: 36 )

## Topic: 159

There have been many changes, both technological and cultural, in the twentieth century. I believe that one stands out about the rest advances in medical science. The changes in medical science go together with the changes in technological and cultural areas. One can move ahead only with the help of the others. We can see the results of medical advances in three areas: development of vaccines and antibiotics, expanded access to health care, and improved surgical techniques.

When medical researchers learned bow to prevent disease and stop it from spreading, the quality of life for many people around the world improved. Today smallpox is forgotten disease and vaccinations are no longer required. Polio is under control and the vaccine is widely available. The development of penicillin has helped many people recover from serious illnesses.

Although health care is not universal even in developed countries, it is much better than it used to be. Local clinics, visiting nurses and specialty hospitals have all improved the health care for our communities.

If you should be unfortunate and require surgery, you are still lucky to have the surgery today rather than even ten years ago. Now with microscopic and laser surgery, operations are more efficient. You spend less time in the hospital and you recover faster.

I can't think of any other change that has affected the lives of so many people. Our health is important to all of us. We all are thankful for advances in the area of medical science.

(Essay ID: 443. This is a 5 point essay)

## **Topic: 160**

When I want to make a complaint about a defective product or poor service, I would rather make my complaint in writing. Writing a complaint allows me to organize my points of argument in a logical manner. If I'm really unhappy with the way I'm being treated, I want to present my reasons clearly. I don't want there to be any confusion about why I'm complaining. I like to list my complaints and then list supporting examples. That's the best way of making sure everyone is clear about what I'm saying.

Putting my complaint in writing also ensures it won't seem too emotional. If you feel that you've been treated badly or taken advantage of, it's easy to lash out. Losing your temper, though, is a sure way to lose your argument. Yelling is very satisfying at the moment, but it only makes the person you're yelling at mad at you. It doesn't get them to agree with you or to offer help.

There's also the issue of the person you're dealing with. If you complain in person, you have to talk to whomever is there. Chances are that he or she isn't the person responsible for the defective product or the poor service. Often the people who take complaints are not the people in charge, unless you're dealing with a very small business. Yelling at them isn't fair, and doesn't do anything to get a refund or satisfaction for you. You need to reach the person in charge. The best way to do that is in writing.

Writing about your complaint and sending the letter registered mail also gives you written proof. It's clear that you tried to settle the matter in a reasonable manner within a certain time period. This way, if you need to take further action, you have physical evidence of your actions.

Writing a complaint has the advantages of organization, effectiveness, and fairness. That's why I prefer to write rather than personally present my complaints.

(Essay ID: 37 )

## **Topic: 161**

I think we remember special gifts we've received because these gifts often are part of a special memory for us. It may be a memory of someone special we've cared deeply about. He or she may no longer be alive. Or it may be a memory of a special event in our lives. It may even be a memory of the person we once were at some particular moment in our lives.

Gifts from other people can make us feel joy every time we look at them. A gift from our parents, or our husband or wife makes us feel loved each time we see or use it. If we have children, the first gift our child made for us in kindergarten is cherished long after the child has grown up. A

family heirloom given to us by a grandparent makes us feel connected to our past. A gift from a good friend is a reminder of all the good times we've shared. A memento from a respected colleague is a reminder of a job we worked on successfully together.

Gifts may also pinpoint special events in our lives. Gifts given to us as part of our religious heritage, such as First Communion or Chanukkah gifts, remind us of those celebrations. The same is true for gifts given for birthdays and graduations, and for the anniversaries of special days in our lives, like our wedding day.

Gifts can also be a symbol of the person we were at a particular point in our lives. A gift received in childhood may remind us of a passionate hobby that's now boxed in the attic. A gift received when we left a job may bring to mind the first career we had, now that we're on our third or fourth.

The gifts that are important to us are the ones that remind us of family, friends, and happy times. They're a way of surrounding ourselves with our past.

(Essay ID: 38 )

## Topic: 161

Do you still remember the new bike as a present for greeting your ten years old birthday from you parents? Do you still remember the first rose with the love of your lover? Everyone have been received a variety of presents and gifts, and everyone have many nice memory about them. People might conserve some special presents many years until they become old, for these presents not only represent the love, but also take them back to the past time. There are numerous reasons why I hold no confidence on them, and I would explore only a few primary ones here. The main reason of the argument I support is that there always are a good time or a touching day behind the cherished presents. Every time we open the present conserved for a long time, we seem to come back before, at that time we are so young and have a pleasure time with friends. For example, the favorite joy will recall you the best friend in your childhood. A beautiful skirt maybe represent the time of middle school. And there so many letters and cars which recall you the time of college. All of these memory are happy time, and all of these presents are indelible. Another reason can be seen by every persons is that gifts and presents contain the love and friendship of friends and relations. In different cultures and different countries people express their emotions to others by presenting gifts. And every special gift has a special meaning. For example, this skirt as a gift of ten years ago is you sister send to you in the party. A pearl necklace represents the love of your husband. We reserve these gifts and Love and friendship will always go with us. In addition, receiving a gift always bring you happiness and pleasure, and give you and your friends a good time. People like to send gifts each other for congratulations or in feast days. For example, perhaps everyone has some pieces of gifts for Christmas day. Some wife will reserve the important presents for wedding. General speaking, gift with the love and congratulations will bring you pleasure and happiness. Taking into account of all these factors, gifts and presents recall people the past good time and people will never forget them.

(Essay ID: 386. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 162

Nowadays, there is a strange phenomena that some famous athletes and entertainers earn millions of dollars every year. For me, I totally oppose to give them so much money as salary per year, which it will be unequal to other occupations.

Firstly, there are so many occupations around the world, such as artist, teacher, accountant, worker. viewed as one of occupations , entertainer or athletes are not much different from the rest of occupations. Both of them are just two kinds of occupations, why do we give them so much priorities or let them earn big amount so easily? For instance, an entertainer will receive about hundreds thousand per show, or a soccer player will be paid much more money than entertainers. Although we admit that we can have a nice show to enjoy or a wonderful match to watch, there is no need to give them such big amount. This is what they should do as a entertainer or an athlete. This is their jobs. All occupations should have equal standard.

Secondly, unequalization is also not good to the young generation. If most young people know that they can earn more money as a athlete or an entertainer, definitely they will go after. As a result, they do not want to do anything other than to be a athlete or an entertainer. What's more, this phenomena has an important impact on young people about their views towards money. They will think as an entertainer he is so easy to get money as much as possible, which is not good for his development in future. They will become money-goers.

Last but not least, athletes and entertainers sometimes show bad examples to their fans. It is known that fans follow whatever their idols do, even some bad habits. Recently there is a piece of news reported that one famous singer found to be carrying prohibited drugs in a KTV. Can you imagine what kind of side effect we will face after this issue? Previously, idols are always perfect in most fans' minds, but now they did such things, sometimes even more worse. As a public person, they need to be careful about what they do.

In conclusion, I think some athletes and entertainers do not deserve high salaries because athletes and entertainers are the same as the other jobs and they do whatever they should do, in addition, they sometimes show bad examples in front of the public.

(Essay ID: 235 )

## Topic: 162

Some athletes and entertainers earn millions of dollars annually. In contrast, an elementary school teacher, on average, probably makes less than \$35,000 a year. I think the fact that this difference is commonplace is a sign of our society's misplaced values. It shows that we put more importance on entertaining our children than on educating them. It seems that the careers that are the least valued in our society often are those that are the most important.

Why is this so? The market determines who gets paid what. Teachers are paid by tax dollars. Sports teams make hundreds of millions of dollars every year. These teams earn fabulous profits from radio and television rights, as well as everything sold at the concessions stands. The same is true of movies. They are produced by studios that make huge profits annually. These enterprises can afford to pay their entertainers and sports figures huge salaries, because those athletes and film stars draw people to the entertainment.

Why are we willing to pay so much to see a ball game or a movie, but not for a good teacher? Maybe it's because we want distraction; we want to be entertained. Maybe it's because we think of education as a right, while entertainment seems like a luxury. We expect to pay for our luxuries.

It's not that I begrudge the players and entertainers their huge salaries. Most of them have very short careers. Athletes may be too old in their early 30s: Many of them gamble early in their lives on making it big in the sports or entertainment world, and deny themselves a good education. They have little chance of a stable career, so they need to earn enough, money to support them for

a long time. On the other hand, most of us aren't going to earn \$10 million in a lifetime of work. So it's hard to sympathize with people who do.

We have to ask ourselves: who really gives the most value to society?

(Essay ID: 39 )

## Topic: 163

While some countries have strong programs against illiteracy, others still do not care that much. But, illiteracy has become a big obstacle during the last century and is still problematic question now with quick development of technology and automation. From my everyday experience and observation I can state several factors which defend the statement that reading and writing now is more important than ever before.

First of all, it is essential for a person to have at least basic knowledge of reading and writing to survive in our society. While in the past, some people could live in wilderness or even in cities without any knowledge of written language, now it is almost impossible. The way of living has change so much that it is impossible to be a part of nation, especially in developed countries, without ability to read and write your bills, to understand your mortgage documents or job applications. Moreover, you can go nowhere by yourself but in your own small town without reading the maps and signs on the roads and in cities.

Second, nowadays, most of jobs require reading and writing as necessary skills and tendency that these skills will be more and more important for future jobs increases. In fact, because of sharp development of technology, more of jobs on the labor market are for literate people and less of them are for people without any or slight reading or writing knowledge. For example, there are not needed so much people who can work on lands or select parts in auto-factories because the machines do that kinds of jobs now. On the other hand, factories and corporations need people who can read the instructions and control the machines. It is bare true that without jobs that need only physical abilities, illiterate people are forced to be constantly on unemployment lists.

In conclusion, the most scare part of living illiterate in our society is maybe living dependable of someone. A illiterate person will have difficulties not only to do simple tasks such as writing bills, withdrawing money from cash machines, or reading menu in a restaurant, but also to be a productive and useful individual of our society with job and normal life.

(Essay ID: 43 )

## Topic: 163

It is a very dangerous thing to say that basic literacy skills are more important now than they have ever been in the past. While a strong argument can be made in favor of this idea, making such an argument would imply that reading and writing were somehow less important in the past. While there is a grain of truth to the argument that literacy was not fundamental to the daily existence of most people in the pre-Industrial Revolution period, rationalizing such a lack of need for education in such a way is the first step to withholding education from certain groups, a great social crime that has led to the disempowerment of disadvantage groups all over the world throughout history. However, if we can keep in mind that education is a basic human right, then we can discuss the strengths of the proposition that literacy is more important now than it has ever been before.

It is true that in the past the majority of people all over the world made their livelihood from agricultural activities and that the vast majority of these activities required little or no literacy skills. In some senses, we could argue that literacy skills were less important in the agricultural age than they are now, but to do so would be to forget that literacy also reflects an active mind and that people have always needed to engage in activities of the mind. For example, even though a farmer might have labored all day in her corn field, she may enjoy reading the latest Jane Austen novel when arrived at home. We can see in this example that while literacy was not directly related to this laborer's livelihood, literacy was important to her quality of life.

However, we could make a good argument that literacy is more important now than it was in the past. As we all know, the world is experiencing a revolution that may turn out to be more important than the Industrial Revolution. We are now entering the Information Age, an age in which information and knowledge have more value than the ability to build machines, create "stuff," grow crops, or even mine precious metals and produce gemstones. Nowadays, accurate information may be worth more than the most expensive Rolls-Royce or the biggest diamond. The perfect example of this increasing dominance is the explosive rise in the popularity of the Internet--the Internet offers the world countless bytes of information twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. Companies all over the world, but principally in the United States, are rushing to stake their claim in cyberspace and stiff competition among companies has resulted. In order to gain dominance, these companies must have the best-skilled workers, an advanced understanding of computer systems, and good intuition about what will happen in the future. All of these abilities to compete in the global marketplace stem directly from literacy skills and those without these skills will be stuck in the service, agricultural, and heavy industry fields.

In short, we can see that people in the past who were lacking in literacy skills essentially had more company than those lacking these skills have today and could still earn their livelihood. Further, we could argue that because of the nature of the global marketplace and because of the emergence of the Information Age, we could make the argument that literacy is fundamental to professional success nowadays. However, literacy should be considered a basic human right in a literate society--all people throughout history should have learned to read and write.

(Essay ID: 341 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## **Topic: 163**

For ages, reading and writing has been vital aids to the intellectual, emotional and spiritual growth of mankind. But with rapid changes in the society and scientific advancement of human race over the decades, the necessity and importance of reading and writing has increased remarkably. Several reasons account for the lesser importance of reading and writing in the past. Firstly, education was restricted to certain sections of the society and not everyone benefited from its advantages. Only the learned few enjoyed intellectual satisfaction. Knowledge was not shared freely due to lack of proper means of communication, thus preventing many from realizing the benefits of education and learning. Secondly, technology was not so advanced in the past. Hence the general pace of life was slower than it is now and people did not feel the need to keep themselves abreast of affairs around them. In other words, the need did not arise for mass awareness and participation in efforts for intellectual enlightenment through reading and writing. Nevertheless, writing was a more popular than reading since it was the most common means of communication - in the form of letters.

However, at present the scenario has changed considerably. Innovation and change are integral parts of life. Now advancement in technology marks the day. To cope up with the rapidly evolving new ideas and concepts, reading has become more important now than ever before.

Invention of high-tech gadgets and state-of-the-art information systems in areas of communication, transport and general business demands more awareness about contemporary events and changes. With advancement in technology, man's eagerness to succeed has increased. Consequently the realization has dawned on him that such dreams can be materialized through intellectual advancement - a feat possible only through self reading and personal research. With the invention of computer has commenced an age of electronic communication and online commerce. Although writing letters has decreased considerably with the advent of electronic mail, it will take some time to make our varied businesses paperless. Thus though reduced, people still do some writing, wither in forms of documents, memorandums, business contracts or research papers. Education has made people more aware of his potential and reading and writing has become instrumental to man's success in today's competitive world.

(Essay ID: 337 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 163

I think that reading and writing is more important now than in the past. Many factors influenced to make the written expression more useful and necessary at present than in the past.

The world is changing. Information became essential, and the world is getting into a sort of communication age. A great part of this communication is written. The summary of the information, about the human knowledge, is written either in books or computer s files.

Since ancient times, men and women devoted their lives to survive and fight against nature's limitations and dangers.

They had to discover a solution for each new problem, and this is the way the civilizations began. They developed the languages to transmit knowledge, and as a need. Consequently, they needed a way to communicate and file this pool of knowledge.

At first, to read and write was only a possibility to some whose activity required it, and it was restricted to privileged people who could afford it, or get it (because of the long distances, and the availability of teachers)

Now all has changed. Women were seen only as wives whose only work was at home, and as mothers whose life should be centered on the children's care.

Today, not only read and write is essential, but also some computer skills (at least basic), among others, are seen as basic education.

There are thousands of examples, just to name some. If you can't read, you could not get informed, and you can t even search for work. You could walk at the front of the windows of potential employers (who are usually asking for "help"), without notice; newspaper s adds offering jobs wouldn't be any more than paper for you. You could get irradiated inadvertently (even the information about the caution signaling, is written!).

You wouldn't even be able to visit a city without getting lost, otherwise you d have to ask people how to get everywhere. A funny proverb goes as follows "word contracts doesn't even worth the paper in which they're written", but you would never know what you are about to sign, except for what they say it says. And so on. All these situations were not so common in the past, villages were small, people trusted in other people's word, nobody traveled so much, and all knew their own town good enough. Dangerous situations were easy to recognize, unlike radioactivity, for example.

To conclude, for all the above reasons, I am convinced that read and write, is very very much important now than in the past. Otherwise I would not be here, it became so important that I have to learn how to read and write not only in my language but in a second language too. That's life (today)!

(Essay ID: 327 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 163

It is a very dangerous thing to say that basic literacy skills are more important now than they have ever been in the past. While a strong argument can be made in favor of this idea, making such an argument would imply that reading and writing were somehow less important in the past. While there is a grain of truth to the argument that literacy was not fundamental to the daily existence of most people in the pre-Industrial Revolution period, rationalizing such a lack of need for education in such a way is the first step to withholding education from certain groups, a great social crime that has led to the disempowerment of disadvantage groups all over the world throughout history. However, if we can keep in mind that education is a basic human right, then we can discuss the strengths of the proposition that literacy is more important now than it has ever been before.

It is true that in the past the majority of people all over the world made their livelihood from agricultural activities and that the vast majority of these activities required little or no literacy skills. In some senses, we could argue that literacy skills were less important in the agricultural age than they are now, but to do so would be to forget that literacy also reflects an active mind and that people have always needed to engage in activities of the mind. For example, even though a farmer might have labored all day in her corn field, she may enjoy reading the latest Jane Austen novel when arrived at home. We can see in this example that while literacy was not directly related to this laborer's livelihood, literacy was important to her quality of life.

However, we could make a good argument that literacy is more important now that it was in the past. As we all know, the world is experiencing a revolution that may turn out to be more important than the Industrial Revolution. We are now entering the Information Age, an age in which information and knowledge have more value than the ability to build machines, create "stuff," grow crops, or even mine precious metals and produce gemstones. Nowadays, accurate information may be worth more than the most expensive Rolls-Royce or the biggest diamond. The perfect example of this increasing dominance is the explosive rise in the popularity of the Internet--the Internet offers the world countless bytes of information twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. Companies all over the world, but principally in the United States, are rushing to stake their claim in cyberspace and stiff competition among companies has resulted. In order to gain dominance, these companies must have the best-skilled workers, an advanced understanding of computer systems, and good intuition about what will happen in the future. All of these abilities to compete in the global marketplace stem directly from literacy skills and those without these skills will be stuck in the service, agricultural, and heavy industry fields.

In short, we can see that people in the past who were lacking in literacy skills essentially had more company than those lacking these skills have today and could still earn their livelihood. Further, we could argue that because of the nature of the global marketplace and because of the emergence of the Information Age, we could make the argument that literacy is fundamental to professional success nowadays. However, literacy should be considered a basic human right in a literate society--all people throughout history should have learned to read and write.

(Essay ID: 40 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))



**Topic: 163**

For ages, reading and writing has been vital aids to the intellectual, emotional and spiritual growth of mankind. But with rapid changes in the society and scientific advancement of human race over the decades, the necessity and importance of reading and writing has increased remarkably.

Several reasons account for the lesser importance of reading and writing in the past. Firstly, education was restricted to certain sections of the society and not everyone benefited from its advantages. Only the learned few enjoyed intellectual satisfaction. Knowledge was not shared freely due to lack of proper means of communication, thus preventing many from realizing the benefits of education and learning. Secondly, technology was not so advanced in the past. Hence the general pace of life was slower than it is now and people did not feel the need to keep themselves abreast of affairs around them. In other words, the need did not arise for mass awareness and participation in efforts for intellectual enlightenment through reading and writing. Nevertheless, writing was a more popular than reading since it was the most common means of communication - in the form of letters.

However, at present the scenario has changed considerably. Innovation and change are integral parts of life. Now advancement in technology marks the day. To cope up with the rapidly evolving new ideas and concepts, reading has become more important now than ever before. Invention of high-tech gadgets and state-of-the-art information systems in areas of communication, transport and general business demands more awareness about contemporary events and changes. With advancement in technology, man's eagerness to succeed has increased. Consequently the realization has dawned on him that such dreams can be materialized through intellectual advancement - a feat possible only through self reading and personal research. With the invention of computer has commenced an age of electronic communication and online commerce. Although writing letters has decreased considerably with the advent of electronic mail, it will take some time to make our varied businesses paperless. Thus though reduced, people still do some writing, wither in forms of documents, memorandums, business contracts or research papers. Education has made people more aware of his potential and reading and writing has become instrumental to man's success in today's competitive world.

(Essay ID: 42 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

**Topic: 163**

Today more than at any time in the history of the world it is important to be able to read and write. This change has been brought about by the Internet which we use to communicate with one another, to get our news, and to sell our products.

Millions of people communicate today through e-mail using the Internet. In the past people would have face-to-face meetings or call one another on the phone; today they use e-mail and chat rooms. It is obviously necessary to be able to read and write in order to participate in this technological revolution.

Today, one can subscribe to news and information services on the Net. When you turn on your computer in the morning, you are given the headlines, financial news, sports scores, or social events that you requested. The news is tailored to your specifications. In the not distant past, most people got their news from television or radio-as many still do. Yet, getting your news from the Internet is more efficient since the news is tailored to your specific interests.

E-commerce also demands that people be able to write and read. Of course, the people who design the retail web sites, must be able to express themselves clearly in writing. The potential

customers must be able to read the product descriptions. In the past, people would go into stores (as many still do) and point to objects that they would like to buy. This physical approach to shopping does not require any special language skills.

The Internet will force us all to be literate not only in reading and writing, but also with computers. Today, we must be skilled readers and writers to be successful in the high tech world.

(Essay ID: 41 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## **Topic: 164**

Our health is the only thing we really have in the world. You can take away our money, our house, or our clothes and we can survive. Take away our health and we will die. That is why I eat healthfully, exercise regularly, and keep up my social life.

Eating healthfully is important to maintain one's health. I try to avoid foods high in fat like French fries or cookies. I also try to limit the amount of animal protein I consume. I never eat more than a few ounces of fish or chicken a day and I rarely eat meat. I eat a lot of vegetables and fresh fruit which are full of fiber and vitamins. It is important to know how to cook these foods so the nutrients are not lost in the cooking process.

Your muscles must continue to be strong to support your body as it grows older. Exercise helps the bones build density and helps you maintain your posture. A regular exercise program of cardiovascular training and weight training is an important part of keeping you healthy.

Friends are an important part of one's health. Studies have shown that people with a wide range of social contacts get fewer colds and have fewer complaints than those who don't. Laughing is also an important part of health. Like to laugh with my friends and I always feel better when I am with them than when I am alone.

By eating properly and exercising regularly, I can keep my body at an appropriate weight and can maintain my health. By spending time with my friends, I can keep my mind as well as my body happy. It's all apart of my recipe for healthful living.

(Essay ID: 44 )

## **Topic: 165**

Volunteering a few hours each week to some community activity is an important way of investing in the future of our society. I chose to spend my time working with elementary school children helping them to learn to read. Developing good reading skills will help these students keep up with their classmates, open new worlds to them, and help them succeed in life.

Students who are not good readers cannot keep up with their studies. They will not understand the lessons; they will come to school unprepared; they will not be able to perform. By learning to read, students will be on equal footing with their classmates. They will be active participants in class.

Books on different lifestyles, occupations, cultures, or governments will open new doors to students. Students who can't read will only know what they see around them. Students who can read will be able to travel to new worlds and experience new ideas without ever leaving their classrooms.

Today, a person who can't read is severely handicapped. A non-reader will have to work at the most menial jobs. Readers, especially good readers, have the whole universe open to them. They will have the possibility to learn any job that interests them.

By volunteering to help an elementary school child learn to read, I am helping him or her not only today, but for the rest of his or her life. I am helping them keep pace with their peers and explore the world and themselves through books.

(Essay ID: 45 )

## Topic: 166

Everytime my father encounter something difficult,I feel anxious and ask myself"When will I become an adult?"A children is so little thin and coward,but an adult is very strong and wise.I want to help my parents and make them happy.

Some books and movies tell me that many things can make me an adult.They are experiences or ceremonies such as going to college,getting a job,wedding and so on.

We may look into every possible events,however,the foremost should be the entrance to college.From the first day on campus,we have to do a lot of things all by ourselves,washing clothes,cleaing doms and buying fruits.A child never worry about these things.We also learn how to protect ourselves and how to get well with the others.We keep alert to judge whether our behaviours are right or wrong and distinguish which is good or bad for us.When we meet difficulties,we can overcome them by our own efforts instead of asking for help from you parents, we bacome adults since the moment.

When we graduate,we find a job and live on our own earnings.We work hard and do a good job to make our value by give our own contributions to the society.We plan how to use our time and money to make ends meet.We help who are in the hardship.When we get rewards,we bacome adults since the moment.

Then we get married and have children.We teach them how to walk, how to speak and how to bacome adults.We also make our parents and relatives happy.we become adults since the moment.

So life is beautiful.To become an adult means to become more independent and more responsible.

(Essay ID: 467. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 166

The difference between children and adults are very easy to tell from their physical outlooks: children and small, weak, have a poor judgment, and have to depend on adults. On the contrary, adults are big, strong, and more independent. Every child will grow up to become an adult. What events make a person an adult? In my personal opinion, there are a lot of events which mark the turning point for a person to become adult.

In many countries, when a child becomes eighteen years old, he or she legally becomes an adult. There will be a big celebration and many best wishes from relatives and friends; the young person may also have a great longing for a bright future in his adult life. He may move out from his parents house and live alone; he may start dating and doing activities which only adults can do, such as going to a pub.

Graduation from college is another big turning point for a person to become adult. In college the young person may rely fully or partially on his parents for financial support, but after he graduates, he must find a job for himself, and live on his own. Graduating from college and joining the work force can also make a person an adult.

Marriage is also a big event to a person. Once become husband or wife, the young person starts to take care of others, and take responsibility for the family. Once the young person becomes a parent, he or she should also take care of the baby.

I believe that getting married and have children is the most important event that turns a person into an adult. Only after one gets married, does he or she take on the responsibility to the family and the society.

(Essay ID: 46 )

## **Topic: 166**

There are so many differences between children and adults, such as adults always make decisions independently, while children often deal with things under the supervision of adults. Although it is a course that a child grows up and become an adult, I believe that many events play a significant role in it. Based on the experience and life style of my own, leaving parents and living alone is the event that turn a child into an adult.

The main reason of the argument I support is that living independently could develop the ability of thinking and doing independently. In family, parents always prepare everything and create a comfortable condition for children. Children at home are almostly carefree, and need not worry about cooking, washing, making cleanning, and the only thing they have to care of is study. However, when living in the dormitory of school, they have to begin to study how to deal with house work and how to get on alone with others. And it is more important that they have to think independently and make decisions like adults.

Another reason can be seen by everyone is that to live independently a child will have to face many problems which need courage and the capabilty to cope with. Without the help from parents, children will find there are so many unexcepted concrete troubles can not be resolved only by themselves. For example, when a freshmen move into dormitory, he or she have learn to change the light bulb, clean the house, how to get on well with roommate and so on. At this time, making friends and helping each other are very important for them to resolve the troubles.

In addition, the frustration and even the failure in life is very significant in the course of growth. An experience, example, or observation impart beneneficial new knowledge and wisdom. In the same way, a failure bring children lessons and make their thought and behavir mature and sense.

General speaking, living independently will develop the ability of dealing with things of children, test the courage of cope with difficulties of them, and bring them many lessons. Taking into account of all these factors, we may reach the conclusion that living by own make a child mature and wise , and turn a child into an adult.

(Essay ID: 385. This is a 5 point essay)

## **Topic: 167**

Our school has been given a grant to make necessary improvements to its facilities. We can spend it on new books for the library or on more computers. Our school already has books in its library

and it already has computers. Since we have more books than computers, I think that new computers will benefit the students more.

Computers can access up-to-date information on the Internet. Right now, the reference books in our library are very outdated. Our encyclopedia set is eight years old. But if every student had access to a computer, we all could have the latest facts and figures on everything.

Unfortunately, giving every student a computer means we need a lot of computers. Right now, the ratio of computers to students is one to twelve. This means students only get to work on the computers three or four times a week. But if every student had a computer, we could use it whenever we wanted.

"Information on demand" should be our slogan. Students today need lots of information right away. Life goes by too quickly to wait. It takes forever to identify a book that you think might have the information you need. Then you have to go to the library and look for the book. Usually it's not even there.

With a computer, information searches are instantaneous. If we all had computers, we could access more information and access it faster by computer. We could have all the information we needed for our schoolwork. We could all improve our grades. For these reasons, I feel that purchasing more computers will benefit us more than buying more books.

(Essay ID: 47 )

## Topic: 168

Nowadays, more and more students choose to attend schools or universities outside their home countries. Then why studying abroad is so attractive even though it often means greater expense and more difficulties? We may say that those students are bound to benefit considerably from their foreign study experience.

The modern world needs people to have comprehensive knowledge and experiences. The world is no longer a separated one in which each part can afford to be totally independent. The communication and interchange in fields of culture, business, finance and other human activities are so unprecedentedly frequent and vigorous that the general or specific knowledge of other members of the global village turns to be most important to the prosperity of the country, or the success of a people. This kind of knowledge is usually bettered achieved if pursued abroad.

Furthermore, foreign experiences improve one's willpower and ability of adjusting to a new environment, and one's capability to overcome various hardships and setbacks. Young people are considered aggressive and ambitious. their success is not based on comfort or easiness, but on their incessant painstaking effort and their never-ending willingness to surpass themselves. In a foreign country they are confronted with greater challenges, more unsteadiness and less help from their families and friends. All these undoubtedly lead to an independent, self-supporting, resourceful person who will also be sympathetic and generous to other people around.

With these advantages, we may conclude that the foreign study experience enlarges a student's view of the world, as well as improves one's personality and character, which will guarantee a more splendid future in his life and career.

(Essay ID: 426 )

## Topic: 168

Now, many students choose to attend schools or universities outside their home countries. I think that there are a lot of reasons to explain this phenomenon and I would in here illustrate a few of the most important ones.

Firstly, I believe that these students would prefe to study in a foreign country in order to learn more advanced skills and technology. In general, these students intend to learn in a developed country such as the Unites States. Needless to say, the US is the most developed counctry. It has many famous universities such as the HAVARD. It is these famous universities that foster a number of eminent talents. It is these talents who let the US become the foremost country in the world. All of these are an appeal to attract many foreign students. After they graduate, they can apply the knowledge they learn to the construction of their own country. Maybe their homeland can become very developed someday.

secondly, studing in a foreign country is helpful to learn a foreign language. In a foreign, you have to communicate with the others in the local language. In order to exist, you must force youself to accept the challenge of language. I think that this is the best way to learn a foreign language.

Thirdly, understanding the foreigh culture and appreciating the foreign landscape should be a reason. Although we can understand some circunstances of a foreign country through TV or internet, this way is absolutely not better than viewing in person.

After understanding the reasoning above, I believe that studing outside our countries should a very good thing.

(Essay ID: 310 )

## Topic: 168

Nowadays,there are more and more students choose to attand schools or universities outside their home countries.As far as I am concerned,there are several reasons for the students to do so.First,students study abroad due to the reason that they can learn more new knowledge and the new way of thinking.Secondly,they can make more new frinds,and thiedly,they can grow more independently.

Students study abroad can learn more new knowledge and the new way of thinking.Having been dtudied for many years in the homeland,it is necessary for students to go abroad and accept the knowledge there.It is not because the new and plentiful knowledgebut the different ways of thinking.These new things together with what were learned in the homeland would make a student develop in full scale and know more about the world.

In addition,when students are studying abroad,they will contact with students come from all over the world and surely they will become friends.students will not only have more friends but also gain kownledge from them dring the communication and the association.They will talk about the history of their own country and the customs of their people and they will also help each other in study and daily life,all of which could benifit the students.

The last but not least,students in abroad may do things all by themselves.Therefore,they could get rid of the protection from their parents and learn how to face the difficulties, which help them grow independently and better.

Studying abroad,students could harvest a lot which due to the stating reasons above.In conclusion,there are many students choose to attand schools or universities outside their contries.If I have chance,I will definitely choose to study abroad.

## Topic: 168

Attending a university in one's home country or in another country is a question. Some people hold the opinion that attending a university in home country is superior to attending a university in another country. Others, however, contradict finishing their university education abroad. Personally, I would prefer attending a university in another country because I think it has more advantages.

There are numerous reasons why finishing university education abroad is preferable, and I would in here explain a few of the most important ones. The main reason is that communication is more and more important today. It takes place in almost every field of our lives, including the field of education certainly. So attending a university in another country can get direct and quick communication with the world. It can be given a concrete example. I am a law school student and my country's law education is influenced by that of Germany. So most of what I learned was translated from the books in Germany. Translation, you know, can't help twisting the writers' true meanings sometimes and always needs much time. So the result was that I got inaccurate information sometimes and always can not catch up with the latest views. What if I finish my university education in Germany? I thought later.

Another reason why I advocate the attitude of attending a university in another country is that it is contributed to complete my personality. Take the case of a thing that studying abroad means I can't rely on my family while only depend on myself when I meet troubles. This makes me independent.

Finally, attending a university in another country can bring me a lot of pleasure. The study and life overseas must be different from that in my home country. So finishing university education abroad not only gives me an entirely new study, but also gives me an entirely new life, which must be interesting. In addition, attending a university in another country also gives me a chance to make interesting foreign friends.

Of course, choosing attending a university in the home country also have advantages to some extent, for example, if you don't have much money, finishing university education in your hometown means a lighter burden for you.

But if all these factors are contemplated, the advantages of attending a university in another country in the home country. From what has been discussed above, we may finally draw the conclusion that if you finish your university education abroad, you get a complete study and a rich and colorful life.

(Essay ID: 48 )

## Topic: 168

Although students can get a good education in most subjects at their home universities, it is important to study abroad for some or part of one's college education. Study abroad can give a student competency in a new language, familiarity with a different culture, and a chance to grow in different ways.

One cannot deny that it is important to be bilingual or even multilingual in today's fast-paced world. We have a global economy and communication by Internet and satellite TV means we must be familiar with other languages in order to keep up with new developments.

Knowing another culture is also important today. Respect for other peoples and their traditions will foster cooperation and peace. We should all do our part to make sure the world is safe for our children. It will only be safe if we understand and respect other people and their culture.

When we are out of our environment, we feel more free to experiment with different ways of doing things. We are all individuals and we need time to be on our own, away from our comfortable nests. We may try different things and reject them. We might also adopt them. People can change and it is easier to change when you are away from your family surroundings.

Study abroad can be enriching. Not only can we learn a new language, understand more about a different culture, but we can learn more about ourselves too. At the same time, of course, we are getting an education in the formal sense.

(Essay ID: 49 )

## **Topic: 169**

Music seems to be a natural need for people. I've read that from ancient times human beings have produced sounds from "instruments" like rocks or skins stretched over a wooden frame. Music is something most people want and need. I think it's important because it can be a major part of both community and individual experience.

Music is a way of sharing a common bond or feeling. When we're children, we learn very simple songs called nursery rhymes. These songs help make us part of our culture by telling us what's acceptable and what's not. We play and sing music in our religious ceremonies because it enhances the worship experience. We play music when we're going to war or celebrating the fact that we've won a war.

We have national anthems to share our love and pride for our particular country. We have music we play for our school, and music we play for our athletic team. In fact, music has become a big part of athletic games. We use it to taunt the other team as well as celebrate when points are scored for our team.

Music is also a major part of individual experiences. When we fall in love, music is usually a part of that experience. People talk about having "our song." That means the song that was playing when they met or a song they both liked when they fell in love. When we get married, we play music before and after and sometimes during the ceremony. It expresses how we feel. We play music to calm our nerves or to stimulate ourselves to get on with a task. We also play music for the simple enjoyment of listening to the sounds.

Music is special to us because it expresses our connection with our culture, and because it enhances our individual experiences. Nothing else seems to capture our feelings quite so well.

(Essay ID: 50 )

## **Topic: 169**

Music plays a very important role in our life. We can almost hear music anywhere. Different music serves different functions in our life. Why is music important to many people? The reasons are presented below.

Music is a very important form of art. Like other arts, music is ubiquitous and has become a part of our life. The whole lifetime of most people is accompanied by music. A baby falls in sleep in



the music of a lullaby; a young student may learn to play a musical instrument and listen to music from the radio, TV and a Walkman. There is music for birthdays, for weddings, for Christmas, for New Year's day. There is music for every single occasion in our life.

We are surrounded by various kinds of music since we were born and music has become an integral part of our life. Interesting enough, music often serves as an important part to other art forms, such as music in dancing, drama and movies. As a matter of fact, many famous music pieces come from dancing and movies, such as the theme from "Love Story."

Music is part of the history. The history of music is almost as long as the history of human civilizations. Music from old times has become the great culture heritage to us. One of the examples is classic music of Beethoven and Tchaikovsky. People enjoy their music from generation to generation.

Listening to music is one of the most popular forms of entertainment. There are so many kinds of music that can suit tastes of different people. Young people like pop music and Rock-and-Roll and older people may enjoy classical music and opera. Whether we are happy or sad, there will always be music that we can listen to.

People can express their feelings and emotions through music. Lovers often play soft love songs to show their love and devotion to each other.

For the reasons presented above, we can see how important music is to our life. It is hard to imagine a history without music, and a life without music.

(Essay ID: 370 )

## **Topic: 170**

Groups or organizations are an important part of our life because we are social people. We like to get together with people whose attitudes and beliefs are like ours. The most important groups for us are our families, our religious organizations, and our political organizations.

Our families are obviously our most important group. You will never find the physical and emotional support from any other group that you will find in your family. Your family is part of you; you are tied to them by blood. They will always be there for you.

Similarly, our religious organizations can provide comfort for us in times of stress. When we are with people who have the same beliefs, we feel better. Our beliefs are based on tradition. These beliefs have been tested over time. These beliefs tell us how to respond and how to act.

Our political organizations change as we change. Some years we may feel conservative; other years we may feel more liberal. Whatever our political philosophy, we can find a political organization that matches our thinking at the moment. These political organizations help us be apart of the larger community.

Whether the group is tightly knit like a family, spiritual like religion, or secular like politics, they all serve a function in our life. They all help us feel as if we belong.

(Essay ID: 51 )

## **Topic: 171**

If I were to leave my home for a year, there is one thing I definitely would take with me: my cellphone. With my cellphone, I could call my friends or family if I ever was lonely, needed advice, or just wanted to talk.

If I were away from home for a year, I would be very lonely, especially in the beginning before I made friends. If I could call my mother and father, I would hear their familiar voices and I would not feel so lonely. Hearing my friends' voices would also help me overcome my sadness.

I've never been on my own so there are many things I am not familiar with. I've never opened a bank account, got a driver's license, or made my own food. If I had to cook chicken or something, I could call up my mother and she could tell me how to make dinner.

Sometimes, I may just want to talk in my own language. With my cellphone, I could call my friends and tell them about my new life. This would make them jealous of me. I would call them a lot so they could hear all the wonderful things I am doing.

For me a cellphone is a necessity. I would need it anytime I was lonely, anytime I needed to do something I didn't know how to do, and anytime I just wanted to talk. Of course, the phone bill will be sent to my parents.

(Essay ID: 52 )

## **Topic: 171**

If I were going to travel for a long time, what should I take besides the clothing and personal care items? The first thing that came into my mind is a camera. Not only because I am a photographing amateur, it really is worth a lot. It will record my trip exactly and vividly. I could share the photos with those who cannot travel for so long a time like me. And it may help me in emergencies.

By taking the photos, I could record my trip easily. I don't need to spend a lot of time on writing down what I see, so that I could rest more. The interesting costumes of the people, the exotic architectures, the great scene, and so on, everything will be "written down" by the camera. Obviously, the photos are my whole life's treasure, because maybe I will never be there again.

Not everyone could have the opportunity like me to travel such a long time. They may be busy all the time, or may not have a healthy body to travel. Fortunately, my friends could enjoy the photos I take during my trip. They could see what interests me without stepping out their house.

Furthermore, the camera may help me if I were in short of money. I would exchange my camera to get money in case of an emergency. The most valuable to me is the films I take, not the camera itself.

So, in addition to the personal necessities, I strongly recommend you to take a camera. You could record what you see at anytime. The photos you take will certainly be a fortune to share with friends. And you can exchange money in your emergencies.

(Essay ID: 283 )

## **Topic: 171**

When you see a beautiful view of a rising sun, when you see a spectacular waterfall, when you enjoy the moment you travel with your friends, at this time, what do you especially want? I

believe the answer is a camera. It is also what I would take in addition to clothing and personal care items when I plan to have a long trip. Among countless factors, there are two conspicuous aspects as follows:

The main reason for taking a camera is a camera will record everything that happens in a trip. If you encounter beautiful scenery, you can take a picture of it. If you meet a humorous and nice person in a trip, you can have someone taken a picture for you and the new friend. If you meet a girl you love in the trip, why not ask your friend to take a picture when you send a rose to her? Let's imagine how disappointed it is if you do not have a camera with you at that time.

Another reason can be seen by every person that each picture is a memory. Maybe a person will take many trips in his life, if you take many pictures in each trip, you will find it is just like a novel about your own life. When you are old, you will always recall many things that happened long before. At that time, I swear that you will take out the albums and "read" them with happy tears. You also can find how you loved the life and what a pleasant life that god gave you.

Above the two reasons, you can find it is very important to take a camera with your trip. And that is my choice when I am preparing for a trip.

(Essay ID: 412 )

## **Topic: 172**

Students moving into a new community and attending a new school can face a lot of problems. Their biggest worry is usually fitting in. The school counselor, the school's administration and the students' teachers can all help the students come through this experience successfully. They can engage other students to become involved with the new students, too.

New students in a school need to feel like part of the school community as quickly as possible. A school administrator should begin by giving students a complete orientation to their new school. They should take them on a tour of the school and show them the classrooms, gym, computer lab, band room, and cafeteria. They should tell them about the history of the school, its academic achievements, and its athletic and debating teams. The administrator can talk to the students about what's expected of them in the classroom and what rules the school has.

The school counselor should talk to the students about what they're most interested in studying. If these are older students, the counselor can ask them about career interests. If these are younger students, the counselor can ask them about their favorite subjects at their old school. The counselor can tell the students about all the extracurricular activities there are at the school. For example, the school might offer things like sports, art, music, and working on a school newspaper.

The teachers have the most important job when it comes to new students. It's up to them to help the students meet other students in class. They can also help them learn how classes are conducted in their new school. They can encourage other students to make friends with new people and help them learn the system. Since they're with the students the most, they can keep an eye on them and make sure they're adapting well.

Both the adults and the other students need to help new students feel apart of their new school. It's not easy, but it pays off with happier, more successful students in the end.

(Essay ID: 53 )

## Topic: 172

It is undoubtedly important for a freshman to get accustomed to the new environment as soon as possible, of course, the ability of adaptation varies from one person to the other, with the more tough situation for those who have never left his or her home and lived alone, but what role should the school play considering how to help the newcomers to adapt themselves to the new surroundings and the new atmosphere?

I think, the school, should at first offer the orientation service to the newcomer to aid them in becoming familiar with the kinds of buildings, such as the lab buildings, the teaching building, the dormitory apartment and so on, which will be at convenience for the newcomers' later study and life. Then, the school had better develop the relevant service network and hand out the brochure and other materials of the introduction of the school as well as the service booklets, in which all the service phone numbers should be included with the purpose of offering the service when and where. Besides, the school should organize the volunteers to be at hand for the new students to consult and they also can give a brief introduction of the school.

What is more, the school should develop the atmosphere for the prospective students to feel at home and like to study and live at the school even at the first sight. As we all known, if impressed by the scenery or some person or some where at the first sight, we will naturally have a crave to experience the scenery again, to keep in touch with the person, or to live there for a long time even if you had at first planned only to stay for a couple of days there, so is the school. If the new students are impressed by the attractiveness of scenery, the kindness of the volunteers, the timely services and all the other things they have experienced at the first day, it will inevitably attract them to live and study at the school.

Of course, dozens of services the school can offer besides the above said, but the aim of the service is the same, that is, to help the new students to get used to the new environment more quickly and make them love to study and live at the school and be free of nostalgia for some mummy boys.

(Essay ID: 501. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 173

I don't think it's a very good idea to borrow money from a friend. It can cause resentment and awkwardness in the relationship. How do you approach your friend without making him feel he has to do this for you? It's unlikely he'll feel as if he can turn you down. Can he turn you down without insulting you? Probably not.

How do you know whether your friend can afford to lend you the money? He may be embarrassed to admit he's a little short of funds himself. Or he might not want to disappoint you. So he lends you the money and then he needs money, too.

There's also the question of when you'll pay back the loan. It's awkward for your friend to ask for a deadline for repayment. Besides, if you're short of funds, you may not be able to predict when you'll pay him back. What about interest on the loan? If it's a small amount of money, this doesn't matter. However, if large funds are involved, and you won't be paying it back for a while, should you offer to pay interest? Should your friend ask you to pay interest? All these issues can result in hurt feelings and can harm the friendship.

It's possible, of course, that if you borrow money from a friend and pay it back in a timely fashion, this will create a special bond between the two of you. You'll know that you can count on your friend when you need help. He'll know you're trustworthy.

However, more often than not, money issues between friends are an embarrassment. If you need money, it's better to go to a bank for a loan.

(Essay ID: 54 )

## Topic: 174

The principal differences between my generation and my parents' generation are in how they relate to others. My generation is more tolerant of other people's choices, less concerned about what others think, and more self-centered.

My parents' generation has stricter standards about what kinds of behavior are acceptable. They sometimes have a hard time accepting the fact that other people may have different ideas about what's right and what's wrong. My generation thinks people should have a lot of choices. For example, they choose whom they want to live with, whether or not to have children, whether or not to practice a particular religion, and what to do for a living.

My parents' generation is much more concerned about what other people think of them. Many grew up in tightly knit communities where people knew each other's families. Fitting in meant that you had to act a certain way. Many of my generation grew up in loosely knit communities, where we only knew about our closest neighbors. We didn't care what the rest of the community thought of us. Also, we were a very rebellious generation and often did things just to shock people.

Wherever we grew up, most of my generation didn't have to worry about having enough to eat or a roof over our heads. My parents' generation did. They grew up during the Great Depression, when many people were poor. For this reason, my parents didn't have time to analyze their feelings or think about their inner selves. They were too busy trying to get by. Children of my generation were well taken care of by their parents. Because of that, we had time to think about ourselves and our place in the universe. As adults, many of us have continued to be self-absorbed. We join health clubs to be perfect in body and go into therapy to be perfect in mind.

When I think about our actions, it seems that my parents' generation is more "outer" directed and my generation is more "inner directed."

(Essay ID: 55 )

## Topic: 175

In my country, the lecture system is the most common system. It is the one I prefer for three reasons: I am used to the lecture system; it is an efficient system; I am too shy to talk in class.

All my life, I have listened to teachers. They come into the room, open their books, and start to lecture. We students sit quietly at our desks and take notes. We never ask questions because we don't want to seem stupid. At the end of the course, we are given a test. If we can repeat on the test what the teacher said in class, we will get a good grade.

The lecture system is an efficient one. The teacher is the one who knows the subject, not the students. It is a waste of time listening to a student's ideas. What good will that do me? Time is short. I want the teacher to give me as much information as he or she can during the class period.

Even if we could talk in class, I would never open my mouth. I am much too shy. I would be afraid the other students would laugh at me and make fun of my ideas. I prefer to listen to the teacher and memorize the teacher's ideas.

I hope I can always study in a school where they use the lecture system. I think it is better to continue with what one is used to. I also think that there is a lot of information that I must learn in the most efficient manner possible. I wouldn't want to interrupt a teacher with my foolish questions.

(Essay ID: 56 )

## Topic: 176

Most countries already have many holidays. In my country, China, we have nineteen official holidays. However, I believe that my new holiday, "Walking Day" would be very beneficial and should be added to the nineteen holidays China already has. In this essay, I will outline the three main reasons why "Walking Day" would be a very good holiday.

First, walking is good exercise. As we all know, people all over the world are becoming busier and busier. They are studying more and more so that they can have better jobs. When they work, they are working more and more. As a result, people have less time for other important things in their lives, including exercise. We can read reports in the newspapers everyday about people who have worse health and complain about poor health condition. Many of these problems could be reduced by exercising more and walking is one of the best and simplest exercises for people.

Second, by walking, we can reduce pollution and thereby protect the environment. As technology improves all over the world and people have more and more money, they are starting to use this money to buy automobiles. As a result, people are using public transportation less and less. Driving one's own car every day has had a very large impact on the environment as a result of the pollution created by gas burning automobiles. Walking is the perfect way to reduce pollution since there are so many other benefits as well.

Finally, by walking, people can slow down the pace of their lives. Perhaps this is one of the greatest benefits of walking more. Life at the beginning of the new millennium is stressful-- people are competing with each other for better jobs, countries and companies are competing with each other for business. Many people start to forget about the importance of slowing down in their lives, of simply enjoying the moment. People need to contemplate life more. Walking is a perfect opportunity to slow down, think about life, and simply enjoy the big, beautiful world that we live in.

Finally, we could celebrate this holiday by encouraging people to walk instead of driving or taking the bus for at least one trip during the day. I believe that people could find at least one trip during the day that they could make on foot instead of some other form of transportation. For example, if people usually drive to a large supermarket to buy food, perhaps they could walk to a closer, smaller market to buy only a few things. I believe that while people were walking, they would be able to enjoy the exercise and the fresh air and would be able to think calmly and clearly.

In short, if I had to create a new holiday, I would create "Walking Day" because of the many simple benefits it could provide us.

(Essay ID: 57 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 176

October 24 is Union Nations Day. The day is noted in the calendars, but not observed as a holiday around the world. I want the entire world to celebrate the birth of the United Nations because of its attempts to promote peace, education, and health around the world.

Peace is the most important thing that we can have today. The sooner that we can stop war the sooner we can all have better lives. There are countries around the world that have been at war for generations. In some of these countries, UN Peacekeepers have temporarily stopped the violence so people can go about their lives. If this peace could be made lasting, the lives of these citizens would be much richer.

The UN actively works to promote education. Universal literacy is one of its important goals. Every child in the world deserves to know how to read and write. The UN is also involved in job training for adults. The age of information technology demands new job skills.-The UN works with continuing education programs around the world so workers are not left out of the job market.

The UN has played an instrumental role in the eradication of smallpox. Polio vaccines and AIDSawareness programs have also helped reduce the incidence of these diseases. There is a lot to be done in these areas.

Much of the work of the UN is unknown and underappreciated. If we want to live in a peaceful world, where every child can attend school and where every citizen has access to health care, we need to support the work of the UN. We need to recognize its importance and celebrate its birthday.

(Essay ID: 58 )

## Topic: 177

Between going on vacation and buying a car, I would like my friend to buy a car. Below is why.

The first and most important reason is that a car can bring him convenience. Undoubtedly, nowadays people rely on cars for transportation more than ever before. For example, when he drives a car to go shopping, he may feel more convenient and can pick up more groceries than before because he can put groceries in the car trunk instead of carrying them by hands. Furthermore, when he wants to pick somebody up, or travel to a scenic spot, a car will make him feel convenient.

Another great reason why I encourage my friend to buy a car is that my friend will not spend much time on commuting anymore. Everyday we waste too much time on waiting for a bus or riding a bicycle to work. We all experienced the frustration of taking a bus. After having their own cars, such the problems will disappear automatically.

Of course, if my friend decides to use his money to go on a vacation, I think that there are some advantages also. For example a vacation may increase his personal experience and knowledge,

and may even reduce many troubles that are related to a car. But if all the factors are contemplated, I think that the advantages of buying the car will carry more weight than those of going on vacation.

From what has been discussed above, I may safely draw the conclusion that buying a car will be correct choice for my friend.

(Essay ID: 59 )

## **Topic: 177**

Trying to decide how to use your money is always tough. Should you use your money to buy a car or go on a vacation? Both afford lasting pleasure, but of a very different kind. From a vacation you get the pleasure of doing wonderful things and of totally relaxing and enjoying yourself. The memories you bring home with you can give you that same pleasure again every time you think of them.

A car also gives you pleasure, every time you drive it. There's the pleasure of not having to depend on public transportation. You can go places off the beaten track, where public transportation doesn't go. There is also the pleasure of being independent. You are able to go anywhere your car can take you, without depending on others.

A vacation gives you the opportunity to learn new things and meet new and interesting people. However, it's only for a short period of time. A car gives you the same opportunities on a smaller level, but on a more regular basis. With a car, you can go someplace new every weekend. You can also join a car pool. That way you can share travel expenses with the new people you meet.

Some people might say that spending your money on a vacation instead of on a car is being impractical. But nothing is as satisfying as a really good vacation. It's mentally and physically healthy. It gives you a chance to get away from all that is familiar to you and see the world from a new perspective. It lets you do nothing but play, the way you did when you were a child. Being able to play, even for a short period of time, is absolutely necessary for everyone's mental health. I would choose the vacation, because we all deserve to indulge ourselves sometimes.

(Essay ID: 60 )

## **Topic: 178**

Now that we are in a new millennium, we can assume there will be changes in the world. I predict that the changes will be in the areas of information dissemination, global alliances, and family structure.

In the past decades, the computer was responsible for changing the way information was organized. Now, the computer plus the Internet is changing the way information is spread. Information will now be universally available to anyone with a computer. You will not have to go to libraries to do research; you will not have to travel to visit scholars; you will not have to go to a bookstore to buy a book. You can do all of this from your home on the computer.

In the past decades, the nations of the world aligned themselves with the United States, the former Soviet Union, or with one another in a loose alliance. In the future, these alliances will be more fluid. Some countries will align politically with one country, but economically with another. Some countries will share technology and other information, but will not trade together. Some countries, which have long been enemies, will align militarily for regional security.



The family structure will not be based on a mother/father/child pattern. Single parent families will be more common and often the child will not be a biological child of the single parent, but will be adopted. Other family structures like domestic partnerships will become more accepted.

Whatever the changes may be, whether in the way we receive information, the way nations align with one another, or the way family units are defined, you can be sure that there will be more change. Change is a constant.

(Essay ID: 61 )

## Topic: 179

Different parents have different methods to teach their own children. When faced with the decision of what some of the qualities of a good parent are, each person has his own opinion. From my point of view, I consider that consideration, encouragement, communication, and care are the qualities of a good parent. There are numerous reasons why I hold the above opinion, and I would explore only a few of the important ones here.

The primary reason why I persist in the above opinion is that these qualities help parents and children to understand each other. For example, consideration is a key to good relationships between parents and their children. When parents stand at children's point of view, it is easier for them to understand why children is behaving like that, and what they are thinking. This is will give parents a full understanding, and they will be able to find a suitable method to teach his children what to do correctly and how to do on such a thing. By such consideration and communication, children, of course, can accept their parent's advice. Meanwhile they can eliminate the so-called "generation gap", and the relationship between parents and their children is getting along very well.

Another factor which should deserve some words is that these qualities can promote children to make progress. For instance, encouragement is an effective way for a parent to teach his children. When a child fails to do something, because of his limited knowledge and experience, if his parent can encourage the child to do it again and help the child analyze the reason why what he has done is wrong. Then the child can learn more knowledge and will try it again, and he will succeed in doing such a thing finally.

What is more, these qualities help children grow up healthily. When parents take care of their children, children can feel family's care and can stay at home very happy. This is very useful for children to grow up healthily. With these, children can form excellent character and be confident in doing things.

In a word, to be a good parent is not an easy thing, but with parents' effort, each parent can do it very well. From what I have stated above, you may agree with my statement that consideration, encouragement, communication and care are the qualities of a good parent.

(Essay ID: 471. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 179

I am fortunate to have good parents so it is easy for me to identify the qualities that make them good. These qualities are unconditional love, trust, and respect for me and my brothers and sisters.

All mothers and fathers love their children. They nurture them and keep them from harm. But not all love is unconditional. Some parents would not love their children if they married someone of a

different religion or from a different ethnic group. Some parents would not love their children if they were of a different sexual orientation. My parents would. My parents-would love us regardless of whom we married or whom we chose to love.

Part of unconditional love is trust. My parents trust us to do what is right. They know we would never do anything to hurt them or to disgrace them. They trust us so we trust them. We are confident that they would never do anything to hurt us.

Because our parents love us, they also respect us. They treat us as individuals. They accept our differences. They do not expect us to be like them. They want us to be our own persons. They want us to make our own way in the world, not follow in their footsteps.

Without their love, I would not be as confident as I am. Without their trust, I would not be free to do what I want. Without their respect, I would not feel comfortable being on my own. All children should have such wonderful parents.

(Essay ID: 62 )

## **Topic: 180**

Like most young guys I like movies very much. If you ask me why movies are so popular I think there are 4 reasons.

Firstly, movies in English are an effective tool for learning English. I remember when I went to XingDongFang school to study English I always worried about my poor listening skill. Then I accepted a teacher's advice and started to watch some English movies. What made me happy was that I can guess what the characters in the movies say and I can learn some useful words and expressions from them. Gradually I found that English is not so difficult to understand and it became more and more interesting to me. Now I can say movies not only improve my listening skill but also make me more interestest in learning English.

Secondly, movies can satisfy different people's need. Some married people like romantic movies. From those they can know what true love is. Some young people like action movies. Some older people may like classic movies that can remind the past things. So it is obvious that movie can enrich people's spiritual life.

Thirdly, movies can open people's eyes. Now with the modern technique, scientist can show people what outside space look like in movies. Geologists can show people what earth looks like millions of years ago. It is through movies that people can know cultures from many other foreign countries without traveling.

In a word, movie has been a part of people's life. Nevertheless I don't think that movies like horrible movies and porn movies are good for all people; everyone knows that young people can mimic language and behaviors that the movie showed easily so that a movie rating system is necessary.

(Essay ID: 425 )

## **Topic: 180**

Have you ever seen a film that tears your tear? Have you ever impressed on the movie about a love story? Have you ever found a lot of things that you did not know from movies? If you do, I

believe that you will know why movies are popular all over the world. Among countless factors with the popularity of movies, there are three conspicuous aspects as follows.

The main reason for its popularity is we can learn many things from movies. From a movie about love, we can learn how to communicate with our lovers when there are some crisis between our emotion. From a movie about history, we can learn what has happened before and how the mankind evolved. From a movie about war, we can learn how cruel the war is, and how important the peace is.

Another reason can be seen by every person is that movies have become the relaxation mode little by little. In a silver moonlight, it is so romantic to go to see a love story movie with your girlfriend or your boyfriend. Even you can imitate the story that happened in the movie with your girlfriend or boyfriend, I believe you can find it is very funny, and it will be a deep impression on the love between you and he or she.

Furthermore, I think movies are just like art. A good art will attract lots of people, so a creative movie will also be popular all over the world. With the developing of the technology, I am sure more and more good movies will be created by the director and other movie workers.

From all we have discussed, there is no doubt that movie is one of the most popular entertainment all over the world.

(Essay ID: 384 )

## **Topic: 180**

Movies are popular because people are great watchers. They like to watch other peoples' lives. They like to live vicariously. By going to movies, we can escape our own lives, share other emotions, and imagine ourselves as someone else.

Many of our lives are not as adventurous or glamorous as the lives in movies. We do not battle evil all day long and then go back to our luxurious penthouse apartment. We just go to school, do our homework, eat, talk to our friends, and sleep. We need a little excitement in our lives and we find excitement at the movies.

Humans are very emotional people. We all like to cry and laugh. Fortunately, there is not much to cry about in my life so I like to go to sad movies where my heart strings can be tugged. I also like to go to comedies so I can laugh. I tend to cry and laugh more in a dark movie theater than I do in broad daylight.

Now I am a student, but I know someday I will be a scientist or a politician or a famous model. When I go to the movies, I can see my role models. I see how they act, what they wear, how they talk. I can prepare myself for the day when I will be like them.

Even though my life is quiet, I can go to the movies and watch someone else's life. I can share their emotions and their everyday life. I wonder if they would like to share mine.

(Essay ID: 63 )

## **Topic: 181**

It's hard to deny that with the developing of economics there is more and more land used for housing and industry. But to use land is a two-folded weapon: you may get benefits from it, but in many cases you may meet troubles.

For my country, China, which has her children far more than any other country, the need to leave land in its natural condition outweighs the need to develop it for housing and industry. Here are the reasons for it.

First, China is one of the most polluted countries in the world. The need for land to be left undeveloped is more necessary now than ever before. Because in this way the land will bring us many plants and beasts, especially plants, which contribute much to lessen pollution and make the earth a good place for living.

Besides, leaving the land alone is important for a country to develop permanently. If we used up all the land for housing and industry, what shall we leave for our offsprings? A polluted earth with her soot-covered face? That is a problem more and more recognized by many scientists and politicians alike.

The last but not the least, the number of persons living in China is growing rapidly. To leave the land alone now and develop it when it is necessary and can be used feasibly is the best way to solve the problem referred to before.

In all, though it is a hard choice, more and more people are aware that the need for land to be left in its natural condition is more than to be developed for housing and industry.

(Essay ID: 255. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 181

Even though our population is increasing and land is needed for housing and development, I would hope that our country could save the land in its natural state for future generations to enjoy. This land would be good for promoting tourism, for preserving the environment, and for remembering our history.

Although tourism has many negative side effects, it is an industry that can create enormous revenues. Tourists of course need something to see. They would not come to our country to see rows of apartment buildings or new industrial parks. What is interesting for tourists is the pristine countryside that our country is known for.

Preserving the land as it is, would be good for the environment. More factories and other industries would further pollute our rivers and air. We need trees and wide open spaces to make us feel like humans, not machines.

Untouched land reminds us of our history. When we walk through the countryside, we can imagine our ancestors on the same path. If we cover the earth with asphalt and concrete, we will lose touch with our past. We will forget our roots.

Preserving the land is good not only for the economy and the environment, it is good for us as citizens of our soil. We must preserve what little we have left. Can we afford not to?

(Essay ID: 64 )

## Topic: 182

Human has a long history of feeding pets. With the development of human society more and more people have pets in their families. They love to be accompanied by their pets and they look them as their family members. They eat with their pets, stroll with their pets, and even sleep with their pets. And I think having a close relationship with pets is very good for people, the reasons why I say so as follows.

First, having a pet is very good for children. Children always need someone to play with them, take care of them, but their parents can't do it all the time. When children have a pet, for example, a dog, they will be attracted by it and spend most of their time playing with it. The children won't feel lonely when their parents can't take care of them. Besides, that also makes parents have their own time to do something they need.

Second, pets are also good for adults, especially those who work under pressure. Now many people work so hard every day that they don't have time to relax and talk with friends. If they have pets, whenever they get home they can talk to them, look at them as persons, tell them what they are anxious about. This would help people to reduce their pressure and make them have a better mood.

Third, most of the owners of pets are senior citizens. That's not a coincidence. Because youngsters leave home for their new lives. They don't have much time to spend with their parents. The old people feel so lonely when they face the empty rooms. Pets can reduce their loneliness. Old people can take care of them, feed them, talk to them just like taking care of their own children. And the medical research shows that patting pets, such as cats and dogs can reduce the blood pressure, this is also very important to old people.

Although sometimes pets make your room a mess, break your favorite vase, even some time they bite you, the advantages of having a close relationship with pets outweigh the disadvantages. Have a pet if you like and enjoy it.

(Essay ID: 445 )

## Topic: 182

Nearly everybody has ever kept one or more pets. There are dogs, cats, birds and even horses and gorillas. Many people treat them just like their own friends, boys or girls, brothers or sisters. But other people dislike keeping pets. Personally, I approve of such a relationship because I think pets are so lively and easy-going.

First of all, sometimes people have to show their kindness to others. Pets are so beautiful and lively that everyone likes them. When pets are hungry, people cook delicious food for them, when pets are ill, people take care of them. The owners have to help their pets wash themselves and tell them stories and say goodnight to them. People may find it's very hard and tiring. But they also find they are so omnipotent and important to their pets.

In the other hand, Pets are so reliable and loyal. When the old feel lonely or sad, their pets stay at their sides. People can tell the pets their feelings, dreams and secrets. Not only will the pet listen to him or her, but it will also feel the same feelings as the narrator. They can help people get released and forget the sadness quickly. Pets do be our best friends.

Although, as a matter of fact, some people have pointed out that sometimes pets can cause a lot of troubles. They may carry terrible diseases and they hurt you. Other people think the more time playing with pets, the more likely away from the society. That may not be very serious and even true. Pets are our good friends, they give us joy and also teach us how to communicate with us and

build up friendship. So what we have to know is a little knowledge about protection and prevention.

From above, we need no hesitation to say that it is good for people to have a close relationship with their pets.

(Essay ID: 506. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 182

I think being very close to a pet can be both a positive and a negative thing. Health professionals have concluded that having a pet is very healthy for everyone. People who have heart disease or similar health problems are often urged to get a pet because it can lower your blood pressure. However, some people get anxious about their pets. If you always worry about the pet getting lost or not getting the right food to eat, then that isn't healthy for you.

Many pets are very loving and it's easy to love them back. Some people, though, go overboard. They treat their pets like one of the family. Sometimes they even set a place for them at the table or give them their own rooms in the house. They treat them as if they were children. Some pets are, in fact, substitutes for children. People need to keep their perspective about their pets. Dressing a pet up in clothes like a child is not emotionally healthy. Pets are animals and get confused if you expect them to act like human beings.

There are now stores devoted entirely to pets. They sell pet food, pet toys, pet clothes, pet homes. Pets should be given appropriate food, and they should have a few toys, since they need some enjoyment just like humans do. However, some pet owners spend hundreds of dollars on supplies for their pets. There are children in the world who don't have clothes or food or toys. It would be better to give some of that money to charity.

Feeling close to your pet can be very satisfying and healthy, as long as you don't overdo it.

(Essay ID: 65 )

## Topic: 183

Most people like watching movies made from different countries, not only because they can know about these countries' history, what is like in their daily life, but also their various attitude and ideas towards life.

Firstly, movies can reflect a country's history. Based on different historical backgrounds, movies can give us a lot of information about a country's past. For those who have the background historical knowledge, they can have a better understanding about the movie; while for those who have little knowledge about the history can start to know it from the movie they are watching. For example, many historical movies focus on a certain period of the history. Obviously, each country has a totally different history. Thus, by watching these movies, we will know more about other countries' history which will help us increase our knowledge and understanding about other countries.

Furthermore, movies can show different social and cultural environment and various customs, which attract many moviegoers. Although people have more and more chances to travel abroad to see the world, this is not always the case for everyone. Movies give us a convenient way to know more about the outside world. From movies, we get to know that "toast" can mean different things to different countries, such as "good luck" to Americans, "bad luck" to Hungarians. From movies,

we get to know how Americans live and what food they eat, which bring us closer to the world even when we stay at home.

Finally, by watching movies, we may know other people's attitudes and ideas towards life. Sometimes we may feel depressed or frustrated just because of some small problems in our lives. We always feel pessimistic toward life, but from movies, we know Americans are optimistic towards their lives even in bad situations. Their attitudes will definitely change our ideas and make us cherish the life. What's more, we may know Americans like to take risks; while Frenches like a relaxed life and Italians like romance.

In short, movies are like encyclopedias which can give us much knowledge about other nations we may have no chances to go. Thus we should encourage people to watch more good movies to know the world better.

(Essay ID: 240. This is a 5 point essay)

### **Topic: 183**

As the advance of technology, the understanding and communication among countries are becoming deeper and wider. One of the most important ways for people to understand each other's culture is by watching films. From watching movies from other countries, we can learn a lot about that country.

One important aspect of film of a country is that you can learn about its history. Historical film is one of the most popular themes used by filmmakers. Though U.S. has only a history of two hundred years, their films can give a complete picture and even extended definition of different period of history. From American movies we can learn a lot about what happened during the independent war, the civil war and the recent gulf war. Only movies can give us entertainment as well as a chance to understand history of another country.

Another equally important thing about movies is that they can teach us the custom of a country. We can see this clearly from the films about love. From those the large difference of ideology and character among western and eastern countries are shown. For example, a typical romantic story happened in a western film will contain plot as follows, the coincident meeting, the short period of contacting and the quickness of falling in love with each other. But what happens in an eastern movie is quite different. The plot will contain the long period of pursuing from one side, the complex feeling by the appearance of a third person, the last happy time of an experienced love. Love is among many different custom of a country, and by the explanation of films you can surely get a better understanding of it.

Apart from the history and the custom of a country, what people want to know more is the present life and society of a country, then a film will be no doubt the best way to learn about them. It cannot only show the good side of the society but also the problems as well. For example, the films of Hollywood can not only show us the problems such as drug dealing, abusing of guns, the psychological problems of young adults, but also tell us the rapid growth of the economy and the technology of the country.

From all those reasons above, watching movies will be undoubtedly the best way to learn about a country well.

(Essay ID: 66 . Sample essay provided by Erin Billy of [www.TestMagic.com](http://www.TestMagic.com))

## Topic: 183

Do you ever watch movies from other countries? Whenever I do, I think about how similar people really are all around the world. Even though the cultures and languages in those movies are different from mine, people all around the world are alike in their goals and emotions.

One time, I saw a movie made in China that showed parents helping their children with their homework. My parents helped me the same way. Another time I saw a movie from Argentina. It showed school children playing hide and seek, which is a game I used to play with my friends during recess. Seeing these films demonstrated to me that education is a common goal in every country. Parents want their children to learn so their lives will improve. It also showed me that children in schools everywhere want to play with their friends. Sometimes the games are similar to ours and sometimes they're different. Still, they all have the common purpose of fun and learning to work together.

Earning a living is another common goal. I've often seen that in movies about other countries. In some countries, people choose their careers from what they like and are good at. In other countries, careers are chosen for them, following the traditions of their families. But in every country it seems that people care a great deal about earning a living, and working hard is respected.

Showing people having fun together is always an important part of any movie, no matter what country it comes from. People everywhere want to be entertained, and want to spend time with their families and friends. Different cultures sometimes enjoy different activities, but all cultures enjoy some form of sports, music and dancing.

The movies I've seen make it clear to me that no matter the cultural differences between countries, people everywhere have the same basic needs and goals.

(Essay ID: 67 )

## Topic: 184

Maybe someone will choose to study with a group of students, and they can give you sound reasons for their choice. I prefer to study alone because I am sure that study alone will prefer you with silence, freedom and enough choice, which is indispensable for a student, but regretfully, group study cannot offer.

First, when you study alone, you will not be abstracted by the sound made by other students from your study. It is fretful that when you want to study hard but others drone beside your ears like bees. And always you will be angry enough to begin to quarrel with them. That will certainly lead to an unfruitful study.

Second, many people have their own study styles. Some want to have something to eat when he is studying, some want to lie down with a book in his hand, while still some want to study without anything doing. And when you study alone, you can take your favorite way and needn't regard what others feel.

Third, studying alone prefer you with enough choice as you want to do. You can have your media playing, you can open the window, also, you can sing your song when you are in a high spirit. That is great. I always sing a good song when I solve a difficult problem and to think that nobody will criticise you for making noise is a lovely experience.



So, may there be some problems for studying alone, I'll prefer to study alone.

(Essay ID: 244. This is a 5 point essay)

### Topic: 184

As a student in university, I can live in the dormitory or live alone. Someone thinks it is better to live in the dormitory, but someone does not think so. Both patterns of living in the dormitory and living alone present advantages and disadvantages. But in my opinion, I prefer living in the dormitory to living alone.

The main reason I choose to live in the dormitory is I can learn how to get along well with each other. I am the only child in my family and my parents love me much, so I am self-centered in my life more or less and I do not know how exactly to deal with the complex social relationship between peoples. Living in the dormitory with the roommates, I gradually pay attention to my words and behaviors and make them not disturb the others. I learn to listen to the others, share things with them, help them as possible as I can and no longer just think of myself. I feel happy because I make many friends and become livelier by doing so. If I live alone, it is no use of improving my ability in social relationship and maybe I will suffer than before.

It may be also noted that it can save money when I live in the dormitory because the costs of living will be shared with the roommates. But I will afford the cost by myself if I live alone. It is well known that the costs of living are much cheaper in the dormitory, and I am a student, still a consumer and I have no income. It is hard to afford it. So, there is another factor effecting my choice.

Moreover, I can learn to care about others while living in the dormitory. If I live alone, I may not care about whether my room is neat or not, whether my things are in order or not, whether my bed cover needs to be washed or not and so on. However, I live in the dormitory, with my roommates, I sure I will care about them. Because I care the opinions of the others, they will know me through my room, my bedcover, my things and so on. I need to remain a good impression to the others.

Given the factors I have just outlined, it is wiser to live in the dormitory for me.

(Essay ID: 437 )

### Topic: 184

Some students prefer to study alone, while others prefer to study with friends. Although studying with friends has its advantages, in my point of view, I would like to study alone. The reasons are as follows.

When you study, especially when you study some subjects which are hard to understand, such as maths and physics you need to concentrate on them. That requires a quiet environment without distractions. Studying alone can provide that, you can read your books and think of questions without being disturbed. It will help you to understand the knowledge better and to remember the knowledge better.

Furthermore, studying alone has another advantage that studying with friends does not have. That is it forces you to think. When you face some questions hard to solve, and there is no other students around you, you have to think of the questions hard and try your best to solve them. This gives you an opportunity to improve your ability to deal with problems by yourself. Obviously,

studying with friends cannot give you these. Because when you meet some questions, you probably turn to friends for help.

The third advantage of studying alone is also the most important reason. It can make you think independently and have your own opinions. You have to think independently when you study alone. No one can give you interference or suggestions. You will not be affected by other people's opinions. That can help you create your own thoughts, not to become a parrot. After all, the best parrots still live in cages.

Though studying with friends has some advantages, for instance, it can help you to solve your questions faster and improve your friendship, however I think the advantages of studying alone overweight these of studying with friends. My preference would be to study alone.

(Essay ID: 395 )

## **Topic: 184**

Do you like to sit alone in a quiet place pondering on the solutions in your study? Or you would favor discussing the subjects with several friends? The question of the condition of study, which plays an important role in the process and outcome of study, is often met with diverse answers. Some people choose to study alone, enjoying peaceful surrounding without disturb; others, however, would rather join a group of people, sharing different ideas with them. As far as I am concerned, I prefer the latter for the following argument.

To begin with, there is no denial that studying alone helps better concentration on the problems, consistency in the trail of thought, and establishment of the ability to handle problems by oneself. But what if it comes to confront the difficulties one cannot break through single-handed?

To consult with several people may be greatly conducive. Studying with a group of people will offer you a chance to exchange opinions with others, and often can discussion help you out of your predicament, or at least achieve enlightenment which lead to what you are in search for. Writer or designer, for example, seldom works out wonder or classic alone with door closed. On the contrary, their resources accrue from communication with other people, learning, feeling, and progressing.

Secondly, studying in group can help build teamwork consciousness, which is much needed in today's competition world. To study means not only the improvement of knowledge, but also the development of mental quality. Both can benefit from group study. Presentations in university are often required to be performed by a group of students. With a common goal to practice and rehearse, students usually attach great enthusiasm and spare no effort to achieve for self and group.

Study knows no bounds. Moreover, studying in group can expand one's horizon, you will learn to consider problems from different perspectives.

In conclusion, despite some minor drawbacks such as lack of private time in study, studying in group, compared with studying alone, is instrumental rather than detrimental for a student's education, and thus will not fail to be a wise choice.

(Essay ID: 68 )

## **Topic: 184**

Study habits are a very individual thing. Some people like to study alone, while others like to study with a group. Personally, I would rather study alone, but I can see advantages to both ways.

It can be very helpful to study with other students. For one thing, you can exchange information about the topic. Not everyone is going to hear everything the teacher says in class. Comparing notes is a good way to be sure you get what you missed. You can also discuss various aspects of the topic. Other students can bring a different perspective to the discussion. They can point out things you may not have thought of, and help you make your arguments clearer.

Studying with other students can also help keep you focused on studying. If you're in a study group, you have to be at a particular place to study at a particular time. This is good discipline. The group reviews all the material available and then begins studying. There's not a lot of wasted time, if things work the way they should.

Of course, it doesn't help if you're in a study group that doesn't take studying seriously. Then you'd be much better off studying by yourself. If you're trying to study with friends and all they want to do is talk about other things, you'd get more done going somewhere to study by yourself. Being with people who don't want to study can mean you'll be constantly distracted. There'll be a lot of interruptions, and you won't gain much hearing their points of view on a study subject.

Finally, whether you study alone or in a group depends a lot on your own study habits and on your personality. If you need absolute quiet to study, then you're better off alone. If you're a very social person, then you're better off studying alone, too; you'll be too tempted to socialize instead of studying. This is the reason I prefer studying alone. When I'm with other people, I want to play. I don't want to work.

(Essay ID: 69 )

## **Topic: 185**

If I had enough money to buy either a house or a business, I'd buy a house. A business may succeed or fail. It's also possible I might change my mind about what I wanted to do in business. However, a home is a lifetime gift to myself.

Right now I'm in a small apartment, with barely enough room for everything. All my furniture and the things I've accumulated since I left college barely fit. I have almost no closet space left. This means my clothes are always wrinkled because they're crushed together. I don't have anyplace to put my cleaning supplies, nor room for more than one set of sheets and towels. A new house would mean a lot more room for all these things.

I love having plants around. It's very healthy for the air inside and it's cheerful to have living things growing in a room. Right now I have plants sitting on tables. This is the best I can do in an apartment. I'd like to have a garden instead. That way I could grow a lot of different kinds of plants and flowers, and I could have a vegetable garden in the summer.

Besides having a garden, I'd like to have a backyard with lots of trees and a small fountain in the corner. I love watching birds and listening to them sing. On the windowsill of my apartment, I put out bird seed every morning. In the hot weather, I put out a shallow tin plate with water in it for the birds. The trees and the fountain in my backyard would give me pleasure, but they'd really be for the birds. The trees would give them a place to nest, and the fountain would be a source of fresh water when it's hot.

Can you picture my dream house? A business would only give me money. A house would give me someplace special to be myself.

(Essay ID: 70 )

## Topic: 185

I will purchase the big house so that i can live and work comfortable. The house nearby the beach is my whole life dream when I was young. The advantage of house is the shield of noisy without others, and is quiet and freely.

First, The basic essential for the people is living. Living is vital for the family in the world. We can concluded that the house is the aim pursuing by the people. The whole day fatigue of peron is replying on the sleeping in the big house which have the first-rate electric such as the airconditions, digital TV Sets, wireless cell phone, fridge, Water-machine, computer, notebook, etc. So, the house is important and necessary for the people every day.

Second, The enjoyment of house is evident ,the entertainment with the colleague, relatives, friends, family member to sing the song, dance by the music, do the piano, violin, etc. The wonderful party held in the house is available for the celebrate the birthday or appointment. The house provide much more happiness for the people who delight it.

The health and enegy of person own his house will do better business, The person will contribute themselves to the big business for the great achievement. The people purchase the housee is rapidly growth annually. So, i will own my dream house because i extremely like it and design it with my full ideas so that its beautiful and splendid. I really like live in the big house and care it.

(Essay ID: 243. This is a 5 point essay)

## Topic: 185

Some people prefers to purchase a house if he has enough money, and other people would like to purchase a business instead. Personally, I would prefer buying a house because I think it has more advantages.

There more numerous reasons why I would like to purchase a house, and I would in here explain a few of the most important ones. The main reason is that it will make many benefits to our lives. If you purchase a house, you will have a quiet, fixed place to do your own business, for example, you can work at home, you can have a party with your friends or relatives in your house and so on.

Another reason why I advocate the attitude of purchasing a house is that it's convenient for us to relax ourselves. Nowadays, we all have to work hard almost every day and it will be beneficial for us to relax ourselves in our spare time. We can do many exercises or go out for entertainment. But if it happens to rain or snow, what should we do? We could enjoy ourselves also, if we have a house.

Last but not least, it's a requisite for a family. If you a married man, you have to be responsible to your family, your wife and your children. Basicly, it's most important to provide enough space to your children to grow up. And do you agree that it's helpful for your wife to cook in a larger kitchen?

Of course, choosing purchasing a business also has advantages to some extent, for example, you can make yourself more wealth and experienced. But if all these factors are contemplated, the advantages of purchasing a house carry more weight than those of purchasing a business. From what has been discussed above, we may finally draw the conclusion that if you purchase a house, your life will be rich and colorful.

(Essay ID: 239. This is a 5 point essay)

## **Topic: 185**

If I had the chance of purchasing either a house or a business, I would prefer the latter. There are a lot of reasons for the choice, and I would like to put them in the following way.

First, we live to improve ourselves, not just to satisfy our demands for material comforts. Indeed, it is everybody's dream to live in a luxurious house with spacious rooms, private swimming pools and servants. What a nice picture of life! But wait, a business can offer more. Buying a business and run it will not only give us a chance to challenge our ability and skills, but also can help accumulate our wealth. There is nothing more satisfying than watching your knowledge, ability and investment turning into wealth.

Second, the choice of being an entrepreneur means that you are a spiritually strong person, you are confident about your self and you have the nerve to face the possible loses in a business. These are very important qualities to success in today's world. On the other hand, choosing to buy a house means relatively more conservative, shorter sighted to me. I cannot see much vision and gut in these people.

Third, choosing to purchase and run a business can us get more knowledge and experiences. A business is a complex system. In order to run a business well, we must learn very hard for the most current knowledge of management, accounting and marketing. We also have to know the area of specification very well, dealing with various people from government agencies, suppliers and dealers, as well as our own employees. Of course, a business is not always making money, sometimes there are risks of lose. But what to regret after you already acquired so much knowledge and experiences. Yes, comparing to buying a house, there is much more to worry about, but with buying a business we can really get into something and gain a lot.

All above are just some reasons for my choice. And I am sure that this choice will be a good choice, whatever the outcome may be.

(Essay ID: 236. This is a 5 point essay)

443 essays.

Last Modified Aug/06/2002

[www.wayabroad.com/chinese/twe](http://www.wayabroad.com/chinese/twe)

## **TWE Templates**

### **Agree/Disagree**

Some people argue as if it is a general truth that a ...But to be frank, I cannot agree with them. There are numerous reasons why I hold no confidence on them, and I would explore only a few primary ones here.

The main problem with this argument is that it is ignorant o the basic fact that...Explain...

Another reason why I disagree with the above statement is that I believe that...

What is more, some students are interested in...

In a word, ...

### **Agree/Disagree**

Some people prefer to A, others believe B, Nowadays some may hold the opinion that ..., but others have a negative attitude. As far as I am concerned, I agree/disagree that... MY arguments for this point are listed as follows.

One of the primary causes is that...

Examples...

But there is a further more subtle point we must consider. Examples.

What is more... Examples...

General speaking, ... Recognizing the fact that ...should drive us to conclude that...

### **Agree/Disagree**

Nowadays, some may hold the opinion that ... But others have a negative attitude. As far as I am concerned, I agree that ... My arguments for this point are listed as follows.

I agree with the statement that ...without reservation since ...

Another reason why I agree with the above statement is that I believe that...

In a word, ... Taking into account of all these factors, we may reach the conclusion that...

### **Choice/Preferences**

When it comes to ..., although some people think that ..., they fail to see....I am , and probably will always be ,one of those who argue that ...

The most persuasive point is that ...

Furthermore ,sociological studies have found that ...

Of course, arguments will be raised against my standpoint. Some people might argue that ... for this point are listed as follows.

The main reason for my propensity for ... is that ...

There is another factor that deserves some words here.

In a word, ... While it is true that the argument, I disagree hold a little bit of water, I think...

### Choice/Preferences

Depending on personal experience, personality type and emotional concern, we find that some people hold the idea of A meanwhile others prefer to B, from my point of view, it is more advisable to chose A rather than B. My arguments for this point are listed as follows.

The main reason for my propensity for A is that... For instance,...

Another reason can be seen by every one is that... For example,...

The argument I support in the first paragraph is also in a position of advantage because...

Although I agree that there may be a couple of advantages of B, I feel that the disadvantages are more obvious. Such as...

In a word, ...So, it is sagacious to support the statement that it is better to A.

### Choice/Preferences

...When faced with the decision of A of B, quite a few would deem that..., but others, in contrast, believe A/B as the premier choice and that is also my point. Among countless factors which influence -A/-B, there are three conspicuous aspects as follows.

The main reason for my propensity of ...is that...

The second reason can be seen by every person that...

In addition, these reason are also usable when we consider that...

There are some disadvantages in...

In a word,...Taking into account of all these factors, we may reach the conclusion that...

### Choice/Preferences

Some people prefer to A. others believe B. When faced with the decision of A or B, quite a few would claim that..., but others, in contrast , deem A/B as the premier choice and that is also my point. There are numerous reasons why..., and I would explore only a few of the most important ones here.

The main reason why I agree with the above statement, however, is that... Take...as example, ...

There is another factor that deserves some words here. Such as ...

Similarly, these reasons are also usable when we consider that...(examples:...).

From the above you might got idea that I agree...(repeat the above three reason...). So, it is sagacious to support the statement that it is better to ...

## Choice/Preferences

In my point of view, A is as important as, if not more important than B. So it is sagacious to choose A. Among count less factors which influence A. there are three conspicuous aspects as follows.

The above point is certainly true if A is considered. For example...

Another reason why I agree with the above statement is that I believe that A is better than B. For instance...

It would probably not be too kindly disposed to the idea that B is not important. B...

This is arbitrary to judge B according only to the excuse I mentioned in the above paragraph.

Similarly, these reasons are also usable when we consider that...

Admittedly, ...A...By he same token, however, ...B...Taking into account of all these factors, we may reach the conclusion that...

## Choice/Preferences

When it comes to..., Nevertheless, in my part, I prefer A rather than B as my inclination. My arguments for this point are listed as follows.

I agree with the statement that ...without reservation since...

Naturally...It can be given a concrete example...

A more essential factor why I advocate the argument of ...is that. Obviously ...Take the case of a thing that...

Furthermore, what is worth noticing fact is that ... This demonstrates the undeniable fact that...

Of course, choosing B also has advantages to some extent,... But if all these factors are contemplated, the advantages of A carry more weight than those of B. From what has been discussed above, we may finally draw the conclusion that...

## Explanation

... There may be by one or two disadvantages to ...; however, I believe that there are far more advantages. My arguments for this point are listed as follows.

First of all, perhaps one disadvantages to...is that...For instance, ... Another drawback to ...involves the possibility that... For example, ...

Even though there may be one or two disadvantages to..., the advantages far outweigh them. The main reason for my propensity for ...is that ... For example... Another reason for my inclination for ... is that ... For example, ...



In a word, in spite of the fact that there may be a couple of disadvantages to ..., I feel that the advantages are more obvious... Taking into account of all these factors, we may reach the conclusion that ...

## **Explanation**

The answer of this statement depends on your own experience and life style. In my point view, buying computers is as important as, if not more important than, buying books. So it is sagacious to ...Among countless factors which influence the choice, these are three conspicuous aspects as follows.

The main reason for my propensity for...is that...

Another reason can be seen by every person is that...

Furthermore,...

In short,...

## **Choice/Preferences**

In a modern society, people always face the dilemma to choose whether AAA or BBB. This problem is the much debated one in that it affects everybody in their daily lives. People may prefer one to another although some may have no opinions about it at all. Before rendering my opinion, I think it is necessary to take a glance at the arguments of both sides.

It is quite easy for average people to CHOOSE BBB because of the obvious reason that ....It can be given by a well known example that ....

But at the mean time, although BBB has some advantages, it also has many drawbacks such as .... Therefore we have no complete evidence to suggest that BBB is always better than AAA. What is more, if you notice the invisible benefits of CHOOSING AAA, you can understand AAA more deeply.

Here I would explain a few of the most important reasons. The main reason is that .... To illustrate this, there is an example that is very persuasive: ...

... is only part of the important aspects, and another equally significant role of CHOOSING AAA lies in the development of ...

This demonstrates the undeniable fact that ...

Besides, the further reason why I advocate AAA is that ... This may explain why ...

In addition...

Finally...

If all the factors above are considered, we will find out that the advantages of AAA outweigh those of BBB. Therefore from what we have discussed, we may safely come to the conclusion that CHOOSING AAA is a rather wise decision. But I have not denied the opinion that CHOOSING BBB. I must admit that people can DO WELL without AAA, but no one can ignore

the added convenience and satisfaction offered by AAA. Such experience will definitely be helpful in one's later life.

### **Choice/Preferences**

It seems, in so many items, very difficult for us to prefer one to another because all of them have their advantages and disadvantages to the extent that it is hard to distinguish.

Yet that does not mean they are all the same to me. Which one I prefer depends on my own experience, life style and emotional concerns. To be frank, I prefer AAA most in my point of view.

### **Choice/Preferences**

To choose A or choose B is something of a dilemma to the public because they sometimes are confused by the seemingly good qualities of B, and neglect the genuinely good aspects of A.

[For B, people are often driven to believe that / It is quite easy for average people to CHOOSE B because of the obvious reason that] ..... (As a proverb says, "Everything has two sides".) Although B does have its seemingly profound advantages, at the mean time[there lies intrinsic [harmful characteristic/drawbacks] in it such as ..... / it can be achieved only conditionally because.....] . Some ple/experts] [maintain/warn] that..... This significant point, however, is often not noticed by [the public/most people] and accordingly, is unconsciously overlooked. (Therefore we have no complete evidence to suggest that B is always better than A.)

[Another [disastrous/unfortunate] fact is that / Unfortunately,] the innate quality of A is often underestimated. Or: What is more, if you notice the invisible benefits of CHOOSING A, you can understand A more deeply.

Here I would explain a few of the most important reasons for choosing A. The main reason is that ..... To illustrate this, there is an example that is very persuasive:..... Besides, the further reason why I advocate is that..... Moreover,.....

Therefore from what we have discussed, we may safely come to the conclusion that CHOOSING AAA is a rather wise decision.

### **Choice/Preferences**

There is no denying the fact that ...(whether to choose A or B is better) is a popular topic which is much talked about [not only by ..., but also by .../by people across the world/ in a modern society].

Or: There is no denying the fact that ...(whether to choose A or B is better) is a popular topic which has caused heated debate over a long period of time (because it affects everybody in his or her daily lives).

Or: In a modern society, people always face the dilemma of whether to choose A or B. This problem is a much-debated one in that it affects everybody in his or her daily lives.

Although it seems that [ [normally/sometimes] we can not tell which one outweigh the other between A and B / they normally coexist peacefully], they deserve some close examination.

[If three criteria were taken into account, in comparing these two, I would prefer A. / As far as I am concerned, I vote for the latter]. There are no less than three advantages in A as rendered below:

First, we can observe easily that in modern society, 1 .The second/another reason for my propensity for A is that 2 .The third reason, not the last/however, goes this way: 3 .

In conclusion, to mention there are more.

## Choice/Preferences

While both the two [methods/choice] may have their advantages and disadvantages, they can be applied under different circumstances. Afterwards, I will explain my opinion about it.

[A has the obvious advantage that / One very strong argument for A is that] ..... But there lies intrinsic harmful characteristic in this method. Some [people/expert] [maintain/warn] that..... Furthermore, ..... Therefore we have no complete evidence to suggest that A is always better than B.

On the other hand, choosing B also has advantages to some extent, For example, ..... . However, it is also important to see that under certain circumstances B will .....(disadvantage) Or: Yet there are some people who cast serious doubts on B Or: Although B does have its seemingly profound [advantages/ reason], at the mean time[there lies intrinsic [harmful characteristic/drawbacks] in it such as ..... / it can be achieved only conditionally cause.....] .

But if all these factors are contemplated, [as far as I am concerned / according to my personality and fondness], the advantages of A carry more weight than those of B because A fits [me/us students] better in two ways: In the first place, ....., In the second place/secondly,.....Therefore from what we have discussed, we may safely come to the conclusion that CHOOSING AAA is a rather wise decision.

It seems, very difficult for us to prefer one to another because all of them have their advantages and disadvantages to the extent that it is hard to distinguish. Yet that does not mean they are all the same to me. Which one I prefer depends on my own experience, life style and emotional concerns. [As far as I am concerned / According to my personality and fondness/ To be frank], I would like to choose A, because there are too many benefits that outnumber its disadvantages not to choose it. B, on the other hand, has advantages no more than its disadvantages.

## Agree/Disagree

There is no denying the fact that ...(if one should ... /if ... is correct) is a hot topic which is much talked about [not only by ..., but also by... /by people across the world/ in a modern society]. Or: There is no denying the fact that ...(if one should ... /if ... is correct) is a popular topic which has caused heated debate over a long period of time (because it affects everybody in his or her daily lives).

Or: There is no denying the fact that ...(if one should ... /if ... is correct) is the basic (moral/philosophical) problem that can not be circumvented by anybody, ( because the opinion on this problem will determine one's attitude toward the world and the life).

Before rendering my opinion, I think it is important to take a glance at the arguments on both sides.

## Agree/Disagree

At first glance it seems very difficult for us to draw a [definite/quick] conclusion that ... is right or wrong, because it has both advantages and disadvantages. However, after serious considerations we can see that under most circumstances ...(this approach) will do more good than harm.

Or: As far as I am concerned, I agree with the opinion. However, it is unfair to draw a quick conclusion without serious considerations.

There are no less than [three advantages in A/three reasons to agree with the opinion] as rendered below:

First, we can observe easily that in modern society, 1 .The second/another reason for my (propensity for .../agreement with ...) is that ...

The third reason, [not the last/however], goes this way: 3 .

In conclusion,

The first reason can be obviously seen.

Most people would agree that...

Some people may neglect that in fact ...

Others suggest that...

Part of the explanation is ...

The advantages for A for outweigh the disadvantages of...

Although A enjoys a distinct advantage ...

Indeed , A carries much weight than B when sth is concerned.

A maybe ... , but it suffers from the disadvantage that...

To understand the truth of ..., it is also important to see...

A study of ... will make this point clear

Certainly, B has its own advantages, such as...

I do not deny that A has its own merits.

From what has been discussed above, we may safely draw the conclusion that ...

In summary, it is wiser ...

In short...

It can be given by a (well known/concrete) example that ..... / In order to see this point clearly, let us to see an example:.....

This may explain why ..... It goes without seeing that..... In fact, we can observe easily that in modern society,.....

As a proverb says, "Everything has two sides".

As a proverb says, "Where there is a will there is a way".

As is known to all, "No pains, no gains."

Let's bring our discussion here to a more present and practical context. In today's world,.....

I can say that if you have no experience like these, your life is an inadequate one. be of great benefit to sb./sth.

The reason of ... is not so much ... as ...

People differ greatly in their attitudes towards this problem. Some people hold the opinion that ... Others, [ however/on the contrary], maintain that ...

It is necessary/convenient/desirable/advisable] for sb. to do sth. have [trouble/a difficult time] [in doing sth./with sth.]

Nevertheless I must admit that people can do well without AAA, but no one can ignore the added convenience and satisfaction offered by AAA. Such experience will definitely be helpful in one's later life.

## Useful quotations

One of the greatest early writers said ...

"...". That is how sb comment ( criticize/ praise...).

"...". How often we hear such words like there.

Useful quotations by Robert Collier

In every adversity there lies the seed of an equivalent advantage. In every defeat there is a lesson showing you how to win the victory next time.

by Ann Landers

Opportunities are usually disguised as hard work, so most people don't recognize them.

by Ralph Waldo Emerson

No one can cheat you out of ultimate success but yourselves.

Confucius

Our greatest glory is not in never falling...

but in rising every time we fall.

Mother Teresa

To keep a lamp burning we have to keep putting oil in it.

Henry Ford

Nothing is particularly hard if you divide it into small jobs.

Winston Churchill

Never, never, never, never give up.

Albert Einstein

In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity.

by Crassus

Those who aim at great deeds must suffer greatly.

Thomas Edison

There is no substitute for hard work.

Leo Tolstoy

The strongest of all warriors are these two- Time and Patience.

Thomas Jefferson

I'm a great believer in luck,

and I find the harder I work...

the more I have of it.

Robert Collier

Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out.

Ray A. Croc

Luck is a dividend of sweat. The more you sweat, the luckier you get.

You'll learn more about a road by traveling it...

than by consulting all the maps in the world.

Vince Lombardi

Winning isn't everything...

but wanting to win is.

John F. Kennedy

We choose to go to the moon and other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard.

Thucydides

The strong do what they will.

The weak do what they must.

John Wooden

Talent is God given--Be Humble.

Fame is man given-- Be Thankful.

Conceit is self given --Be Careful.

Theodore Roosevelt

Do what you can , with what you have , with where you are.

Publilius Syrus Maxim

No one knows what he can do till he tries.

Terence

There is nothing so easy but that it becomes difficult when you do it reluctantly.

Thomas Fuller

A wise man turns chance into good fortune.

William Hazlitt

Prosperity is a great teacher; adversity

is a greater.

William Penn No

pains, no palm; no

thorns, no throne; no

gall , no glory; no  
cross, no crown.

Will Rogers

Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over... if you just sit there.

Opportunity rarely knocks on your door.

Knock rather on opportunity's door if you ardently wish to enter.

Vince Lombardi

It's not whether you get knocked down.

...It's whether you get up again.

Winston Churchill

An optimist sees an opportunity in every calamity;

a pessimist sees a calamity in every opportunity.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm.

James Allen

The will to do springs from the knowledge that we can do.

Samuel Johnson

Few things are impossible to diligence and skill.

Aughey

Lost time is never found again.

Voltaire

No problem can stand the assault of sustained thinking.

Napoleon

Victory belongs to the most persevering.

Euipides

Leave no stone unturned.

Norman Vincent Peale



Plan your work for today and every day;  
then work your plan.

Henry Ford

Failure is only the opportunity to more intelligently begin again.

Thomas Edison

I start where the last man left off.

What the mind of man can conceive and believe, the  
mind of a man can achieve.

Benjamin Franklin

Plough deep while sluggards sleep.

Henry David Thoreau

In the lone run men hit only what they aim at.

Emily Dickinson

Luck is not chance...

It's toil...

Fortune's expensive smile is earned.

Thomas Edison

Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration.

Useful Quotations

Albert Einstein

Imagination is more important than knowledge.

Walter Begehot

The great pleasure in life is doing what people say you cannot do.

Abraham Lincoln

I will prepare and some day my chance will come.

Henry Ford

Whether you think you can or think you can't -- you are right.

## English Proverb

Where there's a will there's a way.

There is no failure excepting no longer trying.

Luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity.

# Writing Power

*By KAPLAN Education Center*

## AN OVERVIEW OF THE ESSAY TEST

The first and most frequently asked question by ESL students who are confronting the TOEFL essay is: "What exactly is an essay?" This is a very good question, as essay organization and formation may vary greatly from one country to another. Quite simply, an essay is a written composition based on a particular topic. In the following writing sections, we will describe the kind of essay that the TOEFL examiners are looking for as well as provide you with the background you'll need to feel confident when you are faced with writing your TOEFL essay on the day of the exam.

Essay writing is a required part of every TOEFL CBT exam (as of July 1998). (The essay will, however, continue to be optional for the paper-based TOEFL.) Your essay score will be combined with the score from the Structure section to form one Structure/Writing score. On the day of the exam, you will be given one topic on which to base your essay and allowed 30 minutes to write your essay. Unlike with the rest of the new TOEFL, you will be able to choose whether you wish to write your essay on the computer or by hand.

The range for your score of the essay component is from 0 (lowest score) to 6 (highest score); your final Structure/Writing score will range from 0 to 30. The readers of your essay are English or ESL specialists and work under the direct supervision of a "reading manager." The two readers will rate your essay independently of each other. That is, neither will know the rating of the other, and your final grade will be an average of the two scores. If there is a difference of more than one point between the two, a third reader will also rate your essay. Your final score could be a 6.0, 5.5, 5.0, 4.5, 4.0, 3.5, 3.0, 2.5, 2.0, 1.5, 1.0, or 0 (for a paper that is blank or written in a language other than English, or one that in no way addresses the topic).

To help you prepare for the essay component, you should study the "Writing Topics" provided to you by ETS (Educational Testing Service) in its *TOEFL Information Bulletin for ComputerBased Testing*. By practicing essay writing prior to the day of the TOEFL, especially within the 30-minute time frame, you can greatly enhance your chances of doing well on this section of the test.

While becoming a proficient English writer may seem like a daunting task at first, there is no way to get around one very simple and basic truth: the only way to become a writer is to write and read as much and as often as you can. This may sound trite, but it is the fundamental key to improving your writing skills. Whereas it is important that you read and study examples of "good writing," unless you are willing to put in time and effort to write yourself, you will never become a competent writer of English. Great writers of English certainly did not become that way overnight; it obviously took a great deal of commitment, diligence, and time to perfect their craft. Thus, you-as an English as a Second Language writer and speaker- will need to be willing to invest an even greater effort into perfecting your English writing.

In the writing sections of this chapter, we will take you through steps that will help you learn how to organize your ideas, form an outline and develop organization, write a draft, and finally edit/proofread your essay. And yes, by the day of the test, you will need to know how to accomplish all of this in the 30-minute time frame that the TOEFL essay allows! But don't be discouraged. With dedication and perseverance, you will no doubt see results.

Your final essay must do the following in order for you to achieve the highest score possible:

- (1) Your essay must effectively discuss the topic you have been asked to address.

It is vital that you read the assigned topic very carefully and not add or delete anything. This is one of the most common mistakes in writing an essay—by adding a few words, or conversely ignoring one or two significant ones, a test taker can easily digress from the assigned topic. Of course, the end result is failure to address the topic.

- (2) Your essay must be well organized.

You must have an introduction (with a thesis statement), a body (with supporting details for your thesis), and a conclusion. Because essay organization is very important, this will be dealt with in greater detail later in this chapter.

- (3) You must show consistent ease in your use of the English language.

This includes using correct grammar as well as the appropriate use of idiomatic language. Remember, you are trying to prove that your English skills are advanced enough for you to do as well as native English speakers in an American university class.

- (4) You must prove to your readers that you possess a wide range of vocabulary and know how to use terms in an appropriate fashion.

In other words, be very careful with the words you choose and avoid redundancy of both words and ideas. You want to be conservative so that you can show how much vocabulary and how many different word forms you know.

You must be able to paraphrase some or all of the question asked or the quotation given. This shows that you have a broad vocabulary, that your reading comprehension is adequate, and that you can avoid redundancy in your writing. You will also need to be able to paraphrase your thesis in your conclusion to remind your readers of your main idea.

## **STANDARD ESSAY FORM**

In general, an essay is made up of three basic components: an introduction, a body, and a conclusion. The length of an essay may vary greatly, but because you only have 30 minutes in which to prepare, write, and proofread your TOEFL essay, you should aim for an essay containing a maximum of four to five paragraphs (unless you are a highly accomplished English writer). Your first paragraph, the introduction, will introduce the main topic of your essay to your reader, and it typically ends with your thesis statement (the most important sentence in your essay). The next part of your essay is the body. The body provides detailed support to prove your thesis. The body will be made up of the main subpoints of your thesis, each with its own paragraph. Thus, your body will most likely consist of 2-3 paragraphs. Your final paragraph is your conclusion. These three basic parts are outlined below and discussed in greater detail in subsequent lessons.

### **I. Introduction**

- A. Hook (to capture your reader's attention)
- B. General information on assigned topic (no details)
- C. Thesis (one-sentence statement of main idea plus viewpoint)

## II. Body

### A. Sub-Point One

- 1. Topic sentence
- 2. Details supporting topic sentence

### B. Sub-Point Two

- 1. Topic sentence
- 2. Details supporting topic sentence

### C. (Possible) Sub-Point Three

- 1. Topic sentence
- 2. Details supporting topic sentence

## III. Conclusion

- A. Paraphrase of thesis
- B. Summary of viewpoint
- C. General final statement/comment

## TIME DIVISION FOR A 30-MINUTE ESSAY EXAM

One of the biggest dilemmas students face with essay examinations is how to make the best use of their time during the test. Certainly, the amount of time each student will need to make an outline, write the essay, and proofread will vary. However, all of these steps are necessary to produce a clear, organized essay with few grammatical errors. Below is a suggested way to divide the limited time you are given:

**1-3 minutes**-Read and Paraphrase Question 3-5 minutes-Plan, Prewrite

**17-20 minutes**-Write Essay

**5-7 minutes**-Proofread, Correct Essay

## TYPES OF ESSAYS

The list below contains the most common types of essays found in an essay examination. After you have read your essay question and interpreted it, the next step is for you to decide what kind

of essay you will need to organize and write. Determining the type of essay will help you write your thesis statement, decide how many body paragraphs are needed, know which transitions are appropriate to use, and much more.

## **Compare and Contrast Essay**

This is one of the most typical forms of essay examinations. A comparison tells the ways in which a person, place, thing, event and so on are similar. A contrast points out differences. There are two common methods of organizing compare/contrast essays. Let's use the topic of "urban life vs. rural life" as an example:

### **(1) Body**

A. Similarities between urban and rural life B. Dissimilarities between urban and rural life

OR

### **(2) Body**

A. Urban life: advantages and disadvantages B. Rural life: advantages and disadvantages

## **Persuasive Essay (Also Known as Personal Opinion Essay)**

In the persuasive essay, you are trying to convince your reader to agree with a particular position or viewpoint you have expressed in your thesis. While adjectives and adverbs may sway your reader, the most effective way to bring your reader over to your side is through facts, detailed examples, and/or personal knowledge. Be sure to incorporate some aspects of the latter in the body of your persuasive essay.

This type of essay may be written in the first person and include: in my opinion, it seems to me, or in my view. However, even if you use the third person (and this is often considered to be more sophisticated), you can make your stand clear to your reader.

## **Descriptive Essay**

The purpose of a descriptive essay is to present a detailed picture of a person, place, object, event, etcetera. To make the image as real as possible, you can use words or linguistic devices known as "imagery." These may be words that appeal directly to the reader's senses. That is, you can help your reader see, hear, taste, smell, or feel what it is you are describing by choosing vivid vocabulary. Avoid vague, general words such as good, nice, and bad, and replace these with more descriptive, specific terms. Metaphors (comparisons of two unlike items) are also often used in descriptions. Try to imagine that your reader has never experienced the object that you are describing; it is your job to bring this subject to life.

## **Cause and Effect Essay**

To "cause" an action means to make something happen; the result or consequence of that action is the "effect." For example: "What are the chief causes of divorce, and how does it affect the children of the couple?" Typical transitions for this type of essay are: as a result, as a consequence, consequently, therefore, and thus.

Conditional sentence-type essay questions are sometimes classified as "cause and effect" as well.

For example: "If you won a million dollars in the lottery, how would you spend the money? Describe in detail how you think your life would change as a result of your new-found wealth."

## **Interpretation/Analysis Essay**

In the interpretation-type essay, you are given a short quotation (usually 1-3 sentences in length). You are asked to interpret the saying (i.e., paraphrase the author's message); then, either analyze or form your own opinion about the original quotation.

This kind of essay is rapidly growing in popularity, especially for essay entrance examinations to American universities and for many standardized tests. The time given for the essay test may vary from 15 minutes to two hours, depending on the school and/or the standardized test. Therefore, when you practice writing this type of exam, you should try several different time frames.

## **Illustrative Essay**

Another type of essay is the one that is based on examples or illustrations to support the writer's thesis. For example: "What were the best classes you ever took? Give examples of at least two classes which you found outstanding, and explain why you chose these." Of course, illustration is an important component of many types of essay "body" paragraphs.

## **Process Essay**

Process writing, generally speaking, provides instructions or details a process: that is, it tells the reader how to operate a VCR, apply to a school, build a bookshelf, learn a foreign language, etcetera. Therefore, while this writing style is quite common, it is not typically tested in an essay examination. On the other hand, it is not uncommon to be given this type of essay as an at-home assignment.

## **THE INTRODUCTION TO THE ESSAY**

Like all first impressions, the introductory paragraph of your essay will leave a lasting imprint. Therefore, it is extremely important that it be well written. To favorably impress your readers, your introduction should contain the following:

### **Hook**

How is a hook used in fishing? It dangles in front of its target (the fish) and tries to lure or captivate it. In much the same way, the "hook" in an essay is used to catch the attention of your audience. To accomplish this, begin your essay with an interesting, thought-provoking idea about the topic you have been assigned. Avoid asserting the obvious; that is, merely stating a fact that everyone knows is true. For example, "Learning a new language is difficult" is a fact known to be true by almost everyone, and, therefore, serves no useful purpose. Sometimes a quotation (or proverb) works well as a hook if it is particularly relevant to the thesis.

### **General Statements Regarding the Assigned Topic**

Your introduction should only introduce the main ideas of your essay. This is not the place for you to provide supporting details, such as specific names, places, and dates. Save these for the body of your essay.

### **Thesis**

The thesis is the most significant statement in your essay. It consists of one sentence only and is usually the last sentence of your introduction. A thesis must be a complete sentence (unlike a title). It should also be narrow enough for you to be able to discuss it within the short time frame allowed on the TOEFL and within a two- or three-paragraph body. Yet it must also be general enough for you to be able to write two to three sub-points on this topic.

Unlike some countries, in the United States, we do not state directly what we plan to do or say in our essay; for example, "I will write about..." is unacceptable in an American essay. If your essay is well written, your intentions should be obvious to your reader without your having to explicitly state them.

The thesis serves two basic functions. First, it states the main topic of your essay. Secondly, it provides a viewpoint or position that you, the writer, holds about this topic.

For example, this is not a thesis: "Smoking in restaurants in New York is illegal." It merely states a fact, but provides no position or opinion regarding this fact.

This is a thesis: "Not allowing smoking in restaurants in New York is highly unfair to the smoker and gives too much power to the nonsmoker." Here we are given both a topic (i.e., smoking in restaurants in New York is illegal) plus two clear opinions about this topic. Because this thesis states two positions regarding the topic, it will also help the writer to quickly and effectively set up the organization for the body of his/her essay. That is, the two sub-points have been clearly laid out in the introduction for both the reader and the writer.

Often students feel that there must be a "right" or "wrong" position that they should take on a given topic. Remember: You are entitled to your own opinion. The readers are only interested in whether you have logically, clearly, and effectively supported the position that you have taken.

## Practice One

Which of the following sentences is a thesis? If the sentence is a thesis, put a "T" in the space provided next to it. If it is not a thesis, put in "NT" in the space provided. Be prepared to discuss the reasons for your choices.

1. \_\_\_\_ Washington, D.C., is the capital of the United States.
2. \_\_\_\_ There are two basic reasons for the rise of divorce: the lack of communication skills and financial problems.
3. \_\_\_\_ Divorce is not legal in my country. Some people think it should be, some don't.
4. \_\_\_\_ Walking is the best exercise: it is great for one's health, and it doesn't cost anything!
5. \_\_\_\_ Traveling for fun and education.
6. \_\_\_\_ Because I wanted to learn how to speak English fluently, it was essential that I move to an English-speaking country.
7. \_\_\_\_ Financial woes and lack of free time are the major causes of stress today.
8. \_\_\_\_ The Beatles sold over a million records in the 1960s.

9. \_\_\_\_ The Beatles and the Rolling Stones were far more talented than the popular rock bands of today.
10. \_\_\_\_ Now, I am going to write about the reasons I moved to the United States.

To check your responses above, be sure the thesis statement:

Contains one, and only one, complete sentence Provides a clearly defined main topic

Takes a clearly stated position on the topic (instead of merely stating a fact) Doesn't explicitly state what you plan to do/say

Answers

NT 6. T 2. T 7. T 3. NT 8. NT 4. T 9. T 5. NT 10. NT

## Practice Two

Take the following topics and questions, and turn them into theses. Remember that each thesis must be a complete sentence that clearly states your main idea and takes a position on this topic. Ideally, it will also set up the organization for the body of your essay. Doing this can save you a great deal of time when you write the body. It will also help you stay focused.

EXAMPLE: Topic/Question: In many countries, the government practices censorship of television programs. Do you support this practice or not? Support your answer with specific examples.

Possible Thesis: Government censorship of television programs is unfair and fiscally wasteful.

1. Topic/Question: If you had a choice, would you like to live forever? Explain why this does or does not appeal to you.

Thesis:

2. Topic: Students attend a university or college for a variety of reasons. In your opinion, what should be the main purpose of a university education?

Thesis:

3. Topic: When many people think of the United States, words such as independent and freespirted come to mind. If you had to describe your country by its personality, what trait(s) would best describe it?

Thesis:

4. Topic: Most people experience at least some degree of culture shock when they are getting accustomed to a new culture. What advice would you give to a friend of yours to help him get over culture shock? (You may write about your own culture or about the American culture.)

Thesis:

5. Topic: It is necessary to be wealthy in order to be successful. Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not?



Thesis:

### Practice Three

Choose one of the questions from the above list (1-5) and write an introduction. Be sure to follow the steps laid out in the inverted pyramid diagram, and watch the time. Remember, on the actual test you will only have a very short time in which to compose your introduction.

### THE BODY OF THE ESSAY

The main purpose of the body of your essay is to give support to your thesis (usually the last sentence of your introduction). To give sufficient support, you need to provide a minimum of two or three paragraphs in your body for an essay examination. However, a take-home essay generally has several body paragraphs.

All body paragraphs begin with a topic sentence. The topic sentence states the main idea of the body paragraph, a main sub-point of your thesis. For this reason, it may be said that after your thesis, topic sentences are the most important part of your essay.

Immediately following the topic sentence, you should provide clear, specific details to lend credence to the argument of your paper; specifically, to the topic sentence of that paragraph. To accomplish this, you should use specific dates, people, places, and/or events. You will most likely need more than one sentence to provide sufficient details for each point. Use transitions to introduce your examples (see list in appendix).

Generally speaking, the body paragraphs are longer than the introduction and conclusion. However, be sure that each body paragraph contains only one main sub-point. All the ideas included in each paragraph must fall under the broader topic sentence. That is, every new idea requires a new paragraph. Think of each sentence after the topic sentence ("the set") as a sub-set of it.

While you will want to use transitions within your body paragraphs, you also need to use them to connect one body paragraph to another. This is necessary to make your paper smooth and coherent. For example, if you are writing a compare/contrast essay, you may want to begin your second body paragraph with a transition phrase such as on the other hand or in contrast. Study the list of transition terms at the end of this chapter to determine which one(s) would be appropriate for the type of essay you are writing.

### Practice One

Read the following sample essay body divisions, and think of possible topics for these divisions.

1. I. Introduction II. Body A. Past B. Present C. Future

III. Conclusion

2. I. Introduction II. Body A. Infant B. Quid C. Adult D. Old Age

III. Conclusion

3. I. Introduction II. Body A. Emotional B. Mental C. Physical III. Conclusion

4. I. Introduction II. Body A. Urban B. Small Town C. Countryside

### III. Conclusion

5. I. Introduction II. Body A. Home B. Work C. School III. Conclusion

## Practice Two

In the exercises below, take the topic provided and, working with a partner, create your own subtopics.

EXAMPLE: Topic: Best uses of home computers

II. Body

B. Entertainment C. Pay bills

1. Topic: The most practical college

majors II. Body A. B. C.

2. Topic: Advantages to living in a foreign

country II. Body A. <-.:-

B. C.

3. Topic: What a person must do to have a successful life

II. Body A. B. C.

## Practice Three

Choose one of the topics above, and write a 3-paragraph essay body on it. You have 20 minutes in which to write the body. You may choose either two or three sub-points (body paragraphs). Be sure that you begin with a topic sentence, and that all of the following sentences in that paragraph remain within the framework of your topic sentence. A new topic introduces a new paragraph.

## THE CONCLUSION OF THE ESSAY

The conclusion of the essay is often neglected. One reason for this is that students often run out of time during the essay examination and never get beyond the body of their papers. Another factor is that students often do not know how or when to end their essay. Yet failure to end your essay is analogous to not finishing the final chapter of a book. Your reader is left with unanswered questions; you must put these to rest before you finish your paper. However, if you have gone through the recommended organization steps laid out in our earlier sections and practiced timed writing on your own, finishing your essay should become an easier task. The following guidelines can help you improve your concluding paragraph:

Before writing your conclusion, reread your introduction (paying special attention to your thesis) and your topic sentences. This will refresh your memory as to the main idea and main subpoints of your paper.

Begin your conclusion with a paraphrase of your thesis. It is vital that you not repeat your thesis verbatim. Doing so is redundant and boring, and you miss the opportunity to show your readers

the breadth of your vocabulary. Follow with general statements. These should be a summary or evaluation of previously mentioned main thoughts.

Your last sentence should provide a final thought or comment concerning your main topic.

The following should be avoided in a conclusion:

New information does not belong in a conclusion. You have neither the time nor the space to develop it further (this is what the body paragraphs are for). Avoid detailed information in support of your thesis. This, too, should be found in the body of the essay, after your topic sentences.

Don't begin your conclusion with "to conclude" or "in conclusion." It is clear to your reader that this is your final paragraph and is obviously your conclusion. (You may, however, begin your conclusion with transitions like therefore, thus, to sum up, or in summary.)

A conclusion should not be lengthy. In general, three or four sentences will suffice. This is especially true of a 30-minute essay examination conclusion.

## Practice One

Take the following thesis statements and paraphrase them so that they would fit into a conclusion. Remember that a paraphrase keeps the same ideas of the original statement, but uses your own words. When paraphrasing a thesis, it is often helpful to underline the key words in the original sentence. Be sure to use synonyms for these where possible. Also, be sure to include all of these main ideas in your rewrite. For example:

THESIS:

Getting married and having children is not key to one's happiness.

PARAPHRASED THESIS: A person may find contentment in life even if (s)he never marries or has children.

1. Thesis: "If you want to live a long and productive life, you must exercise regularly and eat healthy foods." Paraphrased Thesis:
2. Thesis: "Because of the conveniences and the cultural opportunities available in the city, living there is superior to living in the countryside." Paraphrased Thesis:
3. Thesis: "The only ways to become a proficient writer are to read as much as possible and write whenever you can." Paraphrased Thesis:

## TRANSITION TERMS

The word transit means to move or pass from one place to another. Thus, the words and phrases we use to move smoothly from one idea to another one in an essay are called transitions. To create a coherent, smooth essay, you must use these terms, and use them correctly.

While not every sentence in an essay requires a transition, you must disperse a variety of them throughout the essay to link sentences and paragraphs to each other. The chart below states the

purpose of the transition and provides you with a variety of similar ones to use. Avoid redundancy in your essay by choosing several different ones. In other words, don't use "however" every time you want to show contrast; instead, select as many different phrases as needed that serve the same function. Use commas to separate transitions from the rest of your sentence.

## Purpose of Transition

to show likeness or add information to show contrast to

introduce examples to explain to emphasize to generalize

to conclude or show result to indicate sequence or show

order

## Possible Transition Terms

also, too, besides, in addition, furthermore, moreover however, but, on the other

hand, conversely, yet, though, in contrast, nevertheless for example, such as, e.g.,

to illustrate, for instance that is, in other words, i.e.

in fact, indeed, certainly, clearly, of course generally speaking, in general, overall, for the

most part, usually, typically, in conclusion, in summary, to sum up therefore, thus,

consequently, as a result, as a consequence first, second, next, then, finally, lastly

# Appendix 2: A Patterned Plan of Attack

Writing

**READ THE QUESTION CAREFULLY.** Be sure you understand exactly what is being asked, and prepare to answer it.

**ORGANIZE YOUR THOUGHTS** in an outline or other logical way.

**ADD** sufficient **DETAILS OR EXAMPLES** in the plan for each major topic. **PAY ATTENTION TO GRAMMAR.** Do not try to make it complicated. Just make sure every sentence is complete and logical.

**PAY ATTENTION TO VOCABULARY.** Do not try to use words if you are not absolutely certain how they should be used. Big words are not necessary to achieve a good score.

**WRITE CAREFULLY,** following the organization of your outline and watching the grammar and vocabulary.

**PROOFREAD.** Make changes as necessary.