

IDEAS 3

**International Online Teachers Society
Debate
Educational Materials For
Advance and Upper Intermediate
Students**



**International Online Teachers Society
Publishing Committee**



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EDUCATION – I S A MUST

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Education is a very broad concept and an intricate word having diverse meanings. It refers to all the experiences in which people can learn something. It is an important factor in a person's life. In every country, it is not only of great importance but it serves as the primary avenue for upward social and economic mobility. It is a relative term to literacy which is pivotal to human progress. I guess you will all agree with me that education is the single most important key to development and to poverty alleviation. This is the sole reason why education is a must.

Education, if simply stated is the process of gaining knowledge which inculcates forms of proper conduct and acquiring technical competency. It involves the cultivation of an innocent mind, the instilling of values and principles in the mind of the children. It includes development of skills which goes along with the achievement of one's physical, mental and social development. It is also responsible for the cultivation of a civilized society and imparting it to the citizens enables the development of a responsible and thoughtful society. The words "cultivate" and "civilize" are almost synonymous to the word "educate".

Education is vital because it is the basis of culture and civilization. It is instrumental in the development of our values and virtues. It cultivates us into mature individuals who are capable of planning our future and making the right decisions. It arms us with an insight to look at our lives and learn from every experience. Therefore, the future of a nation is safe in the hands of educated individuals.

Education is essential for the economic growth of a nation and it fosters principles of equality and socialism, thus, it is the backbone of the society. This is the reason why education is a must. Education is a fundamental human right (must be protected) which is vital to ensure adequate progress. If we want to see our country progress and be the most successful country in the world, we have to be educated and try to educate people too (in our own special way). This means that if we have a free time, we should devote our time in educating illiterate persons telling them the importance of learning how to read and write and advice them to send their children to school (be it public or private for that matter) if they haven't done so.

We have to make the best use of the facilities given to us and pass on the legacy to the coming generation because education can pave the way to a better future for mankind. This can help eradicate illiteracy and help us to strive towards success. Wouldn't you agree with me that education is necessary to every human being? It is a must!

Questions for discussions:

1. Can a person do without education?
2. Why is education a must?
3. How important is education to a human being?
4. Is the word literacy and knowledge coherent to education?
5. Can education be one of the solutions for the third world countries?



EDUCATION – HOW LONG?

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Education is strongly important, which many believe as the ladder to success. But how long should one spend at school to finally achieve his goal?

As early as three years old (or sometimes even two), parents start sending their toddlers to school. Though informal education is taught at home, with mom as the first teacher, children are still encouraged to go to school at an early age. But why do parents do this? Don't they think that it is an agony for kids to be at school instead of staying home playing with their Barbie dolls and robots? At school, toddlers learn their ABC's, count 1 2 3, and sing DO, RE, MI. Not only do they acquire knowledge from books and their teachers but also make friends as well as experience the outside world. As many psychologists say, the minds of these children are like sponge. They can easily absorb what is taught. This is the best reason I see why many parents send their young kids to school, though education fee is rapidly increasing.

When elementary steps in, they become more independent. They can be left alone, and rarely will you see children crying because their parents left the room secretly. Kids have grown to be more outgoing and made more friends. As part of their development, they learn more from teachers as well as their classmates, who save them from terror teachers during graded recitations.

Middle school is a bridge between the elementary and high school. At this stage, adolescents, as what they are called, face a lot of changes and adjustments. They have a different outlook towards life and of course, education. Many of them begin to hate their parents, forcing them to go to school and do their homework; and their teachers for giving them voluminous school projects. They hardly find time to hang out with their peers, who they consider the most important people.

Come high school, for Koreans, is the busiest stage in their lives since they have to study from morning to late evening to prepare for the University Entrance Examination. These teens burn the candles on both ends going to institutes or staying in the library. Nonetheless, for many countries, high school life is the most exciting part of their education.

After choosing their college or university, students are prepared to a more serious stage in one's life-a lifelong career. Students often undergo confusion on what to major as they are sometimes impelled by their parents to follow their footsteps. Still, education doesn't end here. Many graduates after getting a job still continue with graduate school and later on pursue a doctorate degree, which they believe would eventually lead them to their targeted success.

The answer as to how long one should study is a personal choice. Success depends on the individual, but education indeed plays a vital role to achieve it.

Questions for discussions:

1. At what age do children start to go to school?
2. How long are children in your country educated?
3. What are the different stages of education?
4. State the importance of education.
5. How can education help you achieve success?



EDUCATION – ITS TRUE PURPOSE

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What is the true purpose of education? When we talk of education, we speak of knowledge gain. Education gives us the knowledge of the world around us. It develops in us the true perspective of looking at life. It also helps us to build opinions and have points of view on everything in life. Education originated from the Greek word “educare” which meant “leading out”. Education means an arising from unawareness to the awareness of one’s innate capabilities known as talents in order to serve a purpose in social development. It helps in imbibing moral and ethical values in the individuals and it helps every human being thrive in society, to interact with other social animals, helping a person to attain and maintain a certain degree of social well-being. It makes us capable of interpreting rightly the things perceived. It is not about the lessons and poems that we see in the textbooks but it is about the lessons of life.

In simple layman’s term, education is to bring about progress in practical fields enabling each educated individual of society to earn a living. Education is important for it equips us with all that we need to make our dreams come true. It opens doors of brilliant career opportunities and it is a fact that every employer of today requires his prospective employees to be well educated. The expertise that we can acquire in the field that we venture can be achieved through education. It eventually becomes an eligibility criterion for employment into any sector of the industry. It is therefore essential for it paves the path leading to disillusionment and directs us to enlightenment. It helps an individual build its confidence to take decisions, to face life and to accept successes and failures. It implants a sense of pride about the knowledge one has and prepares the individual for life.

Schools and colleges define the basic framework of education. Education does not end in schooling which gives us the fundamentals as we specialize in our fields of interest. It is a lifelong process. It continues through all the phases of our life.

Education lays the foundation for the fulfillment of a person’s dreams and aspirations. It helps an individual meet his or her career objectives (accomplishing his/her goals) and achieve an economic growth. It gives you a sense of personal fulfillment (creating a positive effect on an individual’s personality) which encourages the idea of education, thus leading to educate his/her children.

Hence an individual results in an educated family, which will hand it down to the future generations. I firmly believe that one of education’s true purposes is that, it aims at creating good teachers. Moreover, the true purpose of education is to bring about profoundness to one’s emotions, to broaden one’s perspectives and to lead a healthier approach of looking at life.

Questions for discussions:

1. Why is education important?
2. What is its true purpose?
3. Are the people aware of its growing need?
4. What kind of education do we want our offspring to have?
5. Can we explain the complexity of education?



International Online Teachers Society(IOTS) is an independent non profit international organization committed to improving the state of online and offline education in the world by engaging all kinds of language teachers with fluent English speaking skill in the world to shape global, regional and education agendas.
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