

Convincing Reasoning for TOEFL iBT

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- 1. The sentences are not corrected by a teacher, check everything before using them in your writings.**
- 2. Most of the paragraphs are not coherent enough; the sentences are just some scattered ideas presented to help your mind develop an orientation towards compelling reasons.**
- 3. All sentences are not originally mine; some of them are borrowed from English books, special thanks to their writers.**
- 4. Good luck with your TOEFL exam. Ace it! ;)**

1. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Students can get as many benefits from organization or club activities as they can get from their academic studies.

Disagree

- Universities are places where students, enlisting the helping hand of their professors, push back the frontiers of knowledge. They publish their findings and these findings will be developed later in commercial application. As a result, people's lives will run more smoothly. Only with academic studies is it achievable to reach this purpose.
- Academic life can prepare students for their adult life situations. In universities, students face a significant number of challenging problems, and they have to overcome a lot of hurdles to succeed. As a result they gain the ability to control themselves and learn how to react when things get rough in their real life. Rarely do organization activities force students to encounter a lot of difficulties, they cannot be as useful as academic studies accordingly.

2. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? After high school, students should have at least one year to work or travel. It's better than attending university straight away.

Disagree

- Students unintentionally tend to forget what they have learnt, over the course of time, when they are in the environments where their information is not implemented. Recalling the lost data after a year is very demanding. Even trained memories cannot remember things with a certain degree of accuracy so travelling for a year can bring them a lot of difficulties and cannot be considered a sensible course of action. It may distract their minds from their academic life.
- Universities prepare students for their future lives and bridge the gap between high school and work environment. They gain profitable skills and hands-on experience in universities to land better jobs in which they can apply their theoretical knowledge, which is gained at universities, to a practical environment. Although working for one year without any specialty, or being majored in their field of interest may bring some financial profits for them, it cannot benefit them in the long run.

3. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: One quality that a successful leader must have is to make decisions quickly; when a leader takes too much time to make decisions, he will be seen as ineffective to the people he leads.

Agree

- Some critical cases need instant decision making and any delay in taking measures may bring about dire consequences. Even some minutes of time dissipation may spell disaster for people the leader is leading. For example, when an earthquake occurs, or other natural disasters happen it is an urgent situation and the leader is required to make a decision as fast as possible to decrease the number of casualties.
- In order to make the best use of all opportunities the leader, and the people they lead, is offered, the necessity of quick decision making grows importance. Most of golden opportunities a leader is provided with, do not last long so the leader should seize the opportunity in a blink of an eye. Moreover, the world is, nowadays, a constant competition. The leader should be fast enough to win other competitors.
- Even in circumstances which do not sound urgent, fast decision making is beneficial. Some problems have several feasible solutions, making quick decisions provides the leader with the opportunity to try many alternatives, in case of a solution's failure. For example, imagine a company which has two viable options to tackle a problem within six months. If the leader waits until the last days, spending a substantial amount of time on recognizing the best solution, they lose the chance to try other solutions when the first one fails because of some internal or external problems. On the other hand, when the leader is fast, the company is less likely not to solve the problem.

4. In times of an economic crisis, in which area should governments reduce their spending? 1. Arts 2. Scientific research 3. Parks and public gardens.

Art

- Although art is said to be the best means of nourishing people's minds, there is no necessity that it be funded by the government. Alternatively, it can be assigned to the private sector. There are a lot of rich artists who tend to invest or dedicate a part of their money for continuation of art. Non-artist people who

possess the foresight to recognize the benefits of the artistic activities initiate their business in arts as well.

- Scientific research leads to huge advancements of technology, without which people's lives do not seem to continue properly. Devising, developing and maintaining technologies are in desperate need of money. In this regard, it goes without saying that disbursing money on scientific research cannot be suspended. For example, internet-based devices, which have proliferated remarkably in the modern era, cannot move forward and offer new debugged versions without scientific basis.
- Nowadays, due to hustle and bustle of modern hectic life styles, people need some escapist activities to unwind and relieve their great amount of stress and tension, and going to parks and gardens is a great means of that. Parks and public gardens are necessary, especially in times of and economic crisis, because people enjoy them for free, or at least they are affordable and do not end up costing people a lot of money. Reducing spending in this area is a sweeping change and affect a large majority of people negatively.

5. Some people believe that video games could inspire young students' interest and make their study more efficient rather than distract them and be a waste of time, so young students should be allowed to play video games. Do you agree or disagree?

Should not be allowed

- Video games are highly addictive and students are impressionable adolescents who do not possess the foresight to avoid the dire consequences of their addiction to video games. For example, a couple of years ago, a game called 'Blue Whale' proliferated among youngsters, the last step of the game encouraged gamers to commit suicide. Statistics have revealed that a lot of students committed suicide until the game was inhibited.
- The video games are developed by ingenuous people and provide students with great amount of excitement and joy, which makes it hard for them to stop playing. As a result, their habit of playing turns into addiction.
- Playing video games engenders some physical health problems for students. Firstly, staring at the screen constantly makes their eyes sensitive in primary

stages and leads to severe vision problems in the following. Furthermore, it is a sedentary activity so the players are vulnerable to obesity, which is a decisive risk factor of coronary stenosis and may cause untimely death.

6. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? A good leader should spend more time listening to other people's ideas than taking his/her own ideas.

Agree

- Different people have different thinking caps so by listening to others' opinions, the leader is provided with new perspectives and insights into the issue so the leader, enlisting others' ideas, can cover all eventuality, decide discreetly, and take the best course of action. The leader can also take advantage of others' creativity to come up with brilliant and innovative solutions for a problem.
- Human beings inevitably make mistakes, some more, some less, and the leaders are not the exception to the fact. In order to avoid making such sweeping mistakes, it is essential that leaders be open to criticism and listen to others' ideas. Sometimes, people offer constructive criticism which prevents the leader from experiencing irreversible repercussions.

7. Some people think that older children should be required to take care of the younger children. Others think that this should be done by parents or other adults. Which do you prefer?

Agree

- Taking care of younger children is a demanding task which prepares older children for their adult life where they face a lot of challenging problems which have to be dealt with independently. Moreover, it helps them to learn how to make quick decisions in times of a crisis. The ability to make decisions fast is an immense asset for their future life, since it provides them with the golden chance to seize each and every of opportunities they are offered in their lives. For example, when their sibling is suffering from a fever, and they take some measures to decrease their body temperature, it can be a great practice for them to learn how to manage a critical situation.

- In the modern era, in order to survive the current economic climate, both fathers and mothers, are supposed to work from dawn to dusk. As a result, they cannot spend a lot of time taking care of their children. Since the most reliable people to do this job are the siblings, they can help their parents and increase their self-satisfaction as well.

8. Some companies provide important products or service, but also damage environment. Some people believe that government should require more penalty, higher tax and larger fine of these companies, while others believe there are better ways. Which do you prefer?

Disagree

- It is not a prudent course of action since it does not take a heavy toll on the companies themselves; on the contrary, the company increase the price of their products, and because they provide important products and/or service which people are in desperate need of, people are the ones who, against their better judgment, end up paying the higher taxes. That reduces people's affordability as a long term effect, and negatively influences the economic climate. Therefore, at the end of day, not only are the environmental problems unsolved, but also it is the government itself which faces economic crisis.
- In order to work out the best way of doing a task, the governments should explore different ways. In this case, there are many other feasible alternatives, one of which is to encourage companies to use more eco-friendly designs, processes and technologies. One means of incentivizing companies to implement more environmentally friendly procedures is to give them low-gain loans. For example, a couple of years ago Arak Petrochemical Company used to dispose its waste in an irresponsible manner, which was very harmful to the environment. The company was then funded by the government to buy waste recycling systems. Not only did giving loans result in less damage to environments, but also it was a long lasting solution.

9. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Government, instead of individuals, should cover Internet fees.

Disagree

- Covering Internet fees will end up costing the government a lot of money. That great amount of money is derived either from taxes paid by all people, or from selling the country's natural resources like petroleum so the money should be disbursed evenly for all people in the country. However, not all people use internet to the same extent. On the contrary, rarely do some people, like old people, use the Internet. It goes without saying that spending money for paying Internet fees is not fair due to the fact that it does not benefit all people equally.
- Some people, especially youngsters, may use the Internet for unnecessary purposes. The increased Internet traffic may reduce the Internet speed and bring about problems for people who have important tasks to do. Internet shopping, online banking, and long-distance learning are some examples which may be negatively affected.

10. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

In the past, young people depended too much on their parents to make decisions for them; today young people are better able to make decisions about their own lives.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Agree

- Nowadays, in order to survive the current economic climate, both mothers and fathers are supposed to work from dawn to dusk, and, owing to their hectic daily schedules, they cannot spend a significant part of their time taking care of their children. As a result, from their early childhood, children need to deal with some demanding or critical situations, which prepare them to make decisions independently. On the other hand, in the past, parents believed that nurturing their children is their most important duty so they dedicated their whole time to their children, and offered them a helping hand in each and every of their decisions.
- Due to huge advancements of psychology, a lot of modern and innovative parenting patterns have developed, which can be enlisted by parents as useful techniques to grow more independent individuals. For example, psychologists

believe that playing can be considered as a great practice for cultivating the ability of decision making in children. While playing, children feel in control because they decide on the kind of play and which toy to play with. Parents provide their children with recommended playing tools, to stimulate them to unconsciously learn how to arrive at a decision on their own.

- Conclusion: It is a foregone conclusion that, nowadays, young people possess the ability to come up with a decision with remarkable ease, compared to young people in past decades.

11. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

The opinions of celebrities, such as famous entertainers and athletes, are more important to younger people than they are to older people.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Agree

- Celebrities' preferred means of communication with their fans is thorough social network. The rate at which young people spend time on social media is significantly higher in comparison to older people. Statistics: Youngsters form a significant majority of celebrities' followers on Instagram.
- Older people have formed their personality traits for so long, and they have firm characteristics which cannot be changed easily by a stranger's opinion. Conversely, younger people seek role models to follow the trends they set. Example: When impressionable adolescents see the lavish lifestyle of Cristiano Ronaldo, they decide to be a soccer player in their future to earn as much money as he does. The next day, when they keep track of Leonardo DiCaprio's life, their penchant for being an actor intensifies.

12. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

It is important to know about events happening around the world, even if it is unlikely that they will affect your daily life.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Disagree

- Nowadays, most of people are suffering from certain degrees of tension and stress in their lives, due to problems related to modern life like financial issues, timing problems, dense traffic, et cetera. Needless to say, the news about events happening around the world contains breaking information about starvation, natural disasters, terrorist attacks, wars, poor sanitary living conditions of some people and increasing rate of death-leading diseases. Knowing about all these disappointing affairs escalates people's stress level, which may bring about serious health problems. For example, when ISIS emerged, the news about slaughtering innocent people engendered severe conditions of depression for a lot of people in my country; however, my country never happened to experience any terrorist attacks and people's phobia was groundless. To avoid such dire consequences, it is better not to know about the things going on around the world.
- In the modern era, most of the people suffer from timing issues, they have very hectic daily schedules and in order to get their tasks done, they have to prioritize their activities according to their relative importance, and jot down a list from the most to the least important tasks. It goes without saying that knowing about the things which happen around the world does not win the first rows of the list, and, accordingly, is considered to be a waste of time.

13. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Because modern life is very complex, it is essential for young people to have the ability to plan and organize.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Agree

- In the modern era, most of young people have hectic daily schedules, and in order to get their chores done, they have to draw up detailed plans. That, enables them to prioritize their tasks in order of importance so that they can dedicate time to each of their tasks according to its relative importance. The ability of time management is an immense asset for young people which benefit

them in their whole life. Only with planning and organizing is it achievable that a person gains this ability.

- Moreover, setting plans can provide young people with the golden opportunity to achieve their daily goals by breaking down their tasks into several manageable stages, and dealing with them step by step. At the end of the day, they will have a great sense of achievement which stimulate them to work harder tomorrow.
- The best way to achieve a goal is to set detailed plans and stick to that until the aim is achieved. This is especially true for the case of young people due to the fact that they get distracted from their main goals more easily.
- While planning, young people learn how to recognize their strengths, weaknesses, threats and opportunities, and eventually decide on what actions to take. Moreover, they learn that they should cover all eventuality in order not to get shocked in case things do not go on well, or as anticipated. They can also minimize the risk of any loss by taking advantage of setting the plan B.

14. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Workers are more satisfied when they have many different types of tasks to do during the workday than when they do similar tasks all day long.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Agree

- Doing different tasks provides people with the golden opportunity to implement both of their brain's hemispheres. Doing a task activates one hemisphere of the brain, either the right hemisphere, or the left hemisphere. By doing a wide variety of jobs, one increases the chance to exploit both of brains' hemispheres. Not only does this result in enhancing the brain's functioning, but it also causes less mental fatigue. Switching from a hemisphere to the other one and back, breaks the task down for the brain. As a result, employees will be less exhausted and more energetic when they leave the workplace.
- They develop a lot of profitable and practical skills, and gain hands-on experience, which enables them to help more people with their wide variety of abilities. Most of people's main goal is to be useful individuals who serve their

people the best by relieving them of their tasks. In this regard, they can boost their self-satisfaction, and will have a great sense of achievement at the end of each day. For example, my uncle's job requires him to be a versatile person, and he is known as the jack-of-all-trades within the family. Whenever a problem ensues, he volunteers to help instantly and due to his versatility, he is always successful in doing this job.

15. In order to attract more tourists, the government could either improve safety by hiring more police or improve its appearance by repairing old buildings and streets. Which way do you think is more effective?

Improve appearance

- Seeing a lot of police subconsciously brings about the feeling of insecurity in one's mind because, generally speaking, the number of police is significant when either something bad has happened and they are present to take control of the situation, or something bad is about to happen and their presence is for preventing its dire consequences, both of which make tourists feel unsafe.
- On the other hand, by repairing old buildings, the whole city becomes eye appealing and attracts a lot of tourists. One of the most decisive factors contributing to the rate at which tourists visit a country or city, is the appearance of the city. For example, tourists visit Venice in Italy mostly because of its eye-catching appearance. The mayor of Venice allocates an inordinate amount of money for enhancing the city's look and pays painstaking attention to repairing all of its outdated buildings; in return, the city earns billions of dollars annually from the tourism. That obviously shows the great effectiveness of spending money on improving the appearance of the city.

16. At one high school, more of its students than ever before have been caught cheating on their homework assignments. For example, many students have asked other students to provide them with answers for assignments. The school is considering making a change to help decrease the number of students who cheat on homework. Which one of the following actions do you think will be most effective and why?

- **asking parents to monitor their children as they do their homework and confirm that their children have not cheated**
- **increasing the penalty (punishment) for cheating**
- **asking teachers to create homework assignments that will make it more difficult for students to cheat**

Increasing the penalty

- Students' inclination towards cheating is due to the fact that they are afraid of losing marks, or failing a course, which are both short term consequences. They do not possess the foresight to see what they gain through cheating is of no value in the long run and may spell disaster for their whole life. For example, owing to their short-term fore-thought, they cannot digest that they will not be able to land the job they desire for lack of knowledge and skill. In this regard, setting extreme rules and strict penalties has the same effect on their minds and forces them to be inclined towards the idea that using others' efforts is frowned upon by the society.
- Psychologically speaking, there are a lot of viable solutions for preventing a person from doing an activity, one of which, for example, is rewarding them in case they quit that job, and one of the most practical methods to stop them is by frightening them. Increasing punishment will make students afraid and the fear of getting caught subconsciously deflect them from cheating.

17. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Children rely too much on the technology, like computers, smart phones, video games for fun and entertainment. Playing simpler toys or playing outside with friends would be better for children's development.

Agree

- Early childhood is the best period of one's life to form their social personality traits. The children who spend a lot of time on their smart phones and computers, lose the opportunity to make friends, win their trust and enjoy their companionship. In other words, they lose the chance to socialize. As a result, they do not learn how to develop proper social behaviors. Not only do they end

up having a lot of problems for foraging relationships in their future adult life as a result of lack of social activities in their childhood, but also they cannot benefit from the positive effects of socializing on their life expectancy.

- Sitting in one spot of their rooms and staring at the screen constantly, brings about a lot of physical health problem for them. At primary stages, their eyes get sensitive, and, eventually, they end up having serious eyesight problems. Moreover, their sedentary life style causes obesity, which is the main risk factor for a significant majority of cardiovascular diseases. For example, a fatty substance accumulates in coronary arteries and forms a plaque in the artery, which restricts the blood flow. In severe conditions it may cause untimely deaths in young ages.

18. If the government wants to invest in the following three areas, what do you think is the most worthwhile?

- **Land exploration**
- **Education**
- **Health care**

Education

- Universities are places where students, enlisting the helping hand of their professors, push back the frontiers of knowledge daily. Moreover, they publish their findings, and those findings develop into commercial applications later, which cause sweeping changes in people's lives, over the course of time. For example, a couple of years ago, I had to rush out of work to get to the bank in my launch hour. Now, thanks to online banking, I can do my tasks in the blink of an eye. Needless to say, had the government not invested money on education, the world would not have progressed to such an extent.
- Disbursing money on education, improves the educational system and help teachers and professors to train more literate students who have a lot of practical skills. Schools and universities offer better programs in a wide variety of majors, including programs related to health care and land exploration. As a result, health care experts and land exploration specialists will be nurtured. It goes without saying that investing in education will end up having radical

improvements in area of both health care and land exploration, in the long run. For example, spending a significant amount of money on providing technologies by which medical students can learn about different diseases and their treatments, the risks to public health decrease because better doctors help people to improve their poor sanitary conditions.

19. A city wants to help teachers of its high school students (ages14-18) improve their teaching. It is considering two plans:

- **Choose a small group of excellent teachers; these teachers will attend a class led by an expert for additional training in how to teach effectively, and they will then come back to their schools and provide that training for other teachers in school.**
- **Provide additional training in teaching effectively for high school teachers, using online material that each teacher will study individually.**

Long-distance learning

- By recruiting the helping hand of online learning, the expert can impart his knowledge directly to all teachers with an amazing degree of accuracy, and teachers can benefit the firsthand information and experience they gain. On the other hand, the small group of teachers who have attended the class may forget some useful tips, or may unintentionally change some information provided by the expert, both of which decrease the degree of accuracy.
- Nowadays, due to complexities of modern life, all people are suffering from timing issues, and teachers are not the exception to the fact. They have hectic daily schedules because they have to deal with household chores, plan their teaching, prepare assignments for students and check them, and so forth. Attending the class is a time-consuming activity and brings about some difficulties for most of the teachers. For example, they may get stuck in dense traffic while going to the class. And in order to avoid wasting their time, online learning is considered a practical solution. Consequently, teacher can enjoy learning the novel approaches of teaching at their own home with remarkable ease.

20. At some universities, students take part in making decisions about the issues that affect daily life of everyone on campus such as how many hours the libraries should be open each day or what kinds of food should be served in the cafeteria. But at some universities, experts are hired to make these decisions, and students are almost never involved. Which approach do you prefer and why?

Experts

- Students do not possess the foresight and forethought to cover all eventuality when they make decisions. They only recognize the short time effects and have no idea their decision may have irreversible repercussions for the university in the long run. Experts, on the other hand, have hands-on experience in decision making about campus situation, and they have been trained and educated to take the best course of action. For example, students may like to have the library open twenty four hours a day in exams period, which, in turn, will end up costing the university a lot of money for paying the guards, the power, et cetera.
- Different students have different thinking caps and each student think about their personal benefits. As a result, the university will be bombarded with a lot of ideas provided by different students. In consequence, chaos ensues.

21. Which one do you think is the most important for high school teacher (age from 15 to 18)?

- **The ability to give students advice to plan for their future**
- **The ability to find which students need help and provide them with help**
- **The ability to encourage students to learn by themselves outside of the classroom**

Advice to plan for future

- Teachers are considered to be the best and most reliable people who can provide students with practical guidance about their future.
- Not only do teachers know students and their personality traits well, but they are also aware of their talents and potential abilities. Moreover, they have firsthand information about work environments and different careers. Thanks to these features, teachers can offer students the most suitable plans for them

according to their characteristics. For example, at high school, I had planned to become a biomedical engineer to land a decent job but my teacher reminded me about my talent in photography and helped me to cultivate my ability until it blossomed.

- One of the most urgent problems facing up today for youngsters is that they do not have a clear picture of their future. That leads to certain degrees of depression, stress and being undetermined. Teachers can help students set goals for their future lives and follow their dreams until they are achieved.

22. Do you agree or disagree the following statement? The more money a person has, the more should he or she give away to charities.

Agree

- People inherently tend to have as much money as possible. However, psychologists believe that money can bring about limited happiness to people's lives. According to the Maslow's hierarchy of needs, ever since people achieve their primary needs properly, the money itself cannot make them cheerful any more. They seek more worthy joys rather than living a lavish lifestyle. In this regard, by dedicating a part of their money to philanthropic activities, they will be provided with the golden opportunity to meet their invaluable needs and purposes. Moreover, because having more money does not make dramatic differences in their life, the more money they have, the more money they can give away to the charities. For example, by providing shelter for a homeless family, a rich person will satisfy their innate inclination to be helpful; needless to say, providing shelter for then families gives them a greater sense of achievement, which is an immense asset.
- This will help to bridge the widening gap between the poor and the rich, which results in developing a more healthy society. Strictly speaking, if a rich person has a significant amount of money but allocates only a small fraction of that to the poor people, the gap stands still. Moreover, some social diseases like robbery, poverty, and the high crime rate are the direct effect of people's misery, and the rate of such disease diminishes corresponding to the amount of the help the rich offers. That is also a kind of long-term investment and benefits

them over the course of time. The more money they give away to charities, the healthier the society they live in.

23. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

It's a waste of money for Government to fund space travel or space exploration.

Give specific examples and details to support your answer.

Disagree

- The planet earth is facing a catastrophe on a global scale. Global warming, depletion of fossil fuels, air pollution, soil corrosion, irresponsible manner of waste disposal, and other human activities are making the earth an inappropriate planet for living, and their negative effects is so huge that scientists believe that human beings should live the earth within six centuries. Now that governments cannot take any measures to preserve the earth for posterity, they have to do their best to find an alternative planet for the next generations.
- Devising, developing and maintaining a lot of technologies are in close relationship with the level of our knowledge about the space. Satellites orbiting the earth are the backbone of a lot of great technologies, without which people's lives do not seem to continue properly. For example, all internet-based devices, GPS services, weather forecasting and radio and television broadcasting are highly dependent on our knowledge about satellites. Needless to say, disbursing money on them cannot be suspended. Otherwise, it may spell disaster for countries. For example, a couple of years ago, by predicting a storm, the number of casualties reduced significantly. To give a sense, the mortality rate of such strong storms is four times as much in case they are not anticipated.

24. Which one do you think is the most important factor for a student to succeed at college or university?

- 1. Tutors in university.**
- 2. The encouragement from family and friends.**

3. High-quality education from high school.

Encouragement

- Studying is a demanding task. A person who is pursuing their academic studies faces an inordinate number of challenging problems, solving which is very time and energy consuming, and brings about high levels of stress in students. As a result, students need an endless supply of energy and stimulus, which can be obtained from their family and friends. For example, the third semester I joined university the situation got very tough for me, I thought I could not meet the deadline for my projects, and I had many exams. The pressure was so huge that I decided to quit the university but by the encouragement and support that my family offered, I could overcome the hurdles.
- One of the most important goals of a student is to make their family and friends proud for their success, but sometimes students may get lost and overwhelmed. That brings about difficulty for them recognizing whether they are taking a right way or not. Getting their parents and friends encouragement can be regarded as an indicator which can push them to the limits.

25. Do you agree or disagree?

It is difficult for teachers to be both popular (liked by students) and effective in helping students in learning.

Give your reasons and specific examples.

Agree

- A friendly teacher provokes a convivial atmosphere in which students may feel free to do what they desire, due to the fact that school is the first official place a person enters, and students may not know how to behave appropriately when the teacher is friendly. As a result, a certain degree of rigidity is necessary for teachers to enable them to manage the class. Needless to say, only with having the ability of class management is it possible that teachers achieve their goal to help students learn. Otherwise, chaos ensues. However, students do not like this inflexibility, and the teacher cannot be a popular one.

- Students do not possess the foresight to recognize the positive, long-term effects of having a strict teacher. When a teacher pays painstaking attention to the assignments, takes many exams, asks students some questions to get them involved in the class discussion, and correct their mistakes meticulously, their aim is to help students improve rather than bothering them. Students, however, due to lack of forethought, are not pleased with these kinds of activities, and have no idea that learning all ins and outs of a course can, in the long run, engenders dramatic changes in their lives.

26. Some people think the media including newspapers, televisions, radio and internet sources are less concerned with the accuracy of news. They think the information from the media is becoming incorrect. Do you agree with this opinion or not and explain why? Include examples and specific reasons.

Agree

- Despite the fact that not all reporters are dishonest, it is my firm conviction that the news must be scrutinized meticulously and it is not reputable enough.
- Most reporters and their organizations are more concerned about the profit they can obtain than are they about actual facts. Magazines, newspapers, radio and television need money in order to stay in business. Therefore, they sometimes forget about the importance of ethical standards, degree of accuracy, impartiality and completeness of news for economic interests. Moreover, since the reporters need to catch the eye of people, they sometimes fabricate engaging stories, or add some unreal details to increase the number of viewers, readers and audiences, and accordingly, enlarge the benefit they make.
- Governments control media and influence it the way they desire. In order to save their power, governments need the nation to be under the impression that there is nothing wrong with the country's situation, which can be achieved through daily censorship of the news. For example, in the Islamic Republic of Iran, the rate of inflation has been stated to be less than thirty percent; nevertheless, according to economists, it is upper than two hundred percent.

- Sometimes the reporters misrepresent the news in order not to frighten people. For example in case of a terrorist attack, the media do not accentuate the attack to ensure people that they are safe.

27. Some people prefer to focus on ambitious dreams while others think realistic goals are more important. Which do you prefer and why?

Realistic goals

- It is a more prudent course of action to set realistic goals because they are more likely to be achieved if people set up detailed plans and make effort to obtain them. Moreover, reaching an aim incentivizes people to try more to achieve their other goals as well. For example, a student with a weak background of mathematics should not plan to win the Mathematics Olympiad medal over a night. Alternatively, they can take a step-by-step approach and break the task down to several manageable chunks. They can start by getting a good mark on the school mathematics exam. That gives them a great sense of achievement which can stimulate them to work harder to accomplish the next steps too.
- Ambitious dreams are far-fetched and frustrate people in case of failure. In some cases, not achieving a goal brings about certain degrees of depression, and people feel so disappointed that they totally quit their dream. For example, not until a person earns 15000 dollars per month, should they set up to buy a BMW car within a year. Otherwise, they end up getting dreadfully upset.

28. For schools, assessing teachers' teaching efficiency is a very important issue. But is it better for other teachers to assess or let students assess teachers?

Students

- Students can evaluate their teachers teaching styles more appropriately since they have been in their classes for a significant number of hours and they have first-hand information about whether the teachers' teaching method has been practical and efficient or not.
- Other teachers may assess their colleague unfairly due to the fact that they want to be known as the best teachers. Moreover, some teachers may, against their

better judgment, be biased to speak very highly of their friends and accentuate the bad points about other teachers.

29. If you were the leader of the country, what kind of policy would you use to succeed?

1. Creating job for unemployed people

2. Develop agriculture and reduce food prices

3. Develop Housing

Creating job for unemployed people

- When unemployment reaches epic proportions, the number of people suffering from misery significantly intensifies over the course of time. One irreversible consequence of the increased number of poor people in a society is the emergence and proliferation of social pathologies like robbery, poverty and high crime rates. One practical solution to avoid such social problems is to provide unemployed people with a job so that they can meet their primary needs.
- Recruiting fresh workforce can set the wheels of industry in motion and ameliorate the economic climate of a country. People who are in desperate need of landing a job do their best to keep the job when they achieve it. As a result, they spend their whole energy to satisfy the master, which increases the work efficiency, and engenders economic growth in the long run.
- There is a Persian proverb which says, "It is more beneficial to teach someone fishing rather than giving them a fish." This proverb can be generalized and can explain that the most beneficial policy is to provide people with job opportunities to increase their affordability rather than providing them with cheap food or shelter.

30. Some people say people taking risks can be more successful than people who are careful and cautious. What is your opinion? Please give specific details and examples in your answer.

Being careful and cautious

- The safest way leading to success is adhering to standards. In order to standardize a procedure, the experts carry out a risk assessment and recognize the courses of action whose benefits outweigh their risks. These standards have been tried and experienced by different people over the years, and are believed to be able to minimize the danger of losing.
- Human beings inherently tend to safeguard themselves against any loss in their lives. In order to achieve this objective, they should enlist their legitimacy to make each and every of their decisions. Taking risks which is somehow an emotional action, do not seem to work out in the world of logical laws. As a result, discreet people who make decisions after careful consideration are less likely to lose.

Taking risks

- People who carry a risk may face failure several times but after all they end up achieving a huge success. On the other hand, conservative people are less likely to lose, due to their careful consideration before decision making. Nevertheless, they meet with little success.
- People who take risks learn how to expand their patience owing to their failures, which is an immense asset because it helps them to overcome more and more hurdles, and enables them to push themselves to the limits.
- They also learn how to accept their losses and turn them into lessons. The pain of a loss is the nature's preferred agent for inspiring changes which help people make headway towards success.

31. Which one is the most important factor to help you work productively?

A. Having an environment free of noise and distractions;

B. Knowing that you will receive a reward;

C. Doing something you are interested in.

Receiving a reward

- Working productively is very demanding and needs a lot of energy and effort, and in order to overcome the hurdles of working hard, people need a positive stimulus. A valuable reward can be considered as a great impetus to push

people forward. There is a well-known proverb saying, “When you are about to give up, remember why you have started,” and, winning a reward is a compelling answer to this.

- Human beings inherently tend to win, and exploit all their energy and power to accomplish what they set out to. Fighting for a reward arouses enthusiasm and competitiveness. People will end up doing their best to be better candidates than are others to achieve the reward.

32. The university has provided students who are going to enter university with two summer vocation programs. Which one do you think is better for students?

1) Take some college courses in advance e.g. some courses that are related to students' major.

2) Visit some history museums or historical relics.

Take some college courses

- It can be considered as a procedure to prepare students for their academic life. When students leave high school and enter university, they sometimes get shocked about the extent to which the teaching styles and materials are different from high school. Passing college courses can be a great practice for students to get familiar with academic environments, and help them to win the constant struggle and overcome the hurdles they may face at universities.
- It broadens students' horizons about their major, and helps them gain some background knowledge for the courses they are supposed to pass at university. Taking some college courses before embarking on academic studies is somehow like pre-reading the materials and provides students with the golden opportunity to keep track of class discussion with remarkable ease.

33. Do you agree that it is better to work for the business owned by someone else than to work for the business of one's own family?

Other's business

- It does not take a drastic toll on people's lives in case of failure, because they are not closely involved in their business.
- People have different thinking caps, and this brings about disagreements in the business, which is inevitable in all businesses. However, sometimes reaching a consensus becomes arduous and may cause contention. The downside of family business is that any serious argument negatively affects family relationships. Sometimes families end up tearing apart.

34. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? When people spend a lot of time watching sports on television or following their favorite team, does it have negative effects on their lives?

Agree

- Although professional athletes are considered as a source of glory for the country, spending a lot of time for following a team's activities takes a drastic toll on the fans' lives.
- Nowadays, due to complexities of modern life, people have hectic daily schedules and they should prioritize their activities in order of importance. They can create a list of their tasks from the most to the least important and dedicate time to them according to their relative significance. It goes without saying that watching sports for long hours does not win the first rows of the list since it does not provide fans with any benefit. Generally speaking, if the team wins, the players get the reward, and if it loses, the players lose the money and popularity, and, as one can obviously understand, not only the people who follow a team do not earn something valuable, but they also lose something invaluable, which is their time. Instead of wasting their time watching sports on television, they had better do some exercise to keep in shape and maintain their physical health.
- People are under significant amount of pressure and tension, and caring about a specific team intensifies their stress level. For example, when a person is a huge fan of a soccer team, they experience a lot of stress in the days before sensitive matches, which prevents them from focusing on their other duties. They will also find themselves drawn into certain degrees of depression in case their favorite team loses. Although this depression is transient, it reduces their productivity for some days. In total, people cannot achieve their daily goals a

few days before a match for the stress, and a few days after each loss for the depression.

35. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? These days, children spend more time on doing homework or participating in organized activities related to school or sports. However, they should be given more time to do whatever they want.

They should be given more time to do whatever they desire.

- Spending their whole time on activities related to school, whether they are organized activities or schoolwork, brings about mental fatigue in students. Letting them do what they like, for example playing videogames, painting or playing a musical instrument provides them with the golden opportunity to use both of their brain's hemispheres and enhance their brain's performance and functioning. Switching between two hemispheres of brains, prevents students from getting exhausted.
- Dealing with a lot of formidable questions and the fear of missing deadlines, or the panic about not getting organized activities done, put a lot of strain on students' minds, and doing the activities they like can be considered as a form of escapism which helps students relieve their stress and unwind.

36. Which one of the following would you change to improve your health?

- **The kind of food you eat**
- **The amount of exercise**
- **The amount of stress**

The amount of exercise

- Due to my sedentary life style, I am extremely vulnerable to obesity so in order to keep in shape and prevent myself from gaining weight, doing exercise seems to be the best viable option. According to cardiologists, lack of regular exercise is one of the most important risk factors of most cardiovascular diseases, especially coronary artery stenosis, in which a fatty substance forms a plaque in the arteries which nourish the heart muscle and restrict the blood flow.

Statistics: the number of untimely deaths has significantly increased due to people's sedentary activities. Thus, in order to prevent its dire consequences, doing some exercise is the most beneficial.

- Exercising causes the body to release some happiness-related hormones which give people a boundless supply of positive energy after the workout so enlisting the helping hand of doing regular exercise, I can benefit its indirect results on my stress level as well. There is a famous proverb saying, 'You are one workout away from a good mood.' That explains how doing some exercise can be considered a great form of escapism to help people unwind.

37. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement:

It is impossible to be completely honest with your friend.

Disagree

- Honesty is defined far beyond the scope of friendship or any other interaction with others. It is an intrinsic characteristic of a person, regardless of how the climate of friendship is. As a result, when people value their moral principles, they are able to be completely honest with their friends.
- Moreover, forging a rapport is a demanding task which needs painstaking attention, and it takes a long time to win the trust of a person so people should adhere to ethical standards to keep their friends. Friends may end up tearing apart in case a side of the rapport is lied to. The fear of losing their friends, incentivizes people and makes it easier for them to choose truth.
- As mentioned before, not until both sides of a relationship win the trust of the other, can the relationship be defined as a friendship. Needless to say, when people trust in their friends there is no necessity to tell them lies. Friends can enjoy each other's companionship and set themselves free to talk about everything, rather than lying.

38. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Parents should allow children to make mistakes and let them learn from their own mistakes.

Agree

- Children are inherently curious and like to experience their unknowns. In order to help them satisfy their curiosity, parents should let them make mistakes. For example, all children tend to touch the heater as the flowing flames seem eye appealing to them. When parents do not let them make mistakes, it deeply frustrates them, but once they sense the heat, they will be less likely to touch it again.
- Pain is nature's preferred agent for inspiring change. Mistakes are painful, and this pain is not a bug of human's evolution, but rather a feature which can be exploited to help children learn the causes and their effects. The same example, children experience pain and get hurt when they touch the heater so they understand that fire can pose a threat to their health, and, in order to minimize the danger, they never go towards the fire again.
- It is a foregone conclusion that letting children make mistakes is beneficial for them but it is imperative that parents have their eyes on their children to inhibit irreversible repercussions while they are making mistakes.

39. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement.

Movies and television have more negative effects than positive effects on the way young people behave.

Agree

- It is a common approach of making a movie among directors that they add some sexual scenes to make a movie more attractive and appealing. However, that results in early exposure of young people to these inappropriate contents, and may bring about some sexual disorders for them.
- Most movies are made without considering young people as audiences, so the use of dirty words and bad language make negative but lasting impression on their behavior and language.
- One of tremendous effects of television and movies is spreading violence. Impressionable adolescents do not possess the foresight to think about what ensues violent behavior and, that, may take a drastic toll on their lives.

40. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Although science and technology will continue to improve, the most significant improvement for the quality of people's lives have already taken place.

Disagree

- There are a lot of unsolved problems on planet earth which need painstaking attention of science and technology. Not until these problems are solved, can one conclude that quality of people's lives has improved enough.
- The problem of transportation: People have hectic daily schedules and wasting their time in dense traffic is inferior. Using public transportation is very time consuming as well due to their lower speed and several stops in different stations. Strictly speaking, as today's science fiction is said to be tomorrow's science fact, I believe that technologists and scientists can devise vehicles which can transport people to any place they desire within the blink of an eye. Moreover, these vehicles should exploit clean energy sources. That not only enables us to preserve fossil fuels and other natural resources for the posterity, but also provides us with a more quality air to breathe due to less emission of toxic chemicals.
- The medical problems: In past decades, a lot of infants died in labor for poor sanitary conditions, and an ordinate number of children died because of Poliomyelitis. Nowadays, although these medical problems are solved to a great extent, there are still a lot of diseases for which there is no curative treatment. For example, liver cancer which is one of the most death-leading and common cancers around the world, cannot be cured completely. It can merely become less severe by enlisting palliative treatments. Furthermore, there is no cure for AIDS, which, according to statistics, has increased the rate of untimely deaths twice as many. Now that a lot of people die for different illnesses, how can we conclude that the quality of people's lives is high enough?

41. Which kind of universities do you prefer?

Universities whose graduates can find good jobs or universities where there are famous professors?

Find good jobs after graduation

- Nowadays, unemployment has reached epic proportions and one of the most urgent problems facing up today is the dearth of job opportunities. In this regard, one should pay painstaking attention to the golden chance of landing a decent job that some universities provide their graduated students with. The guarantee of a good job, can help students have an accurate picture of their future, which results in hard work and enthusiasm among students.
- Although it seems great to conduct research and study under supervision of famous professors, one had better invest for long-term purposes. Generally speaking, one spends only a few years in university, but they expend at least one-third of their lives on working, and their job influences the rest of lives. As a result, in the long run, it is much more prudent to choose universities which offer job positions.

42. Some people like to buy a piece of technological devices soon as it is available in the market. Other people prefer to buy it after it has been adopted by many people. Which do you prefer?

After sometime

- When a new technological device is introduced, especially when its brand is the current trend, the company's loyal customers tend to buy it. The huge demand literally means high prices in business. However, over the course of time, the demand slightly declines, and, generally speaking, the less the demand, the less the prices. For example, each September, when Apple Company introduces its new member, a lot of iPhone lovers instantly buy the new smart phone to enjoy the updates and the new features. Nevertheless, one can wait for a couple of months and buy the product with a more reasonable price.
- All activities done by humans suffer a certain amount of error. That is why companies develop prototypes before commercial manufacturing. However, some problems cannot be investigated even with testing the prototypes, but

when a significant number of people buy the devices and use them for some time, they understand the bugs and offer the company their constructive criticisms, and the company takes measures to address the issues. As a result, it is more sensible to wait for new, debugged versions of a product.

43. Do you agree or disagree?

One can learn a lot about a person from the books and movies that he likes.

Agree

- When people like certain types of books or particular genres of movies they spend a significant amount of time reading or watching them. Psychologically speaking, whenever a person dedicates a considerable amount of time to something, regardless of what it is, they adopt changes associated with it subconsciously. In this regard, there is a Persian proverb saying, 'If you want to get to know someone, watch their friends,' which explains that because they spend a lot of time with each other, their friends affect their personality traits. Now, we can generalize this to whatever we spend our time with. Consequently, books and movies make impressions on people and teach them a lot of things, and over the course of time, people gradually become more and more like the movies and books they have a penchant for. For example, an impressionable adolescent who likes and watches movies which contain violent scenes develops a violent characteristic slightly.
- One viable reason for one's inclination towards some movies or books is their identification with the story. In other words, they can touch the story with their hearts. Their desire is merely because of the story rather than the IMDB score, the stars, or its famous writer. That means they feel personal sympathy with the characters, and they consider themselves the real counterpart of a character in the story. For example, after an emotional breakup, my sister turned to watch romance movies in which the lovers ended up tearing apart, which could obviously show her life's state at that period of time.

44. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

The most important investment for a company is to spend money to improve the work skills of its employees.

Agree

- Employees waste a lot of time and dissipate an inordinate amount of energy due to lack of proper skills. Improving work skills helps them find the most time and energy efficient approach for doing their tasks, and, as a result, they can decrease their workload, and increase their efficiency. Accordingly, the efficiency of the company intensifies.
- All activities done in a workplace should follow a set of instructions and rules, and be compatible with humans' body structure. Otherwise, they may bring about physical health problems for employees. Only with improving their work skills is it achievable to provide them with a safe job environment. In this regard, they can learn the standards and adhere to them in order to minimize the risks. For example, according to biomechanical studies, workers who are supposed to carry heavy loads should sit, take the load and then stand up again. Otherwise, they will suffer from back pain sooner or later, due to the uneven load distribution on their spine.

45. When parents are too busy to spend time with their children, they could choose to send their children to a childcare center where many children are taken care of together; or they could send their children to an individual caregiver. Which one is better?

Childcare Center

- Kindergarten provides children with an environment in which they can socialize. Psychologically speaking, one of the most important abilities a child should develop is social skills, which is more than necessary for their future life. In this regard, kindergartens are places where children can meet a lot of new people with different personality traits at the same age and can practice how to initiate contact and establish rapport with them. As a result, not only do they learn how to forge new friendships, but also the socializing positively improves their life expectancy.
- Teachers and mentors in a childcare center are trained and experienced to deal with children properly. Most of them are required to take some field courses

and practice under supervision of psychologists to recognize the behavioral patterns of children, and learn how they should respond to them. Moreover, they have gained firsthand experience of interacting with a lot of children with different characteristics over the years, and as a result, they are capable of managing children and taking better care of them.

46. Do you agree or disagree with the statement?

All university students should be required to take history courses no matter what field they study in.

Disagree

- Students have terribly heavy workload to deal with, including researching, studying, handing in assignments, preparing for exams, and other tasks related to their majors. It is a waste of time to study history, which is very demanding and time-consuming due to the fact that students should memorize a lot of items, dates and names. However, students studying other fields like mathematics, do not possess a trained memory, and it is difficult for them to cope with details so it will force them to dedicate a big part of their time to a single history course to pass it. Alternatively, they can spend their time focusing on the courses related to their major, which is obviously more beneficial.
- Knowing a lot of stories about the past people cannot be beneficial in any aspect of the modern life. Due to the huge developments of people's brains and thinking patterns, modern humans are not likely to have the primitive problems people had in the past so the solutions they introduced or the actions they took is of no importance for a student who is studying Mechanical Engineering, for example. Studying the story of the kings of country, the number of their wars, and the winner of the wars, for a Mechanical Engineering student is as useless as reading fairytales.

47. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement. It is better to make friends with intelligent people than with the people who have a good sense of humor.

Agree

- Forging a friendship with intelligent people is very beneficial in time of trouble due to the fact that they have trained minds. When a problem pops up in one's life, friends are one of the most trustworthy people whom one can ask for their help or advice. Intelligent friends have the ability to recognize the threats and opportunities and cover all eventuality, and as a result, offer a wise piece of advice.
- There is a Persian proverb saying, 'When you want to get to know someone, watch their friends,' which properly explains the effect we adopt from our friends. Psychologically speaking, people's personality traits gradually turn out to be more akin to their friends' over the course of time. By establishing rapport with intelligent people one can increase their chance to improve their intelligence.

48. Some people think that we should keep away from others to improve our relationship, because being away from people reminds us of how important they are. Others think we should always stay with others to have good relationship because we can communicate with them more often. What do you think?

Always stay

- One can show how much they care about their friends' by staying with them all the time. Regarding the fact that most of people, nowadays, have very hectic daily schedules, freeing up time for their friends shows nothing but their friends' invaluable companionship and importance. When people start believing that they are valuable for others, their emotional bonds start to tighten subconsciously. As a result they can enjoy their stronger relationship.
- Winning a friend's trust takes an inordinate amount of time, and is very demanding. One practical method which helps this procedure to accelerate is staying in touch with friends constantly. This way, people will be provided with the golden chance to recognize their friends' daily challenges and help them deal with and overcome their hurdles. The sympathy and trust between friends, in consequence, make them each other's close confidant.
- Keeping distance from friends brings about misunderstanding. People may start wondering that the distance is because they are unwanted. As a result, the friendship may break down, and healing the rift would not be possible.

49. Do you agree that people easily learn from the friends beside them? Use specific examples and evidences to support your answer.

Agree

- Human beings are not completely rigid. On the contrary, all people are, to some extent, open to change, and the change is the directly derived from the environment to which they are exposed. People spend an inordinate amount of time with their close friends, and they form the most significant part of their surrounding environment. It goes without saying that the people whom one spend most of their time with, can dramatically influence their personality traits.
- People care about their friends so they pay painstaking attention to their friends' behavior. When people see and notice things over and over again, it grows importance for them, and they gradually turn to develop new behaviors like their friends'.
- Platonic friends exchange ideas about widely varied subjects. Their active interaction over the course of time provides them with the golden opportunity to figure out their friends' insights about different things in different situations, and they end up adopting their friend's thinking cap in case they find it useful.

50. Which one of the following values is the most important to share with a young child (5-10 years old)?

1. Being helpful

2. Being honest

3. Being well organized

Being honest

- Lying makes children live in two separate but parallel worlds, the real world and the world they have created based on their lies. Moreover, it is a formidable task to maintain the second world in a convincing way, and it requires children to lie over and over again. Switching from the first world to the second constantly brings about some difficulties for them. They may end up growing as infirm people.

- One of the most important skills a child should develop for their adult life is the ability to build up the culture of investing for long-term. Lying may prevent some short term consequences, but it is followed with dire consequences in the long run. For example, getting caught for lying has more strict and extreme punishments in comparison to not handing in an assignment. Children should learn to accept the repercussions of their actions.
- Honesty attracts honesty, so children end up forging friendship with people who value the truth.
- Honest people are trustworthy and, accordingly, reliable. The more their reliability, the more the success in the work environment because their employer finds them capable of doing major and important tasks, and assigns them better roles in the workplace. Moreover, being reliable not only help people succeed in their job setting, but also is crucial for personal relationship with their partner or family member. Since honesty cannot be built over a night, people should practice it from early ages.

Being well organized

- Children can increase their productivity due to the fact that they learn not to expend, or literally waste, their time and other resources. As a result, they end up having more time to do important stuff. That also gives a sense of achievement to children, which is an immense asset.
- They will be able to focus on what they want properly in order to achieve it. Only with being well organized can people stay focused on their goals. Otherwise, chaos ensues in their minds and distracts them. Furthermore, due to their concentration, they are more likely to succeed.

51. If you want to recommend a way to reduce living expenses for your friend, which of the following will you choose? Why?

1. Find a roommate to share a room

2. Do not buy the latest mobile phone, Buy new technological devices less frequently

3. Buy cheap foods and cook home (do not often eat outside)

Buy cheap foods and cook home.

- Eating a meal out does not seem to put a strain on one's budget but, over the course of time, it adds up and end up costing people a lot of money at the end of the month. Moreover, when people eat out, they are not only paying for the food and its ingredients, as direct expenses, but also paying for the labor wage, chief, renting a place and insurance of the restaurant, as indirect expenses. As a result, the prices are astronomically higher than the real value of the food. Furthermore, they can not only save a lot of money but also prevent the dire consequences of eating processed food.
- Sharing a room with a roommate is not a prudent course of action due to the fact that all people need some privacy. Finding a roommate breaches the privacy one needs to relax. For example, when people are exhausted for dealing hustle and bustle of daily life, and want to take some sleep, their roommate may plan to stay up the whole night to study.
- Nowadays, technology is progressing with exponential speed, which means that new devices perform extraordinarily better than do the older versions. For example, the computational power of electronic devices can increase twice as much over a short period of time. Now that people closely rely on technology for their career and education, they may lag behind in case they do not buy electronic devices frequently.

52. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

The most important ways to improve the people's health is to clean the environment.

Agree

- Microbes and other harmful micro-organisms thrive in environments which suffer from poor sanitary conditions. Moreover, unclean environment is said to be a favorable habitat for disease-carrying insects like mosquitoes. The increase in number of germs, as well as the escalation of the number of their vehicles, will intensify the probability of getting some diseases and pose a threat to humans' health.

- Clean air, water and land are three essential components for humans' existence, with which human beings are directly in touch. The water people drink goes directly to their stomach, the air they breathe closely circulates in their lungs, and the food they eat is derived from the land so presence of any pollutants literally means contamination of the body and the diseases ensuing. For example, in my city, due to presence of factories which do not use proper air filters, the number of people suffering from death-leading lung diseases is significantly higher than clean cities.

53. Many filmmakers make movies based on books. When a movie is produced based on books, some people prefer to read books before watching films, other people choose to watch the movie first. Which one do you think is better? Why?

Reading the book first

- Reading a book can fire its readers' imagination and let them create the world of the story, in their mind, the way they desire. For example, they can decide about the characters, scenes, and sounds. On the other hand, people who watch the movie first, lose the golden opportunity to imagine and create, and are obliged to be under the impression of the director because the director has chosen characters and planned the scenes. It may frustrate some people due to the fact that not everybody has the same thinking cap and taste as the director but people, generally speaking, like the things they create.
- When people watch the movies first, they will be less likely to read the book afterwards. Reading a book is time consuming and demanding. People read books because they enjoy getting involved in the story, and they gradually become curious about what happens in the end. Nevertheless, when people watch the movie first, they know the end, and they would not bother to read the book. Moreover, they may not like the movie, or the way the director has depicted it, so they lose interest about the book as well.

54. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Newspapers and magazines are the best ways to learn about a foreign country.

Disagree

- Most of the reporters are not unbiased enough to pay painstaking attention to the completeness, accuracy, and impartiality of the news due to their inclination towards a specific party. As a result, they may eliminate some parts of the news, exaggerate some details, and in some cases, fabricate some stories in favor of the party. According to statistics, more than seventy per cent of people in the Islamic Republic of Iran, flatly reject that the newspapers reflect the real circumstances of the society. On the contrary, they believe that the newspapers and magazines accentuate the pieces of information which are in favor of the Iranian Government. Moreover, magazines and newspapers need money to stay in business so they may disregard the importance of adhering to moral standards and may change the contents to escalate the number of readers for economic interests.
- According to sociologists, the best way to learn about a subject, no matter what it is, is by gaining firsthand experience and information. However, in newspapers and magazines, the authors tell the stories from their personal angles and perspectives, which is considered as second-hand experience and cannot be beneficial as much.

55. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Governments should focus their budgets more on environmental protection than on economic development.

Agree

- Needless to say, it is a moral duty to preserve the planet earth and its resources for posterity. Human activities have negatively affected the planet earth. Air pollution, soil corrosion, depletion of fossil fuels and global warming are reasons which, according to scientists, make human beings leave the earth within six centuries so governments should take some serious actions and disburse an inordinate amount of money in order to avoid an environmental catastrophe on a global scale.
- Not only are we morally responsible for next generations on the earth, but also we should minimize the danger and threats that the environment may pose to our health. Statistics have revealed that in cities where the carbon footprint is more apparent, people suffer from lung diseases in a significantly higher rate.

Only with allocating a lot of money is it possible to take measures to stop, or at least reduce death-leading diseases. Moreover, it is the game of consequences, the less the government pays for protecting the environment, the more it has to pay for maintaining a sick, unhealthy society.

56. Some people like to work at home, while others prefer to work in the office. Which do you prefer and why?

Office

- Working in an office can provide one with a conducive atmosphere to work more efficiently. The surrounding atmosphere creates an impression on human beings, as philosophers have quoted. When one is exposed to a place where everybody is making efforts to do their job the best, they will be motivated, and the enthusiasm and competitiveness make it easier for them to do their tasks.
- It increases job owners' self-discipline because working hours are exactly defined, and the daily duties are specified for each individual. Being disciplined, which is the direct result of working in an office, makes the mind sharper and prevents energy, time and money from being dissipated.

Home

- It is considerably more convenient. Employees do not need to dress formally and can wear their casual clothes. They can enjoy being in their own room and its comfortable furniture.
- Employees would not be obliged to spend long hours in the impartial environment of their workplace. Alternatively, they can enjoy the home's convivial atmosphere, which is provided by presence of their family members.
- Most of the offices have, more or less, the same working hours; therefore, traffic is usually very dense before the start and after the end of office hours. Employees who work in an office may get stuck in heavy traffic. On the other hand, people who work at home do not waste their time in streets and can do more productive activities.

57. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

It is easier for people to become well-educated now than in the past.

Agree

- Breakthroughs in technology have skyrocketed, and have established a new means of imparting knowledge for educational institutes termed as the long-distanced educational system, by which students who have issues like working and parenting can cope with both their personal and academic lives.
- Nowadays, students enlist the helping hand of instructive applications on their smart phones to study. For example, in my first semester at university as a biomedical engineering student, I used an application to learn the anatomy of human body, which visually introduced different body organs, and described all details about them repeatedly. At the end of the semester, I could recall the name, shape, and location of all of 206 human bones with remarkable ease.
- Due to the growing importance of education, billions of dollars are disbursed annually to finance outstanding students who cannot afford the expenses of education otherwise. That has enabled a lot of people, who could not study in the past for financial issues, to be well-educated.

58. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Students should not take part-time jobs while they are studying in universities.

Disagree

- Most of students have a tight budget, and paying the tuition fee and living costs put strain on their budget. Landing a part-time job can help student be financially self-sufficient, and enables them to be more independent individuals who can pay their own expenses.
- The more one has hands-on experience, the wider the range of job opportunities they will be provided with in future. Now that unemployment has reached epic proportions, employers try to hire employees with as many skills as possible so by gaining widely varied skills, students can fight the dearth of job positions and enter the workplace they desire more easily.
- Having tried some different part-time jobs can help students recognize their strengths and weaknesses, and also their career interests. As a result, it can help them find a job which suits them best.

59. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

It is better to take a secure job with a low pay than to take a job with a high pay but is easy to lose.

Agree

- It brings individuals a sense of assurance about the future. Nowadays, due to the fact that the level of stress has escalated in adults because of feeling unsafe about their economic future, it can be a relief to land jobs that one is sure about their stability. Furthermore, permanent job owners' happiness index is significantly higher.
- People who fear to lose their job will think about and search for a new job constantly, even when they have not lost their job yet. The fear involves their minds and decreases their efficiency. As a result, they may lose their job not because of its transient nature, but rather because of poor performance at the workplace as a result of worrying about their next job. On the other hand, secure jobs are more satisfying, and the more job satisfaction becomes, the more employees pay painstaking attention to their duties and do their best work.
- Generally speaking, it is literally impossible to plan in a world full of disorders and chaos. On the other hand, stability is the essential foundation upon which people can plan about different aspects of their lives. In this regard, although the income may be less than that of impermanent job, it is stable. That provides the owner with the opportunity to set up a long term plan, and spend or save money according to their plan.

60. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

It is often not a good idea to move to a new city or a new country because you will lose old friends.

Disagree

- Psychologically speaking, true friendship is defined beyond any distance, and friends are never apart in their heart.
- Nowadays, the advanced breakthroughs in technology have made the term 'distance' somewhat meaningless. Friends are provided with cutting-edge

technologies to communicate whenever they desire. Telecommunication, video calls, voice calls and text messages are some means of communication when their friend is not around. Moreover, not only will not moving to another place necessarily end up in losing old friends, but also it may tighten the emotional bonds as it reminds both sides the importance of their true friend.

- The immigrants meet a lot of new people with different personality traits and characteristic with whom they can initiate contact, establish rapport and forge new friendships. Making new friends and having their companionship can help people miss their old friends less. Moreover, the cultural diversity provokes a convivial atmosphere because different people can introduce exotic ideas, new ceremonies, foods, traditions, games and so forth, which can help them tolerate the absence of their old friends.

61. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

The food we ate in the past was healthier than the food we eat today.

Agree

- People have hectic daily schedules, and do not have enough time to cook healthy food using fresh ingredients. As a result, they end up either eating processed, pre-cooked, conserved food, or eating out. These foods contain some chemicals which make them more durable, tasty, colorful and alluring to the costumers. However, these toxic chemicals are proved to have detrimental effects for human's health.
- The proliferation of fast foods has brought about not only physical health problems, like obesity and lack of essential nutrients, proteins and vitamins, but also mental problems. Fast foods are acidic foods, and consuming a lot of acidic foods results in a decrease in body pH; and, according to nutritionists, the less the body pH, the more the stress level.

62. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

People holding different views cannot achieve success as a team.

Disagree

- Evaluating a method, procedure, or solution is very sophisticated when team members have the same idea about that, and only with listening to opposing opinions is it achievable to gain valuable insights about the strengths and weaknesses of the proposed solutions due to the fact that all members try to defend their preferred solution and oppose others'. Listening to different beliefs of members about a solution, procedure, or a method to adopt on will eventually lead to the best viable option among all.
- According to the fact that the main purpose of the formation of all teams is to achieve a common goal, people learn to increase their tolerance and be more open to criticisms in favor of their aim.

Agree

- Reaching a general consensus would be very time and energy consuming so they may end up losing opportunities in the meanwhile they are negotiating a settlement.
- Some people may find themselves compromising constantly for the collective interests, which may frustrate them, and may gradually tear the team apart.

63. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

People can solve important problems by themselves or with the help from their family members so there's no need for the government to help them.

Disagree

- Not all problems are personal issues; on the contrary, some are on a national or even a global scale. Needless to say, huge problems cannot be solved solitarily. The environmental catastrophe which most of developing countries are facing is a compelling example of the problems whose solution is in desperate need of the helping hand of governments. In such huge problems, governments can be considered a source of power which control and manage the actions towards providing a feasible solution, without which chaos ensues.
- Eliminating some other problems closely rely on an inordinate amount of money which can only be disbursed by governments, not individuals. Providing shelter for homeless people, improving sanitary conditions, providing drinkable water, and curing diseases need national investments.

- Another problem is child's labor. Billions of dollars should be spent for providing these children with food, residence halls and the possibility to go to school. Whether the governments spend money or not indicates the status of thousands of innocent, little children.
- Governments should shoulder the responsibility of the committed crimes as well. Otherwise, chaos ensues. For example, imagine all people who have been robbed try to find the thief of their jewels, cars, money, and so forth by themselves.

64. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

People who have learned many different skills are more likely to succeed than those who focus on learning only one skill.

Agree

- Nowadays, because of the dearth of job opportunities, entering the workplace is a highly competitive procedure through which the one with more capabilities is more likely to win.
- Gaining different skills help people activate and enlist both of their brain's hemispheres. As a result, their brain's performance improves, and they end up being more successful owing to their trained brains.
- Being exposed to different environments in which they learn different skills can help them broaden their perspectives, and increases their creativity. They can practically apply one skill to another environment. For example, a skilled zoologist who has gained some aerospace engineering skills may be inspired by a particular bird species' flight mechanism, and develop a new design for an aircraft.

65. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

To solve present and future problems, it is necessary to understand the past.

Disagree

- The constant progressing of the world has led to introduction and development of new cutting edge technologies which have helped human solve their

problems much easier in comparison to past. To illustrate, harnessing technology, we can come up with the solution of past societies primary issues in the blink of an eye. Consequently, the solutions which were once enlisted to solve a lot of problems in past are not applicable anymore. Studies have revealed that 70 percent of tasks which were once problematic in former societies are now what 10 year old children have proper solutions for.

- In rare cases understanding past may be helpful for coming up with solutions but it is very time and energy consuming due to the fact that people should understand all ins and outs about the history, and use several credible historical references to find out whether the reports are reputable enough. That is, indeed, what history students dedicate their lives to, and is not possible to for all individuals to spend many years finding out what our ancestors have done years ago. On the other hand, people can spend much less time and energy focusing on finding new and innovative solutions.

66. Some people think that older children should be required to take care of the younger children. Others think that this should be done by parents or other adults. Which do you prefer?

Older children

- Nowadays, in order to survive economic climate, both mothers and fathers are supposed to work from dawn to dusk, and as they have very hectic daily schedules, they cannot allocate to their children as much as they desire. Consequently, it is rational for their siblings to accept this responsibility as they are the most reliable people after parents. Moreover, there is no generation gap between them so they can understand each other better and tighten their emotional bonds.
- The process of taking care of a baby is a very arduous task in which one learns how to accept responsibility, ignore selfishness, increase patience, be an understanding and helpful individual and deal with different problems in urgent situations like when the baby is experiencing fever, all of which are considered essential abilities one should develop for their future life.

67. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

It is important to know about events happening around the world, even if it is unlikely that they will affect your daily life.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Disagree

- News typically contains bad and sad pieces of information. As a matter of fact, there is always the footprint of natural disasters, economic crisis, political issues, starvation and wars in the news. As a result of being exposed to breaking news, people may subconsciously start imagining that these adverse things may happen to their families and beloved belongings. That fills them with dread and increases the stress level of people, even in far distant societies. For example, seeing ISIS executing innocent people in public took a drastic toll on people's lives; however, my country never happened to experience any terrorist attack.
- People have hectic daily schedules, and they have to work from dawn to dusk in order to survive the current economic climate. Accordingly, they have to sort out their priorities in order of importance. Needless to say, keeping track of events which happen around the world, especially if it would not affect people's lives, would not be high on their list of priorities. It is a waste of time, and people had better do more productive activities.

68. People should be realistic rather than romantic in order to live a better life. Do you agree or disagree with the statement? Use specific reasons to support your answer.

Realistic

- The world is a set of sensible causal relationships based on logic, and everything humans do has a specific predictable response. Just as when an apple falls out of a tree, it approaches the earth and would not fly to the space. As a result, in a world where logic rules, how can emotions play the key role? Needless to say, people's set of actions should correspond with these defined rules so they should quit romanticism.
- Realistic people succeed more probably because they have the ability of making decisions wisely. They first recognize their strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats, and then cover all eventuality and, finally, decide. They also set the

plan B which help them not to get shocked when things do not go on as anticipated. On the other hand, romantic people make decisions when they are too happy, too sad, or too excited, none of which leads to success.

- Realistic people possess the ability to cope with their failures, turn their losses into lessons, and enlist them to live a better life. Since failure is the nature's preferred agent for inspiring change, all people experience failing several times in their lives. The real winner is said to be the one who does not give up. Realistic people know that their failures are means of spreading wings and growing roots so they do not get disappointed, and they are determined enough to climb the ladder of success even when there are a lot of setbacks. Nevertheless, romantic people do not possess such forethought, and the first failure makes them believe they are a constant loser. That also may cause severe degrees of depression.

69. Some people think that parents should plan their children's leisure time carefully. Other people believe those children should decide for themselves how to spend their free time. Which idea do you agree with? Give reasons for your choice.

Parents should plan

- Parents know their children's personality traits, interests, talents and abilities, based on which they can provide their children with detailed plans which are not only enjoyable but also, in the long run, beneficial for children. For example, a child who has a strong penchant for soccer may go outdoors for the whole day to play soccer with their friends. Needless to say, that does not lead to success, and is a waste of time. Nevertheless, their parents, who are aware of their child's inclination may register them for professional soccer schools in which they can be trained properly.
- Children do not possess the foresight to recognize the long-term effects of how they spend their free time. They see short term pleasures and may spoil their time by doing useless activities. For example, due to the huge advancements of technology and popularity of technological devices among children, how they spend their free time, nowadays, is not a matter of decision, but rather their addiction. Social media and video gaming are highly addictive, and children's

habit of playing subconsciously turns to addiction. To avoid dire consequences of that, parents should plan their children's free time.

70. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Young people nowadays do not respect their teachers as much as they did in the past.

They do respect

- Nowadays due to fact that families are more inclined to have less children, they can allocate a bigger part of their time for nurturing their children and teaching them how to behave properly. Moreover, psychologists have developed new approaches which can help parents raise more polite children.
- Because of the huge advancements of science and technology, students get overwhelmed more than past, and they recognize that they are in desperate need of their teachers' guidance to move forward; otherwise, chaos ensues in their projects. In consequence, they understand how worthy their teachers and their advice are.

71. When you are assigned an important presentation for work or school, do you prefer to work on it right away so that you can work on it a little bit every day, or wait until you have a good idea about the presentation?

Every day

- Preparing a presentation is a demanding task and it should be split up into many achievable steps and be done little by little every day. Working intensively makes people exhausted and reduces their efficiency so it is better to be worked on gradually. Moreover it helps people prevent tension and stress of doing assigned duties at last minutes.
- Good ideas follow efforts. It is not discreet to sit and wait for a perfect idea to come to mind. Instead, by embarking upon the activity, one can see the flow of innovative and practical ideas. Reading books and articles on the related subject can stimulate the mind to produce a half-baked idea about the presentation. Developing and enhancing that idea can lead to success.

72. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Students can get as many benefits from organization or club activities as they can get from their academic studies.

Disagree

Disagree

- Academic studies play a prominent role in their future life since the more one is persistent to achieve their academic goals, the wider the range of job opportunities they will be offered in future. That is mainly because of the more skills and experience they have gained by staying focused on their educational program.
- People inherently tend to be useful and profitable for others, which is said to be the main purpose of academic studies. In universities, students, enlisting the guidance of their professors, push back the frontiers of knowledge and technology, which brings about an increase in their self-satisfaction. That is not achievable in any place, including organizations and clubs, other than universities.

73. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Nowadays it is easier to maintain good health than in the past.

Agree

- Nowadays most of people have very hectic daily schedules and are supposed to work from dawn to dusk so they have less time for exercising. Moreover, they have sedentary jobs which reduces their activity level as well. Statistics: stenosis of coronary arteries is a very common cardiovascular disease whose most important risk factor is lack of physical activity.
- The quality of the food people eat has diminished. People prefer to eat pre-cooked or processed food because of lack of time to cook at home with fresh, healthy ingredients. These foods contain some hazardous chemicals which are added to food to make it more tasty, colorful or durable. Furthermore, the proliferation of fast food has make it harder for people to maintain their physical health since these foods are very fatty and salty.

74. Which way do you think is the best for a student to make new friends?

1. Joining a sports team

2. Participate in community activities

3. Traveling

Community activities

- People meet a lot of people who have some interests in common so there will be no conflicts about their religious or political beliefs. As a result they can establish long lasting and strong friendships.
- In community activities all people are seeking a common goal, and all goal-oriented activities are bound to encounter some problems. People show their true personality in tough situations. For example, they may show their patience, kindness, helpfulness and so forth. As a result by being exposed to team settings, people can get familiar with other members' personality traits well. In consequence, they can choose their friends more consciously based on their characteristics.

75. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Students are more interested in politics now than they were in the past.

Disagree

- Nowadays, students are overwhelmed due to the complexities of modern world, and they have to deal with their terribly heavy workload. Their hectic daily schedules do not let them to get involved in politics.
- Most of students prefer to specialize in one major and spend their whole energy and time for flourishing in their major so they will be less likely to pay painstaking attention to other issues. As a result, politics is the center of attention only for political science students, and rarely do other students show any interest in the different fields other than their own field of study.

76. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Workers are more satisfied when they have many different types of tasks to do during the workday than when they do similar tasks all day long.

Agree

- Doing a single activity over and over again in a workday gives rise to the same patterns of electrical activity in one's brain, while different tasks are assigned to different hemispheres of the brain, according to neurologists. That provides the employees with the golden opportunity to activate both of their brain's hemispheres, and switching between different tasks literally means splitting the tasks between different parts of the brain. As a result, the employees become less tired at the end of the day, and their higher energy level keeps them more satisfied.
- One of the most common personal values among different people is their inclination towards being helpful individuals. Having gained different skills at workplace enables them to help different people in different circumstances to overcome their hurdles. That brings about a great sense of achievement for them whenever they help a person, which, indeed, increases their satisfaction significantly.

77. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Younger school children (aged five to ten) should be required to study art and music in addition to math, science, history and language

Agree

- Not all people are required to be historians, engineers or doctors; on the contrary the world also needs gentle artists and musicians who are far away from the impartial world of numbers and scientific facts. Accordingly, schools should provide young students with art and music courses to help them acknowledge their talents at early ages, which can not only help students cultivate their talents at early ages, but also help them have a more accurate picture about their future.
- It improves their brains' function due to the fact that it provides them with the golden opportunity to recruit both of their brains' hemispheres. Moreover, it can nourish their minds.

- It can be considered as a great form of escapism in the meanwhile of their exhausting math and science classes, and can help them reduce their stress level and unwind.

78. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Movies and TV programs made in one's own country are more interesting than those made in other countries

Disagree

- Human beings are inherently curious, and one way to satisfy their curiosity about other people living all around the world is watching movies produced in other countries, through which the diversity of cultures, political and economic issues, social behavior and personal values of people, exotic traditions, and moral standards of the society can be observed readily. On the other hand, people are completely familiar with the culture of their own country, and accordingly, the movies may sound boring for them.
- It can be considered as a means of instruction by which one can learn and practice other languages. Since foreign movies are performed by native speakers, in order to learn the spoken form of a language and precise pronunciation of the words, and fortify listening skills, watching movies is said to be a practical and viable option. According to linguists, people's personality traits may shift depending on the language they speak, which is because of their perception of a culture associated with a given language. For example, by learning Spanish, people may find themselves outgoing and comfortable. Therefore, learning a new language is interesting for a significant majority of people as it is a foundation, upon which they can build up and develop new personalities.

79. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

In the busy and crowded world today, we should not expect people to be polite to each other.

Disagree

- Politeness is an intrinsic characteristic which is defined far beyond the scope of external circumstances. People behave based on their personal values, rather than unfavorable situations associated with crowded world. In my opinion, they should increase their tolerance and stick to the ethical standards instead of setting themselves free to behave impolitely.
- Adults are youngsters' role models, and young children's impressionability leads them to fall into impolite behavioral patterns of adults. They subconsciously start believing that it is not of any importance to behave politely, which, in the long run, gives rise to poor culture of future generations.

80. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Children should only study or play and don't have to do household chores.

Disagree

- Doing household chores gradually forms the concept of working together for attaining a mutual goal in children's minds so it can be considered as a great practice for them to learn how to work smoothly in team settings. Family is the most primary, and also the safest, team everybody joins in their lives. Within the family, children can learn how to follow the family members' common goal which is living a better life together. In the modern era, parents are supposed to work from dawn to dusk in order to survive the current economic climate so they may end up having lack of time to deal with household activities. Children can offer their helping hand, and accordingly, enjoy the sense of achievement they gain by helping their parents and participating in a group activity.
- Moreover, it can help children grow as more reliable individuals as they learn how to shoulder responsibility. When children accept doing some household chores, they try to fulfill their responsibility and meet their commitments from early ages. As a result, this behavioral pattern grows roots in their personality, and they end up becoming people whom everybody can count on. That positively affects their personal and professional lives.

81. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Compared with people who live in urban areas, the people who live in rural areas can take better care of their families.

Agree

- Living in urban areas provides people with the golden opportunity to land lucrative jobs with higher incomes so they can provide their family members with welfare which is generally followed by better facilities and better services. For example, their family would be able to afford going to concerts or theaters, joining sport clubs or gyms, and eating more quality food, each of which plays a prominent role in family member's mental or physical health.
- In cities, doctors have more hands-on experience, and hospitals and medical apparatus are more advanced so in case of diseases, living in a city can benefit family members. Nowadays, a lot of cutting-edge technologies are developed by technologists, and frontiers of knowledge are being pushed back every day especially in medical domain. However, these facilities are present only in cities, and rarely does an experienced doctor dedicate himself to poor rural people. For example, parents can take care of their children by taking them for annual check-ups in modern hospitals in order to prevent early-stage diseases from growing more severe.

82. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Two people can still become good friends if one of them has more money than the other one does.

Disagree

- These types of friendship do not stand the test of time because both sides experience difficulty understanding the other one. According to Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, people should meet their lower-level needs before progressing to higher stages. In order for two friends to understand each other adequately, their problems and needs should be from the same level of the hierarchy. Otherwise, the other's personal issues may seem meaningless or very primitive. For example, the richer side may be experiencing some problems about love and belonging, while the other may be still in desperate need of

simple, physiological needs. Since none of the problems is understandable for the second side, the relationship breaks down.

- Friends may find themselves drawn into conflicts of interests. Richer people tend to live a lavish life style, whereas the poor friend tries their best to economize by cutting down on luxuries. For example, on one hand, the wealthier friend may tend to eat out in very costly restaurants; on the other hand, the other one may prefer to eat food in the campus cafeteria. At first, the wealthier may accompany their friends but, over the course of time, they find themselves compromising constantly in favor of their friendship, and this is intensely frustrating. As a result, they end up tearing apart.

83. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

If you need to discuss upsetting or controversial problems with others, using email/ text messaging is better than using telephone/voice-messaging.

Disagree

- It makes it easier for one to convey their emotions. Needless to say, how one reacts to an upsetting piece of talk, highly depends on the whether the conveyed impression is negative or positive; the more one seems understanding and gentle while explaining a problem, the more it can be stress relieving and appeasing for the opposite side.
- Generally speaking, people's interpretation of different texts is influenced by their own mindset at the moment they are reading the texts. For example, when someone who has experienced an awful day, receives a message which contains controversial problems, they, subconsciously, find the texts and the issues inside much more adverse than how they really are. In order to avoid such dire consequences, calling is a more prudent course of action.
- Moreover, sometimes the tone says much more than the words themselves so voice messages and calls are less vulnerable to be misunderstood. However, in case of misunderstanding, people are provided with the chance to explain more quickly in real time.

84. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

To remain happy and optimistic when you fail is more important than achieving success.

Agree

- Generally speaking, failure is the nature's preferred agent for inspiring a change which can lead one to success. Consequently, it is normal for each individual to experience several losses in their lifetime. However, the real winner is the one who transforms their losses into lessons, and recruit them to climb the ladder of success afterwards. In other words, successful people fall down seven times and rise eight times. The normality of failing is the reason which shows the greater importance of being armed against failure compared with achieving success.
- Losing hope at failures can bring about irreversible mental and physical repercussions. Psychologically speaking, people should maintain their happiness when they fail. Otherwise, they may get disappointed and embark on believing that they are going to remain a constant loser in their lives. Their mindset leads them to have an unclear and dreadful picture of their future, which may give rise to severe depression. In some cases, people end up committing suicide to end their imaginary chain of losses.

85. Some people think university professors should spend more time doing research while others think they should spend more time educating students. What is your view?

Educating students

- The main purpose of universities which is nurturing talents and abilities of students will more likely be met if professors spend more time educating students. Universities are places where students are taught how to push back the frontiers of knowledge and develop their findings to commercial application for facilitating people's lives, and, the more the professors spend time training students, the more students go forward to achieve the objective. On the other hand, students whose professors do not provide them with sufficient support, attention and time end up being overwhelmed and intensely frustrated.

- By nurturing students' abilities and helping them to be meticulous researchers, the professors will be provided with the chance to establish their research groups consisting of the students whom they educate and find talented, and move their research goals forward enlisting the helping hand of these students. This way, not only the professors' research will be carried out successfully at the end of the day, but also the students will be more and more educated as a result of the time professors spend for guiding and assisting them.
- Professors' goal is to educate students whose research and intellectual ability exceed their own. Otherwise, generation by generation, academic level declines. Helping students fulfill their full potential to be a better researcher than are they demands an inordinate amount of time to be allocated, and as helping the chain of research continue is of more value in comparison to doing a piece of research.

86. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

It is better for government to spend money on building modern housing than on preserving historic or traditional buildings and homes.

Agree

- Nowadays, due to the rapid rate of population growth, especially in modern cities for the opportunities they provide their occupants with, people's demand for shelter has intensified significantly, and one practical way for governments to satisfy their need is to make the best use of the space and build modern skyscrapers. Moreover, due to modern houses' better lighting conditions, safer security systems and more attractive appearance, other people have also grown inclination towards buying or renting them. Needless to say, it is governments' duty to fund construction companies to meet families' demands. On the other hand, although it is morally important that the historic places be preserved for posterity, there is no desperate need for that, and it can be suspended or assigned to private sector.
- In a world where unemployment has reached epic proportions, fighting the dearth of job opportunities is of more value in comparison to maintaining traditional places. Constructing modern residential complexes gives rise to an inordinate number of job positions directly and hires labors, architects, civil

engineers, plumbers, electricians, and carpenters, to name but a few. Moreover, it helps a lot of other people, like construction material sellers, maintain their job. Obviously, building modern housing helps a significant number of people of the society stay in business, and pays dividends for a greater number of people compared to maintenance of historic buildings.

87. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Parents should encourage their children to do their homework independently rather than help them to do it.

Agree

- It can help them prepare themselves for their adult life. It goes without saying that not all tasks people encounter in their real lives can be accomplished by enlisting others' helping hand; on the contrary, in most cases, people need to tackle their problems and overcome hurdles on their own. As a result, it is a very crucial ability one needs to gain. Moreover, independency cannot be achieved over a night, and needs long term investments. Consequently, by doing their homework independently, children will be provided with the chance to practice independency until it grows roots in their personality.
- When children do their homework independently, they learn how to search for answers, read their text books more carefully, and, eventually, find the answers. Moreover, it encourages them to keep track of class discussions with painstaking attention. As a result, they will be more likely to deepen and consolidate their knowledge, and learn all ins and outs of a topic. On the other hand, when their parents are around to help them, children do not take their questions so serious and consider their parents as a shortcut to answers. Easy come, easy go.

88. Which one do you prefer?

Students in high school should learn by sitting there listening to the teacher while taking notes or communicating and sharing ideas with class.

Communicating

- When students of a class are required to contribute to class discussions, they introduce their own perspectives about the issue so other students learn a lot of means by which they can approach the solution. As a result, it improves students' ability to deal with different problems they may encountered.
- Students will ask their questions and the teacher will provide them with proper answers, and since a lot of mistakes and vague points are common among different students, it can help other students to avoid making the same mistake.
- When students are sitting silently and listening to their teacher, they may be bored and even fall sleep due the fact that the teacher may speak with a constant frequency and in an even tone. On the other hand, when students interact with others they will be less likely to end up getting lost in the new lessons. They can, step by step, keep track of class discussion with remarkable ease.
- They will also be required to think about everything to be able to provide an answer in case their teacher asks a question, and their involvement help them recall the information after the class.

89. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Famous entertainers and athletes deserve to have more privacy than they have now.

Agree

- All people have the right to have privacy, and the famous people are not the exception to the rule. It is not morally acceptable to violate one's privacy, whether they are famous or not. Although famous people should not expect to have complete privacy like other people, due to the fact that each job has its own perks and drawbacks, they deserve to have more privacy than do they have now. To illustrate, people's lives is two-faceted, and includes personal and professional aspects. Celebrities' personal life should be more private than what it is because of the fact that there is nothing extraordinary in their personal lives, they eat the same bread, sleep at night, marry, give birth to children divorce, and so forth, all of which are none of others' business. However, following their professional life makes a lot of sense.

- Famous people deserve more privacy to be able to stay focused on their professional performance. However, some people camp outside their houses, wait outside their children's school, hack their phones, infiltrate their private events, and literally harass them. The dire consequences of this intrusive behavioral pattern is that their favorite entertainers and athletes get distracted from their work, and cannot perform satisfactorily in their concerts, sport field et cetera.

90. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Among all the characters that a successful person has, communication skill is the most important.

Agree

- It improves the quality of one's personal relationships. Psychologically speaking, most of arguments, disagreements, and conflicts are the direct result of misunderstanding which is itself the dire consequence of lack of communication. On the other hand, good communicators, due to the fact that they can deliver and receive messages accurately and quickly, have great emotional relationships, friendships, and perfect rapport with their family members. They know how to convey their emotions, how to be a good listener, and thereby, enjoying others' companionship.
- Not only does having communication skill positively affect people's personal life, but also it improves their professional life. When people want to enter a competitive workplace they have to be capable of presenting themselves so well that they be provided with the job opportunity. Afterwards, in the work environment, people need to cooperate with others efficiently, request and impart information, work smoothly in teams, and interact actively with their colleagues, all of which are in desperate need of communication skills. For example, a businessman should be capable of discussing properly. They need to introduce their products, negotiate the price, behave respectfully, and address costumers concerns in order to incentivize them to buy the product. It goes without saying that the better their communication skill is, the more the profit they make.

91. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Telephone has greater influence on people's lives than television has.

Agree

- A significant number of people are leaving where they call home and immigrating to modern cities for the opportunities these cities provide their occupants with. Telephone has facilitated the communication for people who live far away from their beloved family members.
- Telephone has saved a lot of people's lives in urgent situations. For example, when accidents, earthquake or other natural disasters occur, a phone call can decrease the number of casualties and save people's lives.

92. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Students who keep their rooms neat and organized will be more likely to succeed than students who do not.

Agree

- It is a great practice for them to keep their daily plans organized as well. Success is not achievable without planning in a today's sophisticated world where everybody has timing problems. When students keep their rooms organized, it subconsciously forms the concept of organizing their activities in their minds.
- It increases their productivity when they are studying due to the fact that they do not get distracted by haphazard pattern of a myriad of objects and items around them, and can stay focused with remarkable ease. On the other hand, students whose room is not tidy end up wasting a lot of time for finding where their pamphlets, books, or notebooks are.

93. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Most businesspeople are motivated only by the desire for more money.

Disagree

- Based on the Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, when people meet their lower-level needs, they pass up to higher levels. Assuming the needs as agents which engender types of motivation, we can obviously recognize that money can be a motivator until people fulfill their physiological needs. Afterwards, money would literally become meaningless as they get involved with higher stage needs like safety in their job. They should possess a penchant for their job which is capable of fulfilling different needs, rather than merely simple, physiological needs.
- Most businesspeople experience a lot of failures in their lives, through which they learn that money is not a compelling motivator since it pushes people to a vicious circle. Imagine a businessman who is embarking on his new business looking forward to achieving a substantial benefit. However, not everything goes on as anticipated, on the contrary every business is bound to encounter a lot of difficulties, and, accordingly, the setbacks cause delay in gaining profit. Needless to say, when the businessperson's only focus is to achieve money they simply quit the job, and embark on a new, more lucrative business. After a while, the businessperson finds themselves circulating in a vicious circle due to the fact that the new business faces a lot of hurdles as well. On the other hand, people who follow their passion will end up earning an inordinate amount of money. The chain of unaccomplished businesses lead them to learn that they should set their passions as their primary focus.

94. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

The way people dress is a good indication of his or her personality or character

Disagree

- Dressing is directly influenced by fashion, and is not often the person's own choice. The popular styles and trendy clothes change seasonally, but we definitely know that a person's personality is not so transient that can be reformed several times a year. Therefore, people's personality traits cannot be indicated by the way they dress. For example, fashion victims always wear fashionable clothes even if they are excruciatingly uncomfortable or make them look ridiculous. Nevertheless, it does not reflect their characteristics.

- People might not be able to provide themselves with neat clothes. Considering the escalating rate of poverty, the number of people who cannot afford to buy the clothes they desire is increasing. Furthermore, people may have a hectic daily schedule and have little time to shop or arrange what to wear. Therefore, as a book should not be judged by its cover, we should not pass judgement on people because of their clothes.

95. A university has money in its budget to do one thing to improve its facilities for students. It can either improve the quality of the technology (for example: computers and printers) that it provides for students. Or it can redesign spaces where students hold club meetings and gather with friends in their spare time to make these areas more comfortable and appealing. Which idea do you prefer and why?

Education

- The reason why it is more beneficial to disburse the dedicated budget on enhancing the quality of technology lies in the fact that in order to produce knowledge, universities need to use modern technologies. Universities are the first places in which scientists push back the frontiers of knowledge; therefore, the technology being used there must be kept up-to-date. As an illustration, I am a senior biomedical engineering student, and regarding my experience, without harnessing new technologies, it is impossible to deal with the sophisticated structure of the human body.
- Furthermore, hardware can go through some wear and tear and software can be attacked by viruses, so the need of improving, maintaining, and changing the used devices, is inevitable. According to statistics, the world's most high-ranked universities spend billions of dollars per year to provide students with modern technologies, which is obviously a key reason for their success.

96. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Colleges and universities should offer more courses to prepare students for the future before they start working.

Agree

- It bridges the gap between university and industry. Strictly speaking, all students have trouble applying the theoretical knowledge they have accomplished at universities to practical environments. That poses a threat to their future job settings. Therefore, there should be some policies to help them surmount this problem and the most straightforward plan is to enlist some practical courses.
- Having a wealth of experience can help students recognize what their suitable job regarding their own personal traits is. One of the problems that some people, especially younger ones, should tackle while hunting a job is that they do not possess the foresight to choose which job suits them best among different options. One's job is what they pass at least one-third of their lives with. Consequently, choosing the wrong job will lead to an unfavorable situation on which one finds themselves compromising constantly, and this fills them with dread.

97. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Young people today are less dependent on their parents than in the past.

Agree

- Parents enlist psychological studies to improve their parenting styles. It is common knowledge that the less children are dependent on their parents, the better lives they can build as an adult, due to the fact that it helps them prevent some anxiety disorders. Consequently, parents are more inclined to follow some set parenting patterns proposed by the specialists, which are recruiting the assistance of science in order to help children grow as strong individuals who can face and surmount their problems well.
- Parents are too busy to pass most of their time with their children; therefore, the children learn how to grow without having parents' attention the whole time and this makes them learn how to be less dependent. Regarding the fact that in order to survive the current economic climate, most mothers and fathers are forced to work out.

98. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

It is easier for parents to raise children than it was 50 years ago.

- In the past decades, there were a lot of children who died in labor because of lack of knowledge and proficiency in childbirth. Furthermore, some children died for infectious diseases like cholera and poliomyelitis. Therefore, the number of casualties related to shortage of medical science was a considerable amount which diminished as the medical science boomed. It is a widespread belief that nowadays the more parents enlist the assistance of doctors, the less lethal and physically demanding factors in growing children become.
- Nowadays, parents get help from others in the process of raising children which has made it much easier. In order to survive the current economic climate, most mothers and fathers are forced to work coincidentally, which means there should be someone else to take care of their children. Consequently, not only has the number of kindergartens experienced an abrupt increase, but also babysitters have also been professionally trained to be hired by families whose daily life is hectic.

99. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

People should relax with the ways related to their hobbies and physical activities which are different with their work.

Agree

- It brings about some health problems. For example, accountants who normally work with computers should not play videogames in their free time due to the fact that they may face neck or spine-related diseases, or they may lose their eyesight because of staring at the screen constantly.
- Participating in hobbies which are the same as their job's workload gives rise to the same patterns of electrical activities in their brains. On the other hand, people who sample different activities can activate both of their brains' hemispheres, and can improve their brains' performance accordingly.

100. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Governments should spend more money in support of arts than in support of athletics such as state—sponsored Olympic teams.

Agree

- People will be incentivized to spend more time on artistic activities, and, accordingly, help their brains function better. Neurologically speaking, different tasks people do in their daily lives are assigned to one of their brains' hemispheres, while participating in artistic activities gives rise to several patterns of electrical activities in both of their brains' hemispheres, which can improve their brains' performance.
- Supporting art provides the opportunity for the whole society to make use of the allocated budget. It is a widespread belief that the budget of a government should be distributed evenly among people, and should benefit all members of a society equally. However, spending a lot of money in support of Olympic teams benefits a limited number of people. On the other hand, when governments support art, it will be propagated in the whole country, and all people will be provided with the golden opportunity to initiate some artistic activities, by which they would be able to unwind and relieve their stress.