To understand the most important characteristics of a society, one must study its major cities.

Write a response in which you discuss the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement and explain your reasoning for the position you take. In developing and supporting your position, you should consider ways in which the statement might or might not hold true and explain how these considerations shape your position.

Extracting data about a society’s specifications is a major task to understand about a community. But the question is where it is better to start from? The prompt suggests that in order to realize the most crucial points about features and attributes of a society, one must investigate major cities of that society. While that may be true in some really specific cases, personally I disagree with the statement and argue that most important characteristics of a society is not centered in major cities for two reasons.

First of all, centuries ago major cities and other cities in a country were not different in a big way but rather in terms of lines of business each city was well-known for. So, in other words, cities were flatter in terms of social class, economical development and culture. But in todays world, major cities, where most governments are located in, are way bigger than other towns around a country. Because of that disparity in size, and most importantly, economic prosperity, culture and lifestyle in big cities is much different than other part of a country. Take Tehran, the capital of Iran, as an example. Tehran’s population is around fifteen million. A lot of people in Tehran are working for government in different department. Others work in corporations and some work in small businesses or as business owner. But in other parts of the country where people are mostly working in agriculture, they do not live their lives same as people living in Tehran. People in Tehran have an employee like life style, but people in other parts have working class life style. So, because of major differences in various aspects of people in major cities, focusing just on them to understand characteristics of a society as a whole is not possible.

Secondly, one of the key principles in good statistical analysis in any area of science is diversity. So, for the purpose of studying something, we have to make sure that we pick enough samples with different features and quantity and quality. With respect to this principle, although major cities contain a big percentage of a society’s population, but that population is not first big enough and second diversified enough. For example, Tehran’s population may be an enormous number, but its population is centered in just one spot. Just focusing on this high density of people for conducting research about features of that society causes some problem because it neglects all other possible feature that may be in other place that can never be found in Tehran.

However, some may argue that Tehran in particular is divers enough in terms of culture. People all around the country migrate to Tehran for various purposes like job or education or anything else. So, that should be a pretty good pattern of the whole country. The problem with this statement is that one who migrate to a major city like Tehran leaves some of her/his characteristics behind because living in Tehran may be much different than what he/she use to live. So, if we just give attention just to major cities to study features of a society, those features that immigrant left behind is ignored.

In conclusion, for the purpose of understanding and comprehending a society’s characteristics, we should not emphasize just on major cities of a society. Particularly because of different life style in major cities compared to other parts of a society and also because it is wrong statistically and deviate our conduct.