

Model Essay

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

Teachers were more appreciated and valued by society in the past than they are nowadays.

Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Currently, there is a widespread belief that modern society attaches more appreciation to teachers. From my perspective, however, teachers were more appreciated and valued in the past.

In the first place, the tradition in the past requires people to respect teachers. In the past, teachers were equal to parents, for they not only imparted knowledge but also cultivated children's personality. Moreover, **children had to live with the teachers in most cases**, which, to some extent, provides more opportunities for teachers and students to communicate with each other. As children had a deeper understanding of their teachers, they would show more respect and appreciation. **By contrast**, students spend less time with their teachers and they may only gain knowledge from their teachers; thus, teachers exert a smaller influence on students and get less appreciation. **For example, my grandfather still always talks about his teachers in his childhood and he tells me when his teachers were still alive, he and his classmates often visited them on holidays. My grandfather really shows a great respect to his teachers. However, I do not place too much value on my teachers and never visit them on holidays. Even some of my classmates always avoid meeting teachers in the street, let alone to say hello to the teachers.** Compared to the modern society, the tradition in the past demands a greater respect and appreciation for teachers.

Furthermore, the teacher in the past was the only source of knowledge. In the past, there were few reference books and other resources. The only way to understand the obscure text and to learn the method to solve problems is to attend class and listen to the teacher carefully. At that time, teachers were the embodiment(体现, 化身) of knowledge. Therefore, it is easy to understand why people respected teachers in the past. **In contrast**, more reference books and materials are available in modern society, and students can even use the Internet to search the information they need. In such a sense, the importance of the role of teachers wanes(减少). **For instance, I acquire knowledge in a variety of means, including newspaper, magazines, television and the Internet. If**

one of my teachers does not teach well, I can take advantage of the Internet courses. Since modern students have access to more choices of source of knowledge, they may respect their teachers less.

In conclusion, teachers were more appreciated and valued by society in the past than they are nowadays due to the tradition in the past as well as their role as the only knowledge source.

万能理由

- 效率便捷 (time, efficiency, convenience)
- 知识经验(knowledge, experience)
- 经济成本(money, cost)
- 环境健康(environment, health)
- 必要可行(necessity, feasibility)

时间对比类话题

- Life: 生活条件改善（有更多的时间进行精神文化生活），生活压力增大（父母没时间陪孩子，人际关系等）
- Education: 受教育人数增加，教学内容的变化（对于事物的认识）
- Culture: 传统文化（如上述从前的尊师重教），政策变化
- Technology（时过境迁的物质改变，对应于上述范文第二段“学习资料变多”）
- Environment（健康, 环境变好了，生活质量）