AP Language and Composition – Creativity Argumentative Essay

If it weren’t for creativity, society would be dull, lifeless, and static. Creativity is the ability to stray from the norm, and as a result, defines change. It is essential for schools to have a class that teaches creativity; after all, society moves forward from creative thinking and upcoming generations thinking of new innovative ideas. Time and time again, when I find myself bored, I try to think of brilliant ideas that no one has ever thought of before. Every so often, I’ll think of something somewhat interesting and creative, but I’ll only find that someone has already thought of it and developed it. In today’s society where innovative company start-ups are occurring all over, the route to success appears to be starting one’s own company as not only is it original, but also has a great impact upon society by addressing society’s needs.

Take for example, Facebook. Facebook was founded by Mark Zuckerberg, a Harvard University drop-out. The website has revolutionized social media, and introduced new means of communication and human interaction. Yet, despite its immense impact on society, Facebook itself isn’t hard to develop, millions of computer science gurus can create the same website; but if this is the case, why did no one create Facebook before Zuckerberg? The answer is simple: Because no one had the idea. Thus, it is not Zuckerberg’s website design prowess that society was rewarded with, but rather Zuckerberg’s creativity. Facebook is only one of an infinitely long list of creative ideas that have revolutionized society. One can imagine, if it weren’t for Thomas Edison’s creative thinking to experiment with different kinds of filaments to develop the lightbulb, or Watson and Crick’s ingenious thought behind DNA’s double-helix structure, society would be completely different. Therefore, it is integral for schools to stimulate creative thought in young students if we wish for society to continue to advance, as schools play important roles in the development of students’ mentalities.

The importance of teaching creativity in schools is evident in the Chinese school system. The Chinese school system puts extreme emphasis on drilling the students with information, and focuses on memorization rather than creative thought. As a result, the students become very narrow-minded and very rarely do they stray from the norm, as they are taught to memorize information and spit it back out, rather than to comprehend the information and develop their own conclusions from the information. Looking at the workers China produces, most are extremely talented in the science and mathematical fields, however in China there are very few start-ups. Taking a look at the major companies throughout the world, very few were started in China. In fact, one of the largest and most well-known start-up companies from China is Baidu, which is actually a Chinese version of Google, since access to Google is blocked in China. Thus, as one can see from China’s results of an education system that puts virtually no emphasis upon creative thought, it is crucial for creativity to be taught in classrooms for the advancement and development of society.

In sum, creativity defines societies and ultimately leads to technological and social advances. Because of the integral role creativity plays in the development of society, it is essential that it is taught in the classroom.