

## AN INVESTMENT IN KNOWLEDGE PAYS THE BEST INTEREST

### OUTLINE

#### I INTRODUCTION

- a) Hook
- b) background
- c) Thesis statement

#### II MAIN BODY

Write proper heading

- 1) Skilled and talented workforce
  - a) abundance of efficient labour and workforce
  - b) Booming businesses
  - c) higher employment rates
- 2) Social mobility of individual
  - a) employment leading to economic betterment
  - b) less dependence on social welfare programs
- 3) Good Civic sense
  - a) informed citizenry
  - b) decline in crime rates.
- 4) Competent Polity and government
  - a) efficient policymakers
  - b) effective government infrastructure

Points are okay but focus on argumentation

5) Driver of economic growth

a) Productive business environment

b) foreign investment

6) Matter of National Pride

a) soft power through human capital

b) Diaspora as ambassadors of national identity.

7) Research and innovation

a) Knowledge drives discovery

b) Economic growth and global competitiveness

Establish a link how these points help to pay the best interest

Improve sentence structure

Adopt formalized writing style

Proper inculcate references

Convey your ideas in a well

integrated and clear manner

IV

Conclusion

## Focus on sentence structure

### THE ESSAY

According to Nelson Mandela, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." These profound words by Nelson Mandela highlight the sheer impact of knowledge in the world. Investment in knowledge is the act whose effects reverberate through generations. This investment bears fruit across individuals and nations. It sets up the individual and the nation at large for success. Education is the key driver of economic success. In the modern world, emphasis is put on making knowledge accessible to as many people as possible. Nation-states prioritize and heavily invest in education as it is the sole measure to guarantee economic success. Investment in knowledge results in the creation of a skilled workforce leading to individual social mobility and booming businesses, a well-trained civic citizenry, competent policymakers and policies. It also brings about economic growth, facilitates research and innovation and also elevate the global standing of a country. This process can be kickstarted by subsidizing education and incentivizing research and developing. All these factors work together to make society prosperous and

Formal word

Write thesis statement atleast in the introduction

thriving. Therefore, investment in knowledge -e is the rising tide that lifts all boats.

First of all, knowledge turns the burden of population into efficient human resource. Extending educational opportunities to as many individuals as possible ensures that they are equipped to become productive members of the society. It turns them into decision makers, thinkers, and developers that are vital to society. When a major portion of society becomes educated they are able to fulfil different roles. This means there is a surplus of human resource within that particular society. The wealth of higher skilled individuals translates into job creation and higher employment rates. A report by European Union Employment Services in 2023 noted that Scandinavian nations like Sweden, Norway and Denmark recorded some of the highest employment rates of approximately 77.4%, 74.0%, and 79.8% respectively. While the percentage of high skilled workforce among those statistics was 51%, 48%, and 54% respectively. This clearly shows how nations that have sown the seeds of knowledge reap its benefits for years to come. Similarly, this rise in

employment rates has also resulted into a booming businesses environment. Due to increased access to skilled workers, stable labour costs, and government support firms especially small and medium sized enterprises find a thriving ecosystem. These enterprises boost the regional and community-level economic activity. According to the European Commission report in 2024, Small and Medium sized enterprises make up about 99% of all businesses in the European Union. They provide over two-thirds of the private sector jobs in the EU. As a result, knowledge reinforces employment strength and economic prosperity through a virtuous feedback loop. Therefore proving that investment in knowledge pays the best interest.

Secondly, with knowledge leading to higher employment opportunities, the social status of individuals also rises. ~~People are divided in society based on their income sets and the quality of life they can afford.~~ Individuals through acquiring education and qualifications can move up the social ladder. This means a person not born into wealth or a comfortable life can upgrade from that way of life by obtaining certain

qualifications. This means that people are able to improve their social status through effort. Greater social mobility fosters higher human development by enabling individuals to break cycles of poverty and allowing equitable access to essential services. This can be corroborated by the 2025 UNDP Human Development Report, where the top Human Development Index scores are attributed to the same Scandinavian countries. Norway, Sweden, and Denmark rank among the world's best in very high human development. Moreover, education ensures that the state is less burdened with provision of welfare programs for large swaths of the population by turning them into self-sufficient members of the society. A nation can only progress when its citizenry is driving the economy by performing various functions and not existing as a burden for the state, especially those with weaker economies. A case in point is the Benazir Income Support Program in Pakistan. While such schemes provide a temporary fix, it is not a permanent solution as more than 40% of the population still lives below the poverty line. Education makes

people self-sufficient and thereby empowers them to improve their quality of life. This shows how knowledge is ultimately the agent that transforms nations into great nations.

Going further, knowledge also cultivates civic awareness and responsibility among citizens. It empowers citizens to make informed informed citizens and contribute positively to their communities. Education equips recipients with the necessary critical thinking capacities, communication skills, and leadership qualities. These qualities are essential traits that make up for higher civic engagement, including voting, community service, and constructive dialogue across political differences.

A research by the Australian government's Department of Education found that those with higher levels of education are 2-3 times more likely to participate in community, social or political groups than those with lower or no education. Furthermore, civic responsibility also contributes to lower crime rates by promoting law-abiding behaviours, community engagement, and social cohesion. Those with

access to education develops core democratic, moral and ethical values. They learn about the difference between right and wrong. They also develop a sense of responsibility towards the state and their community. A case in point is that Japan, a country that consistently records some of the lowest crime rates globally. In 2021, the overall crime rate was just 0.23 incidents per 100,000 people. It has a highly efficient "lost and found" system, with large lost and found centres where people can turn in any item found by them. The items range from cash, gadgets, to all kinds of valuables. According to a report by the Japanese police department, 22.85 billion Yen was turned in to the authorities in 2024 alone. These systems are able to work efficiently due to Japan's exceptionally high education rates, which imbue in its citizens the importance of honesty and their responsibilities towards their community. Thus showing the critical role of knowledge in developing advanced and progressive nations with lower crime rates.

In the same way, investment in knowledge empowers citizens to demand transparency and competence from their government, strengthening democratic institutions. An educated and informed population is more likely to understand their rights, recognize instances of corruption or inefficiency, and hold public officials accountable. By investment in education and research facilities, societies are able to cultivate a pool of individuals that have the necessary qualities of analytical, ethical and leadership skills necessary for sound policy making. Formal education in disciplines such as law, economics, public administration, and social sciences develop the capacity for evidence-based thinking, which is a necessary trait for leaders and policy-makers. A study by the National Bureau of Economic Research found a clear link between higher education and better governance. The more higher the rate of education within a country, the more efficient the overall structure of the government. Secondly, sound and capable policymakers will automatically lead to better policy making and therefore an effective governmental

infrastructure. When governmental roles are held by capable and eligible minds, they are better equipped to craft policies that adequately address the complex challenges faced by any society. Along with policymaking, they also carry out implementation of such policy in an inclusive, transparent, and cost effective manner. These practices lead to an efficient, responsive, and principled governance. The World Bank's Worldwide Governance Indicators such as Rule of Law, Control of Corruption and Government Effectiveness are consistently topped by Scandinavian countries where education rates are also among the highest. This shows that sustained investment in knowledge infrastructure helps institutionalize policy professionalism, reduce corruption, and leads to overall better governance.

Moving on, investment in knowledge is the key driver of economic growth. It produces in a society economists, innovators, entrepreneurs and intellectuals. It converts a population into skillful members of the society. This skillset is the crucial factor behind high Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of a country. Countries that have high rates of

employment by default have a budding and booming business sector. For instance, America is home to one of the highest literacy rates in the world. has an economy of about \$18 Trillion USD according to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development. Whereas, African nations with twice the manpower and rare earth mineral reserves consistently rank among some of the least developed economies in the world. According to world literacy organisation, there are around 182 million illiterate adults in the sub-saharan African region. This number represents the world's highest concentration of non-literate adults. Resultantly, African nations are among the weakest economies in the world. Thereby, proving that education has a direct link with economic prosperity. Moreover, a booming business sector and skilled workforce also attracts foreign investment into a country. As per the IMF Annual Report of 2023-24, growing economies like India, Mexico, and Brazil saw Foreign Direct Investment of around \$130 billion each. Hence, the result of investing in education is to secure the long-term prosperity of any nation.

Moving forward, sustained investment in knowledge can also become a source of national pride. When qualified and skilled individuals move abroad and lend their skillset to that country, they are contributing to that country's economic prowess. The wealth of foreign skilled employees working abroad are known as the informal ambassadors for their home countries.

Through this human capital, the home country is able to project its soft power. A case in point is of India's IT sector. Indian workers are working in prominent positions in Silicon Valley. These workers are an immense source of pride for India. They are also able to wield a degree of sway in international relations.

Moreover, the diaspora population also acts as an agent for the national identity and cultural export of the home country. For instance, Canada is host to some of the largest Indian diaspora population. Canada celebrates Indian festivals on national level, signifying the integration of the population into the bigger Canadian subculture. This relations also translate into cordial diplomatic relations between the

nations of Canada and India. This shows that investment in knowledge can go a long way in improving overall diplomatic relationships and international standing of a country.

Lastly, investment in knowledge also leads to research and innovation.

Knowledge is the agent of change.

It breeds curiosity and hopes intellectual capabilities. Everything that exists in the world is due to intellectually driven desires of individuals who had acquired knowledge. Thus, it is knowledge that has been the root driver of discovery. History has witnessed personalities like Newton, Plato, and Einstein, who revolutionized the world with their intellect and inventions.

Einstein, for instance, changed the world by introducing the theory of relativity. By showing that time and space are not fixed, he altered how humankind understood physics forever which led to groundbreaking discoveries in the field of space science and inventions like the GPS. It is therefore the sustained

attainment of knowledge that has revolutionized the world. Secondly, in the technologically advanced world of today, it is research

and innovation that has increased global competitiveness. Nations no longer lead the charge through military might alone, it is led by those proving their power in the tech and AI realms. Take for example, the great US and China rivalry. The United States has led the world order as the sole hegemon. China, a country that almost went bankrupt a few decades ago, is now actively challenging and disrupting the US-led world order. It was able to do so by devising policies subsidising research and incentives for academics and engineers to lead their tech revolution. By commercializing advanced Research and Development, China quickly rose up the ladder in a little more than a decade.

These policy enactments bore fruit as China was able a highly sophisticated AI system called "Deep Seek". This AI rivaled that of US' 'OpenAI' and caused the US stock market to suffer billions of dollars in losses. This shows how persistent investment in education can lead a nation to great riches.

In a nutshell, investment in knowledge

pays the best interest as it is the sole recipe to make great nations and even greater civilizations. It empowers an individual from the scratch by equipping them with the skills essential to become a beneficial member of the society. This not only leads to social mobility of all such individuals but also trains their minds to recognize their roles and duties as part of a community. This resultantly improves the governance model and reinforces values upholding the rule of law. Most importantly, it breathes life into the economy. Higher education rates are directly linked with better performing economies. By fostering development and accelerating GDP growth, it makes for self-sustained nations that <sup>are</sup> prosperous and flourishing. In the words of Julia H. Gulliver, "Let us never be betrayed into saying we have finished education because that would mean we have stopped growing."