

# Mock-1

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## Essay: Higher Education vs Skill Acquisition

Type of Essay: ~~Expository Essay~~

This is an argumentative essay  
The debate is which one is better for  
personal and professional development.

### "Brainstorm"

Your rough work should be at the back. Your presentation needs to be formal. This compromises that. It is the planning process not the final draft. It is for your understanding. Doing this in front where it is visible to examiner can be highly detrimental to your essay.

## Higher Education | Skill Acquisition

### Benefits:

- Broad knowledge base
- Development and critical thinking
- Opportunity for specialization
- Networking and social connections.

### Drawbacks:

- Higher cost of tuition
- Lengthy time commitment
- Limited focus on practical skills

### Benefits:

- Practical and hands-on experience
- Adaptability and flexibility
- Cost effectiveness
- Faster entry into the workplace

### Drawbacks:

- Lack of formal credentials
- Limited advancement
- Potential for skill obsolescence

# Outlines

## 1 Introduction:

~~1.1 Definition of Higher Education: Traditional form of education pursued at universities and colleges, leading to degrees or certifications.~~

No definitions in the introduction

~~1.2 Definition of Skill Acquisition: The process of gaining practical skills and knowledge through hands-on experience, training, or vocational programs.~~

~~1.3 Thesis Statement: Both higher education and skill acquisition have their own unique benefits and drawbacks. Ultimately, the choice between the two depends on your individual goals, interests, and the specific requirements of your desired career path.~~

Write in 3rd person

Does not address the topic. You need to choose a stance.

## 2 ~~Main Body:~~

You do not write the heading Main body in your outline.

Numbering system does not make sense

### A) Benefits of Higher Education

#### 2.1 Broad Knowledge Base

2.1.1 A well-rounded education

2.1.2 Covering various subjects and disciplines.

#### 2.2 Development and Critical Thinking

2.2.1 Students learn to analyze, evaluate

2.2.2 Students think critically about complex issues



Explanation points should be equal throughout the outline

## 2.3 Opportunity for Specialization

2.3.1 Higher Education offers chance to focus on specific fields.

## 2.4 Networking and Social Connections

2.4.1 Students can build a network of peers, mentors, and professionals.

That is also true for skill acquisition

## 2.5 Credentials and Qualifications

2.5.1 Higher Education degrees can enhance job prospects.

## B) Benefits of Skill Acquisition

### 2.1 Practical and hands-on Experience

2.1.1 Developing practical skills

### 2.2 Adaptability and Flexibility

2.2.1 Skills acquired can be transferable across different jobs.

### 2.3 Cost-effectiveness

2.3.1 Affordable Programs

2.3.2 Time efficient

### 2.4 Faster entry into the Workplace

2.4.1 Job opportunities

2.4.2 Immediate Employment

### 2.5 Entrepreneurial Opportunities

2.5.1 Skills can enable individuals to start their own business.



## C) Drawbacks of Higher Education

### 2.1 High cost of tuition and student loans

2.1.1 Higher Education can be expensive

2.1.2 Leading to financial burdens for students

### 2.2 Lengthy time commitment

2.2.1 Takes several years to complete degree.

2.2.2 Delaying entry into the workplace

### 2.3 Limited focus on Practical Skills

2.3.1 Lack of hands-on training

2.3.2 Focus on theoretical knowledge.

### 2.4 Lack of Real-world Experience

2.4.1 Not provide sufficient exposure to real-world work environment.

### 2.5 Job market saturation for certain degrees

2.5.1 Oversupply of graduates in specific fields.

2.5.2 Increased competition for jobs

## D) Drawbacks of Skill Acquisition

### 2.1 Lack of formal credentials:

2.1.1 Lack of formal degrees or certifications.

You get licenses, permits and diplomas for these

## 2.2 Limited Advancement Opportunities

2.2.1 Some positions require a higher education degrees for career progression.

## 2.3 Lack of theoretical knowledge

2.3.1 Lack of critical thinking

2.3.2 Limits your understanding of broader concepts.

## 2.4 Limiting Networking Opportunities

2.4.1 Skill acquisition may not provide networking opportunities for future career prospects.

Vocational schools and apprenticeship programmes have networking opportunities

## 2.5 Potential for Skill Obsolescence

2.5.1 In rapidly changing industries, the skills acquired through skill-based learning may become outdated.

Topic lacks comparative analysis of both.

## 3 Conclusion:

3.1 Summary of the ideas presented

3.2 Concluding Thoughts



# The Essay

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

(Nelson Mandela)

The topic is higher education not education in general

"The future belongs to those who learn more skills and combine them in creative ways"

(Robert Greene)

No cohesion between the two quotes.

No definitions in the introduction

Higher Education is the traditional form of education pursued at universities and colleges, leading to degrees or certification. However, Skill Acquisition is the process of gaining practical skills and knowledge through hands-on experience, training or vocational programs. The benefits of higher education are including broad knowledge base, development and critical thinking, opportunities for specialization, networking and social connections, credentials and qualifications. Moreover, higher education also have some

No cohesion between the sentences

Don't enlist the points



drawbacks such as high cost of tuition and student loans, lengthy time commitment, limited focus on practical-skills, lack of real-world experience and job market saturation for certain degrees. On the other hand, skill acquisition have also some benefits (and drawbacks) which are practical and hands-on experience, adaptability and flexibility, cost-effectiveness, faster entry into the workplace and entrepreneurial opportunities. Therefore, the drawbacks of skill acquisition are lack of formal credentials, limited advancement opportunities, lack of theoretical knowledge and critical thinking, limited networking opportunities, and potential for skill obsolescence. So, both higher education and skill acquisition have their own unique benefits and drawbacks. Ultimately the choice between the two depends on your individual goals, interests, and the specific requirements of your desired career path.

Don't enlist the points  
Make a cohesive  
summary of your outline

Don't address your writing like this

There are 4 sections in this essay. So, Firstly we will discussed about the benefits of higher



education

Transitions are very immature

First come, Higher education offers a broad knowledge base that can greatly benefit individuals. One of the key advantages is the opportunity to gain a deep understanding of various subjects and disciplines. Through courses, lectures, and academic resources, higher education provides a comprehensive foundation of knowledge that goes beyond just acquiring specific skills. This broad knowledge base allows individuals to make connections between different fields, think critically, and develop a well-rounded perspective. Moreover, higher education fosters intellectual curiosity and encourages exploration. It exposes students to diverse ideas, cultures, and perspectives.

No example no reference

Concluding sentence?

The second major benefit of higher education is development and critical thinking. It helps individuals develop strong analytical and problem solving skills. Through rigorous coursework, research projects and discussions, higher education encourages students to think critically, evaluate information, and apply logical reasoning to complex problems. Furthermore, higher

Indent at the beginning of paragraph

No example no reference



education encourages lifelong learning and the pursuit of knowledge beyond the classroom. It teaches individuals how to seek out reliable sources, analyze information critically, and make informed decisions. These skills are invaluable in today's information-driven society, where the ability to navigate and evaluate vast amounts of information is crucial.

No example no reference

→ The third important benefit of higher education is opportunity for specialization in different professions. Firstly it allows individuals to develop expertise in their chosen area of interest. By focusing on a particular subject, students can gain in-depth knowledge, skills, and practical experience that can be applied in their future careers. This specialization enhances their credibility and marketability in the job market, as employers often seek candidates with specialized knowledge and expertise. Furthermore, specialization allows for collaboration and networking with like-minded individuals. Students studying the same field can connect, exchange ideas, and form professional relationships.

No example no reference



ships that can be beneficial in their future careers. These connections can lead to opportunities for internships, research collaborations, and job referrals.

No example no reference

Concluding sentence?

The fourth major benefit of higher education is networking and social connections. When you attend a university or college, you have the opportunity to meet and interact with a diverse group of students, faculty and professionals in your field of study. Building a strong network of connections during your higher education have many advantages. Firstly, it can open doors to future job opportunities. Through internships, career fairs and networking events, you can connect with professionals who may become mentors or provide valuable insights into your desired industry. Secondly, networking allows you to exchange knowledge and ideas with like-minded individuals. Additionally, higher education often provides access to alumni networks which can offer guidance, mentorship and even job opportunities.

This is not exclusive to higher education



Lastly, the major benefit of higher education is credentials and qualifications. It can greatly benefit their career prospects.

When you earn a degree or certification from a recognized institution, it serves as evidence of your knowledge, skills and dedication in a specific field. Having credentials and qualifications from higher education can open doors to a wider range of job opportunities. Many employers require a certain level of education as a minimum qualification for their positions. By obtaining a degree or certification, you demonstrate to potential employers that you have the necessary expertise and commitment to excel in your chosen field.

Again not exclusive to higher education  
Also happens in skill acquisition

~~Now, we will discuss the benefits of skill acquisition.~~

Work on proper transitions

First come, hands on-experience is a major benefit when acquiring new skills. While learning through textbooks and lectures is important, actually applying those skills in real-world scenarios can take your understanding to a



The essay lacks examples and research. Each argument needs validation. Your analysis and argumentation skills are good but you are neglecting validation.

whole new level. Moreover, hands-on experience allows you to build your confidence. By actually doing something and seeing the results you gain a sense of accomplishment and belief in your abilities. This confidence can translate into better performance and success in your chosen field.

No example no reference

The second major benefit of skill acquisition is adaptability and flexibility. Adaptability and flexibility are key benefits that can greatly enhance your personal and professional growth. Acquiring new skills allows you to adapt to changing circumstances and be more flexible in various situations. Moreover, acquiring diverse skills enhances your flexibility in the job market. As industries evolve and new technologies emerge, having a wide range of skills makes you more versatile and marketable. You become capable of taking on different roles and responsibilities, making you an attractive candidate to employers who value adaptability and flexibility.

No example no research



The third major benefit of skill acquisition is affordable programs and time efficient. Many online platforms offer affordable courses and programs that allow you to learn new skills at your own pace and within your budget. Moreover, some programs offer accelerated learning options, allowing you to acquire skills in a shorter amount of time. These intensive programs provide focused and condensed learning experiences, enabling you to gain proficiency in a skill more quickly.

The fourth major benefit of skill acquisition is a faster entry into the workplace. When you possess relevant skills that align with the job requirements, you can stand out from other applicants and increase your chances of getting hired. Employers value candidates who have the skills needed to hit the ground running. Furthermore, having a diverse skill set can make you more adaptable and versatile in the workplace. You can quickly adapt to new tasks, technologies, and challenges, which is highly valuable in today's fast-paced



and ever-changing work environments.

The fifth major benefit of skill acquisition is entrepreneurial opportunities. When you acquire new skills, you gain the ability to create your own business or venture based on your expertise. By developing skills in areas such as marketing, coding, graphic design, or financial management, you can start your own company and offer products or services that cater to a specific market or niche. Additionally, skill acquisition can provide you with the knowledge and expertise to effectively market and promote your business. You can leverage your skills to create compelling content, build an online presence and attract customers.

No example no reference

Use academic expression

Now, we will discuss the section 3 and 4 of our essay which are drawbacks of Higher Education and Skill Acquisition.

This portion should be done in a comparative manner where you decide which one is better in the modern world.

Higher Education definitely has its benefits, but it's important to acknowledge some of the drawbacks as well. One major concern is the high cost of tuition and the



burden of student loans. It can be quite expensive, making it difficult for some individuals to afford or requiring them to take on significant debt. Another drawback is the lengthy time commitment that higher education often requires. Pursuing a degree can take several years, which means investing a significant amount of time before entering the workplace. This can delay career progression and financial stability. Moreover, theoretical knowledge rather than practical skills are also a major drawback of higher education. While academic learning is important, there is a need for more emphasis on real-world applications and job-specific training. Another concern is the lack of real-world experience that higher education may offer. While internships and practical training programs exist, they may not fully prepare students for the challenges they will face in the job market. Lastly, there is the issue of job market saturation. With more individuals obtaining higher education degrees, competition for jobs can become intense, leading to difficulties in finding suitable

Don't discuss all the points in one paragraph. It leads to incoherence



employment. Therefore, it is necessary to overcome these drawbacks of higher education. Then, the higher education become more beneficial to <sup>all</sup> the people.

There are indeed some drawbacks of skill acquisition. Firstly, the lack of formal degree is the major concern because some jobs require a degree or certification. Secondly, limited advancement opportunities that can arise without a recognized degree. In some industries and organizations, having a formal degree is often seen as a requirement for higher-level positions or promotions. So, not having that degree could potentially limit your career growth. Another drawback is the lack of theoretical knowledge that comes with a formal degree. While skill acquisition can provide practical know-how, a formal education often includes a broader understanding of the field, including theories and concepts that can be valuable in problem-solving and critical thinking. Fourthly, Networking opportunities is also limited without a formal degree. Lastly, the potential for skill obsolescence is the

Too many points in one paragraph



major drawback of skill acquisition. In rapidly evolving fields, staying up to date with the latest trends and technologies is crucial. Without the structured learning environment of a formal degree, it may be harder to keep pace with industry advancements and ensure your skills remain relevant. Therefore, it is crucial to overcome these drawbacks of skill acquisition.

In conclusion, higher education and skill acquisition each have their own benefits and drawbacks. Higher education offers a well-rounded education, critical thinking skills, and specialized credentials, but it can be costly and time consuming. Skill acquisition, on the other hand, provides practical experience, adaptability, and quicker entry into the workplace, but may lack of formal credentials and limit advancement opportunities. Ultimately, the choice between the two depends on your individual goals, interests, and the specific requirements of your desired career path.



	<b>Category</b>	<b>Total marks</b>	<b>Obtained marks</b>
<b>Content</b>	Qualitative analysis	10	2
	Quantitative analysis	10	2
	Validity & Reliability	10	0
	Relevance	10	2
<b>Language</b>	Sentence structure	5	2
	Vocabulary	5	1
	Clarity	5	1
	Command of language	5	2
	Expression	5	1
<b>Structure</b>	Outline	5	1
	Introduction	5	1
	Body paragraphs	5	1
	Conclusion	5	1
<b>Coherence</b>	Cohesion	5	1
	Coherence	10	1
<b>Total</b>			<b>19</b>