

The inclusion of literature in the Curriculum is a waste of Valuable Educational Resources.

OUTLINE

1) Introduction.

Thesis Statement: The inclusion of literature in the curriculum is not a waste of valuable educational resources.

2) Inclusion of literature in the curriculum is not a waste of valuable educational resources.

a) Provision of civic awareness and understanding.

b) Provision of historical context for good governance and political structure.

c) An alternative method for developing critical skills.

d) Promotion of empathy and social understanding.

e) Enhancement in perspectives, leading to future development.

3) Inclusion of literature in the curriculum is a waste of valuable educational resources.

a) Limited relevance to civic awareness.

b) Limited factual relevancy in historical context.

c) Misallocation of educational funds, as limited practical value is offered.

- d) Emphasis on focus on the corporate world rather than literature.
- e) Knowledge of STEM majors more necessary in the world of today.
- w) a need for balance between literature and practical skills.
- a) limited relevance to civic awareness still leading to a better understanding.
- b) While there is limited factual relevancy, there are also events that hold true even for today.
- c) While there is limited practical value, there is also an alternative method for development of critical skills.
- d) While a focus on corporate understanding is necessary, it is fruitless without understanding of complex human nature.
- e) While STEM majors are a need of the hour, their understanding will bear no outcome without understanding different fields and perspectives.
- 5) Conclusion.

These days when graduates enter the hallowed halls and offices of the corporate world they are left to ponder: why did I read that book by Shakespeare when I could just easily have studied some science instead? It is a hard choice for all individuals.

entering the market, but none of them ever wonder that they are glad about the emotional intelligence that book by Shakespeare taught them. It is a time to start wondering, are we just producing mindless robots, or are we producing intelligent, well-rounded human beings with knowledge and emotions. The question always goes back to the inclusion of literature in curriculum. Is it providing any kind of benefit or not? It can be considered a valuable asset if we focus upon certain factors such as provision of civic awareness and understanding, an in-depth view on history provided by literature that cannot be taught by any scientific author, an understanding of complex human emotions and perspectives. It can also be considered as a liability if we focus on factors such as limited relevance, lack of updated knowledge, lack of focus on science and technology. The question may be complex, but one thing is for certain that the inclusion of literature in the curriculum is not a waste of valuable educational resources.

Literature can be considered a gateway for civic awareness and

understanding. There are countless examples in literature that show how the civic awareness of a society can impact its overall well being. Society can be considered as a family, where its governance is responsible for upholding the society. Books such as "To Kill a Mocking Bird" might be fictional but their relevance in today's society is uncanny. The book is a prime example of how rule of law can be affected by injustice in society. This can help the governance of any nation bring about structural changes necessary for sustaining the society. Another book "1984" teaches the individuals the negative impacts of some regimes and how a common person can play their part in formation of a better society.

Apart from this, literature can also help in the provision of historical content for good governance and political structure. Books like "The Rise and Fall of Roman Empire" prove that literature can show us the political aspects, and the best course of action as well.

Literature also encourages debate among the masses that not only shapes the social strata but also helps in the formation of political views. The emphasis on the historical content and the

analogies derived from them, shapes literature in a way that is easy to grasp and holds significance.

A good example of this is the "Communist Manifesto by Karl Marx." This specific pamphlet published in 1848 holds significance to this day as it laid the groundwork for modern communism and socialism. This also provided an impact on the political ideologies of the people worldwide.

Moreover, literature can also help in the development of critical skills and effective communication in individuals. This can help them become more aware regarding their circumstances as adults.

A study conducted by National Library of Medicine, USA showed that literature helped students perform better and helped them in development of critical skills.

Another report by Council of Education, USA showed that students who engaged with literature performed better in standardized tests, and were around 15% to 20%.

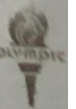
more efficient in reading and writing comprehension. This shows how literature can be effective in shaping young minds. Some insightful literature books, such as "The Hate U Give" by Angie Thomas makes the reader critically

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evaluate and think on the social injustice, police brutality, racial injustice within the society. The integration of literature not only prepares the students for academic success, but also for emotional intelligence and awareness necessary to navigate a complex and diverse world. It is a powerful tool for critical skills required in today's society.

Not only this, but it can also be seen that reading literature and gaining its knowledge can help in promotion of empathy and social understanding. A study conducted in "The News^{school} for Social Research" in New York proved that reading literary writers such as Charles Dickens improves empathy and social understanding among children. This social understanding is necessary as anywhere in the world in every job there are instances where understanding of complex human emotions is required.

"The Kite Runner" by Khaled Hosseini is a book that helps in exploring human nature with the help of characteristics such as friendship, betrayal and redemption. Literature helps in development of compassionate individuals that are better equipped to navigate this world. Literature is a powerful tool for shaping



mind and personalities.

Furthermore, inclusion of literature can also help in the enhancement of perspectives which could lead to future development and innovation. An individual equipped with knowledge of literature knows no bounds of critical thinking, they see a problem and find ways of coming up with a solution. An individual who has experienced diverse cultures, viewpoints, and experiences broadens their view of the world.

For instance, in the "Robinson Crusoe" book series, Robinson is left stranded on an island after a ship wreck, the book shows how without any access or knowledge of science and technology, Robinson is able to cater to his life. It is a good example of critical thinking by making use of fictional characters. This can also help people adjust in multicultural societies which is the need of the currently globalised world.

On one hand, literature's inclusion in academic curriculum can be considered a beneficial thing. On an other hand, it certainly has its fair share of disadvantages. The limited context

available in literature regarding governance can easily deviate the masses from problems that actually matter. Literature primarily provides awareness regarding issues such as self-reflection, and cultural understanding, the inclusion of civic awareness is indirectly focused which can be neglected easily. There is also a lack of practical knowledge required for civic engagement and government structures such as civic rights, duties, policy making etc. For example, "The Great Gatsby" one of the New York times best selling novels provides an understanding of social class, but does not provide the understanding of civil structures. There are various other examples that are leading to brain rot among young generation and future leaders due to inclusion of literature within the society.

Additionally, there is limited factual accuracy of events accounted for in literature. Although, actual events are used as analogy or reference but they are all works of art presented by fictional writers. A very accurate example of this can be found in the book "Memoirs of a Geisha". This book is openly criticised for its



inadequate historical context and portrayal of the Greishan culture. Creativity can mostly dim the line between facts and fiction. This can lead to misunderstandings and misinterpretation of historical events. This can further lead to inefficient structure of the society that a response is triggered in the form of trauma rather than progress. Use of academic resources, and actual historical textbooks is preferable for gaining facts rather than literature.

To top this off, inclusion of literature in academic curriculum is a waste of funds, as limited practical knowledge is available. These funds can be better allocated to productive knowledge of science and technology. IT is taking on the world by storm, and it is slowly becoming something that is required in every walk of life. Funds for literature will be better allotted towards developing skills that are necessary for keeping up with the fast-paced world of today. A recent study conducted by Bureau of Economics stated that graduates

having skills in data analytics or engineering tend to have a lower unemployment rate. This proves that funds allotted for literature should be utilised in more practical and productive areas such as IT that have measurable outcomes.

Another point to consider is the increasing needs to be employed in the corporate world due to higher wage and income. All the corporations of the world prefer individuals with knowledge of science and technology. Knowledge of literature is not currently a need. Business, finance, and technology are seen as the basic skill for seeking job in the corporate sector. A focus on this, also encourages investment in education in the form of internships that also leads to enhanced capability and practical knowledge. A hands on training leads to better development and industry related knowledge. As a result, study of humanities or literature are less beneficial and irrelevant for readiness in the corporate sector.