

Eiken Grade 1 2015-1A

No. 1 Do the pros of having only one superpower outweigh the cons?

I believe that, overall, the benefits of having one superpower outweigh the cons. OF course, this depends on the superpower and how they use their power around the world. But having two or more superpowers causes many problems. It increases the chances of international conflict, large-scale economic waste and interference in the freedom of other countries to choose their own courses. Let me explain these points in a little more detail. First, superpowers are likely to compete with each other and may easily become adversaries. This can increase the possibilities of war. Smaller countries are less likely to risk going to war with a superpower, because they know they would lose. Second, due to the threat of conflict, superpowers are likely to invest heavily in arms and military buildup. This

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separate the “haves” from the “have nots” is the level of scientific research and innovation. It’s difficult to imagine that Japan or America could have reached their level of success without their scientific and technological breakthroughs. Second, scientific innovation has benefitted all our lives in many ways. IT allows people to live longer, healthier lives, allows them to communicate more easily to people all other the world, and enables them to expand human knowledge and increase access to that knowledge. Finally, investments in research also means investments in human resources, so making them would increase the number of scientists and the quality of their work. We need more people to focus on scientific innovation so that we can make more breakthroughs. These are the reason why I believe scientific research should be a bigger priority of the government.

No. 3 Can the hunting of animals for sport be justified?

Even though I do not personally hunt animals, I believe that we should not ban it. Hunting can be justified for several reasons. Firstly, humans have been hunting animals since the beginning of human history. I believe the thrill of the hunt is in our DNA and we cannot easily suppress our feelings. Secondly, it's not practical to take away the right of people to kill certain kinds of animals. Some animals might be more dangerous to us, like an infectious wild dog, and some less, like rat in our houses. But we cannot draw the line between the killable and the unkillable. Thirdly, our society depends on the killing of animals, whether hunting is permitted or not. Most of us eat meat and benefit from the nutrition that animal food sources provide. Many people who are against hunting for sport not only eat meat, but wear leather belts and shoes. Finally, the government can control which animals to hunt and which to protect. This can be useful for the management of

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company can grow. The growth leads to increased salary and social status of its workers. Second, employees' loyalty to the company is strengthened. And, since they care about their company and may even identify with it, they will fight to help it survive during times of financial difficulty. Third, there is a low possibility of the leakage of confidential information. Every company has its own business secrets, such as client lists and marketing plans. When employees leave, the secrets can be at risk of exposure. In lifetime employment, such risk is low. Fourth, the security of long-term employment can let employees lead stable lives. With steady income, and without worrying about losing their job, they can live with less stress, concentrating on their work. In addition, lifetime employment makes it easy for employees to take out a housing loan. For these reasons, I feel that lifetime employment makes sense in modern society.

No. 5 Are the potential dangers of artificial intelligence exaggerated?

The potential dangers of artificial intelligence are very real. Not only that, the consequences could mean the end of humanity. Let me explain why I believe these things. First, as technological progress becomes faster and faster, there is a very real possibility that humans will lose control. Artificial intelligence, or AI, will become so advanced that robots with AI will be able to improve their own designs or create totally new ones, and manufacture these innovations by themselves, without human intervention. In order for humans to keep such robots under control, strict oversight is required. However, with more scientists involved in the development of AI around the world, the chances of losing control will only increase. Second, militaries around the world are investing more and more in technologies capable of destruction, including warrior robots. Such technology is a great threat especially once control is lost. Third, some of the most respected

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