

Unit 1 College Education

Text Analysis

I. Background information

The text is written by Neha R. Deshmukh, an EduZenith staff member. It is one of the column articles in EduZenith which aims to provide information about schools, especially colleges or universities around the world.

II. General analysis of the text

The essay analyzes the advantages and disadvantages of having college education. All in all, the author suggests college education is worthwhile in that it can provide students with both theoretical and practical knowledge, which is very beneficial for their overall development. Although there are examples of people who do not have a college degree but are successful, generally speaking, no other platform is quite as equipped as collegiate programs when it comes to providing a wealth of valuable experiences in one package. In the competitive global economy, educationally qualified people have more chances to survive and develop. Moreover, it is not only about getting a job, but also about the development of leadership, teamwork skills, ethics and morals.

The author employs a variety of methods to develop the essay. At the very beginning, the author refers to the statistics from a survey, which leads to the discussion of the value of college education. In the second part, the author cites Bill Gates as an example of the dropouts of universities who later become enormously successful. However, in the meanwhile, the author explains that it is a “bigger risk” to invest in a business which is hardly experienced than getting no job after graduating from college. Following this line, in the last but one paragraph, the author mentions Bill Gates again, holding that not every young student knows his field of interest and has the capability to manage it. And a college education can help young people realize their field of interest and gain both theoretical and practical knowledge, which is essential for the overall development of young people.

It is also worth mentioning that the author uses figures of speech like parallelism and repetition to enhance the theme of writing, as in “Some students wish to gain a degree just for the purpose of satisfaction. Some do it for economic benefits. Some just do it because they have to!” and “Numerous reasons, numerous facts and

numerous viewpoints!”

The text can be divided into four parts: the question; the list of disadvantages; the list of advantages; the conclusion.

Part	Paragraph(s)	Main idea
I	1	Based on the results of a survey, the author presents the question: Is college education worthwhile?
II	2-3	The author presents the disadvantages of attending college.
III	4-5	The author lists the advantages of attending college.
IV	6	All in all, college education is worthwhile.

III. Detailed study of the text

Part I (para. 1)

1. A recent study reveals that 60% of the undergraduate American students agreed that the college degree is worth it.

◆ **reveal:** v. [T] to make known something that was previously secret or unknown

The verb *reveal* sounds more formal and thus preferable in written texts. It is usually followed by a nominal phrase or clause serving as the object.

*The police refused to **reveal** the result of the investigation.*

*The survey has **revealed** that a growing number of people are obese.*

*No insiders **revealed** how much damage had been done.*

◆ **revealing:** adj. giving you interesting information that you did not know before

*The document provided a **revealing** insight into the government's priorities.*

*The book is very **revealing** about young people's views of themselves.*

2. But, can an individual survive without experiencing the college life?

◆ **survive:** v. [I, T] to continue to live or exist (despite a dangerous event or time)

*Some strange customs have **survived** from earlier times.*

*Medicines that dissolve blood clots can help people **survive** heart attacks.*

◆ **survivor:** n. a person who continues to live, especially despite being nearly killed or experiencing great danger or difficulty

*He is the sole/only **survivor** of the massacre.*

*There were only a few **survivors** from the Titanic.*

◆ **survival:** n. [U] the state of continuing to live or exist, often despite difficulty or danger

*His only chance of **survival** was a heart transplant.*

*Continued trade in these products is a threat to the **survival** of the species.*

Part II (paras. 2-3)

3. It is believed that students who belong to rich families find it very easy to afford the expenditure that a college degree requires.

- ◆ **expenditure:** *n.* the total amount of money that a government, organization, or person spends during a particular period of time

The word shares the same root as *expense*, *expensive* and *spend*.

*They should cut their **expenditure** on defense.*

*The budget provided for a total **expenditure** of 3 million dollars.*

4. Bill Gates is one such personality who never had any college degree; rather, he was a college dropout, yet managed to become what he is today.

- ◆ **personality:** *n.* [C] a famous person, especially one who works in entertainment or sport

*Many advertisers use TV **personalities** to promote their products.*

*He was chosen as sports **personality** of the year.*

- ◆ **rather:** *adv.* used to correct something you have said, or to give more accurate information

*Our aim was not to punish the rich, but **rather** to bring justice to the poor.*

*He couldn't help us, or **rather** he didn't want to.*

Part III (paras. 4-5)

5. No, a college degree is not necessary for “success,” but is surely a requisite for gaining knowledge and moral values.

- ◆ **requisite:** *n.* [C] sth that is needed for a particular purpose

*A university degree has become a **requisite** for entry into most professions.*

*Self-esteem, self-judgment and self-will are the three **requisites** of independence.*

6. The exposure that a student gets in a college can never be replicated anywhere else.

- ◆ **exposure:** *n.* the opportunity to experience ideas, events, methods etc. that are new to you

*The study indicates that early **exposure** to a second language helps kids naturally acquire the target language.*

*The visit to Germany gave them **exposure** to the language.*

- ◆ **replicate:** v. [T] to copy sth exactly

*Subsequent experiments failed to **replicate** these findings.*

*The medicine prevents the virus from **replicating** itself.*

7. The kind of social interaction in which a student gets involved at a college is one of a kind.

- ◆ **involve:** v. to make sb take part in sth

*I prefer the teaching methods that actively **involve** students **in** learning.*

*She's been **involved** with animal rights for many years.*

*It would be difficult not to **involve** the child's father in the arrangements.*

- ◆ **involvement:** n. [U] the act of taking part in sth or dealing with sb

*The team's continued **involvement** in the competition is uncertain.*

The problem requires the active involvement of the local government.

- ◆ **involved:** adj. complicated and difficult to understand 复杂难懂的

*an **involved** reason/excuse/argument*

*The plot of the film was too **involved**—I couldn't understand it.*

8. There are many jobs in the fields of research and technology which are vacant because of the lack of skilled and trained people.

- ◆ **lack:** n. the state of not having something or not having enough of sth

A common mistake with the use of *lack* as a noun is the mistaken collocation of *lack in*. As shown in the sentence, when used as a noun, *lack* usually goes together with *of*.

There was no lack of information.

However, *be lacking in* is a legitimate phrase, which simply means *lack* and should not be mistaken for the progressive tense of *lack in*. Most dictionaries consider *lacking in* this phrase as an adjective.

She's not usually lacking in confidence.

The book is completely lacking in originality.

9. Hence, it is a matter of concern for the overall development of an individual and also for the country as a whole.

- ◆ **concern:** n. [C or U] something that is important to you or that involves you

*The company's sole **concern** is to ensure the safety of its employees.*

There's a matter of some concern that I have to discuss with you.

concern: v. [T] to make someone feel worried or upset

The state of my father's health concerns us greatly.

[+ that] It concerns me that he hasn't been in contact.

Does it concern you that your children are out after dark?

Note the usage of *be concerned about*. If you have been concerned about the situation, you are worried about it. For example, you can say like this "She is concerned about how little food I eat."

concern: v. [T] if a story, book, report etc. concerns someone or something, it is about them

The documentary concerns a woman who goes to Japan as a missionary.

Note the usage of *concerning*, it means "about."

I've had a letter from the tax authorities concerning my tax payments.

10. The American government grants scholarships to the students who are...

- ◆ **grant:** v. [T] to give sb sth that they have asked for, especially official permission to do sth

They granted her an entry visa.

He was granted asylum.

grant: n. [C] an amount of money given to a person or organization, especially by the government, for a particular purpose

a student/research grant

a local authority/government grant

[+ to do] They gave/awarded her a grant to study abroad for one year.

- ◆ **take it for granted:** to believe something is true without first making sure that it is

I didn't realize that Melanie hadn't been to college--I suppose I just took it for granted.

Part IV (para. 6)

11. Well, coming back to the reality, paying the college fees is surely a tough task.

- ◆ **come back:** PHRASAL VERB [TRANSITIVE] to deal again with sth that you were dealing with earlier.

Note that the phrase “coming back to the reality” is a dangling modifier, sometimes called a “hanging participle.” Normally the subject of an adverbial participle clause is the same as the subject of the main clause in a sentence. It is often considered incorrect to make sentences with “hanging participles,” where an adverb clause has a different subject from the main clause. However, dangling modifiers are common and often seem quite natural, particularly when the main clause has preparatory *it* or *there* as a subject.

Being French, it's surprising that she's such a terrible cook.

Having so little time, there was not much that I could do.

Hanging participles are normal in some fixed expressions referring to the speaker's attitude. More examples:

Judging from his appearance, he seems nice.

Broadly speaking, dogs are more faithful than cats.

Considering everything it wasn't a bad year.

Supposing there was an earthquake, what would you do?

12. But, on a personal note, it is worth it!

- ◆ **on a...note** (=speaking in a particular way)

*She ended her speech **on a personal note**.*

***On a more serious note**, I'd like to thank everyone for all their support.*

*The meeting ended **on an optimistic note**.*

- ◆ **note**: *n.* the feelings or thoughts of people in a particular situation

Notice the usage of *note of*:

*There was **a note of** doubt in her voice.*

*He brought **a note of** realism into the debate.*

Key to the Exercises

Pre-Class Tasks

1 Mini-research

1. **Higher education** (also called post-secondary education, third level or tertiary education) is an optional final stage of formal learning that occurs after completion of secondary education. Higher education includes teaching, research, exacting applied work (e.g. in medical schools and dental schools), and social

service activities of universities. Within the realm of teaching, it includes both the undergraduate level, and beyond that, the graduate level (or postgraduate level). There are many types of further and higher educational institutions such as, community college or university, trade and technical schools, and military colleges/academies. Different degrees include the Associate degree which can be obtained through a two-year program, Bachelor's degree generally requires 3-4 years, Master's degree 1-2 years, and PhD 3-4 years.

2.

	Chinese higher education	Western higher education
Admissions process	A student's score in the National Higher Education Entrance Examination (Gaokao) is the primary consideration used for admission into universities in China.	<p>Students traditionally apply for admission into colleges. In the United States, admissions criteria involve the rigor and grades earned in high school courses taken, the students' GPA, class ranking, and standardized test scores (Such as the SAT or the ACT tests).</p> <p>As post-secondary schools have limited space, there is competition for admission. For most undergraduate schools, the greatest competition comes from high school students. In this case, the two most basic criteria are the successful completion of high school and competency in one of the two official languages (English in most of Canada, and either English or French in Quebec and</p>

		<p>New Brunswick). Students can apply for various programs, depending on their interests. Generally, students can choose amongst Arts, Science, and Business, although there are many variations on these themes and numerous subcategories and majors. Students can apply without having to declare their specialization at the outset, and be considered “undeclared” for a time.</p>
<p>Types of colleges and universities</p>	<p>In China, according to ownership-based categories of Higher Education Institutions, the higher education can be divided into two categories—State-owned or Government-owned Higher Education Institutions, including Regular Higher Education Institutions, Independent Institutions, Higher Vocational Colleges, Adult Higher Education Institutions, and non-government or private universities.</p>	<p>There are various types of colleges and universities in different Western countries. For instance, in America, there are public universities or colleges, privately-owned colleges, for-profit colleges, two-year colleges, co-educational colleges, single-sex schools, etc.</p>

2 Co-learning

1. The American college education is world class. The facilities are spectacular. Students can study anything there. But the tuition fees are high.
2. Open-ended question.
3. Online classes.

Comprehension

1

1. **College degree** is a qualification awarded to students upon successful completion of a course of study in higher education, usually at a college or university. These institutions commonly offer degrees at various levels, usually including bachelor's, master's and doctorates, often alongside other academic certificates and professional degrees.
2. **Bill Gates** (1955-) is an American business magnate, software developer, investor, author, and philanthropist. He is a co-founder of Microsoft, along with his late childhood friend Paul Allen.

2

Beginning (para. 1)	Based on the results of a(n) <u>survey/study</u> , the author presents the question: <u>Is college education worthwhile?/ is a college degree really worth the time and money spent?</u>
Body (paras. 2-5)	1 (paras. 2-3) The author presents the <u>disadvantages/drawbacks/shortcomings/demerits/weaknesses</u> of attending college. 2 (paras. 4-5) The author lists the <u>advantages/strengths/merits</u> of attending college.
Conclusion (para. 6)	All in all, college education is <u>worthwhile</u> .

3

1. The author starts the text with the results of a recent study and raises some questions. The percentages tell us that more undergraduate American students believe that college degree is worth it.
2. Some students wish to gain a degree just for the purpose of satisfaction. Some do it for economic benefits. Some just do it because they have to!
3. Experts say that in some years, there might be a situation when colleges will simply shrink in size as most of the students would prefer starting a business and thus learn through practical experience.

4. In para. 3 the author wants to tell readers that not everyone is like Bill Gates and college education is very important for people to become better and get a job. In para. 5 the author wants to show that proper theoretical and practical knowledge from the college is important for the overall development and growth of a student.
5. “The overall development of a student” means what we focus on and emphasize is more than the academic development of the student. Instead, while that remains a key focus, we also emphasize the social-emotional development; the development of varying artistic skills; cognitive development; character development, etc. to ensure that we are helping them develop the necessary skills to leave us as well-rounded, successful and competitive citizens of tomorrow.
6. No, a college degree is not necessary for “success,” but is surely a requisite for gaining knowledge and moral values.
7. The U.S. government has sanctioned billions of dollars to promote college education and grants scholarships to the students who are really willing to study but are finding it difficult to cope with the financial requirements.
8. The author believes that paying the college fees is surely a tough task but it is worth it! People can definitely gain much more than the fees that they paid in their life!

Word Application

1

1. expend; 2. shrinkage; 3. unanswered; 4. immoral; 5. exposing;
6. opting; 7. promotion; 8. sustainable; 9. unethical; 10. orientation

2

1. Among the rest of the undergraduate American students, some found it difficult to judge the value of college degree and some were quite certain college degree was a waste of time and money.
2. However, doctors, engineers, lawyers, scientists, teachers and leaders will have great difficulty in showing their best qualities if college education is not available for them.
3. Who is discovered to be the loser: these brilliant individuals or the whole society?

4. In a college, a student is affected in such a way that in no place else can the same effects be achieved.
5. During the process of obtaining a degree from the college, a student will be confronted with countless experiences which can only be learned and experienced in a college.
6. The competition is very fierce in the global market. If students want to deal with this difficult situation and succeed, they need to have excellent academic performance.
7. If some students are very enthusiastic about study but can't afford to pay for school, the American government will allow them to have scholarships.
8. But in my opinion, college education is a good investment. What you gain at college will surely be more than the tuition fees you paid!

3

1. requisite; 2. skip; 3. apply for; 4. lack of; 5. vacant;
 6. theoretical; 7. dropouts; 8. sanction; 9. reliability; 10. prospects

4

1. to; 2. without; 3. in; 4. on; 5. upon; 6. through; 7. for; 8. in; 9. to; 10. to

Grammar Application

1

1-5: D B H F I 6-10: M L O E J

2

1. These paragraphs are not obscure as compared with those in scientific research.
2. Since you had so little travel experience, I thought it better to do as asked.
3. As already shown, patience is a key factor in success.
4. Schizophrenia is not a “split mind” as is popularly believed.
5. Everything happened exactly as (had been) expected.
6. As already stated, the most frequent question is where to look for useful information.

3

1. Rather
2. or rather
3. rather than
4. rather than
5. rather
6. rather
7. rather
8. or rather

4

1. The cost of transport is a major expense for the industry. Hence factory location is an important consideration.
2. More and more people come to realize that environmental degradation should be a matter of concern to us all.
3. There is no guarantee that the books will be delivered this week because of the weather.
4. If you ask energy firms what their biggest obstacle will be next year, most point to their reduced access to capital.
5. Each plate is handpainted and one of a kind.
6. Outdoor sports may bring innumerable benefits and keep you and your family physically and mentally healthy.
7. The role of HR was to devise various schemes and policies so as to channelize the employees' behavior along a desired path.
8. The Chinese are enormously proud of their historical achievements.

Oral Practice

Open-ended questions.

Writing

One version for reference:

Graduating from university opens up a whole range of different options, among which entering the full-time workforce or continuing study has always been a dilemma for new graduates.

On one hand, continuing study can provide you with a chance to develop an in-depth knowledge of a subject. Generally speaking, postgraduate courses will be a much deeper analysis and include detailed study of the subject rather than covering the broader themes that an undergraduate degree would cover. Moreover, choosing further education lets you explore a field you are passionate about, helping you find a clear career goal. In addition, continuing study can boost your earning and promotion potentials. If you are looking to move into a higher position in your company, jobs will require a graduate degree or higher. It may also qualify you for higher wages in the same position.

On the other hand, while gaining a higher degree may give you a bigger pay check, you also need to consider the additional costs of studying. And there are still a number of employees with master's degrees who earn just as much as those with bachelor's degrees, and even less in some cases. Another important advantage of jumping directly into workforce is that working gives you an early start in climbing the corporate ladder. You begin to acquire professional skills and experience that might be beneficial for your career later on, and you will gain this sooner than those people spending two years or more getting a master's degree.

In a nutshell, when you make the decision on whether to join the workforce or continue your study, you should consider your funds, the return on your investment and your commitment to the subject.

Text B The Future of College Education: Students for Life, Computer Advisers and Campuses Everywhere

Working with Words and Expressions

1. **hang on to** to keep something 保留, 保存
2. **Georgia Institute of Technology** (Georgia Tech), founded in 1885 as a trade school, is among the world's leading technological and scientific research institutions. Located in the Midtown district of Atlanta, the state capital, it aims to develop leaders who advance technology and improve the human condition. Its mission and strategic plan are focused on making a positive impact in the lives of people everywhere. 佐治亚理工学院
3. **emeritus** *adj.* used before or after a title to show that a person, usually a university teacher, keeps the title as an honor, although he or she has stopped working (尤指从学院或大学) 退休后保留头衔的, 荣誉退休的
4. **Smithsonian Institution**, also known simply as the Smithsonian, is a group of museums and research centers administered by the Government of the United States. It was founded on August 10, 1846, "for the increase and diffusion of knowledge." The institution is named after its founding donor, British scientist James Smithson. 史密森学会
5. **audacious** *adj. (formal)* willing to take risks or to do sth that shocks people 敢于冒险的, 大胆的
6. **proverbial** *adj.* well known and talked about by a lot of people 众所周知的, 著名的
7. **provost** *n.* an important official at a college or university (学院或大学的) 教务长
8. **Milken Institute** is an independent economic think tank based in Santa Monica, California. It publishes research and hosts conferences that apply market-based principles and financial innovations to social issues in the U.S. and internationally. The institute was founded in 1991 by former Drexel Burnham Lambert banker Michael Milken. The mission of the Institute is "to improve the lives and economic conditions of diverse populations in the United States and around the world by helping business and public policy leaders identify and implement innovative ideas for creating broad-based prosperity." 梅肯研究院
9. **atrium** *n.* In an ancient Roman house, an atrium was an open central court that contained the impluvium, a basin where rainwater collected. It originally

contained the hearth and functioned as the center of family life. The term later came to be used for the open front courtyard of a Christian basilica, where congregants collected before services. The atrium was revived in the 20th century in the form of glass-covered, greenery-filled multistory spaces sometimes found in shopping centers, office buildings, and large hotels.中庭

Understanding the Text

1

1. It would be necessary for colleges and universities to search new ways to fulfill their task as modern educators. They could either work on establishing closer ties between secondary and postsecondary schools or offering new options for adults.
2. At first, he was doubtful of the practicability of the plan, considering it too ambitious. But later the plan's lengthy time horizon dispelled his doubt and aroused his interest.
3. The author wants to use this example to illustrate the possibility of using virtual tutors to give advice to students on course selection, class navigation and career options.
4. With such challenges as rising college fees, decreasing enrollment rate, and new demands from students, future college education will confront three major changes to make sure it is still affordable, accessible and excellent. Firstly, colleges will change into a place of lifelong learning. Instead of being a four-year degree system for high school graduates, colleges will provide more flexible schedules for students in order to cater for their practical needs. Secondly, colleges will serve as a counseling institution, ensuring that students can have access to professional guidance on a wide range of areas from class selection to career choices. Lastly, colleges will extend beyond the limits of space, playing a more active role in bring service to the society by connecting students, alumni, faculty and entrepreneurs.
5. The answer is open.

2

1. 阵营二的成员则坚信由于学费螺旋式上涨和获得传统学位的途径越来越多，大学入学人数将会更少。
2. 大学不但构想 20 年后的变化，它的时间表还确保小组有更为意义深远的目标

在以后的很多个十年中实践，而不像很多计划那样，仅追求显而易见举手可得的目标。

3. 因此学生一生中仅进入大学一次、毕业后成为校友、获得“好管家”的认可资质、偶尔回到校园回馈捐赠，这种体系不再适合将来的模式。
4. 据佐治亚理工学院预测，如果教育永无止境，那么大学为学生提供建议的重要作用也不应该结束。
5. 在一些方面，正如报告指出，中庭式理念是对于过去的致敬，因为过去的大学拥有农业和工程实验基站，为国民提供相关领域所需的服务。

Voicing Your Views

Open-ended questions.

Reading Between the Lines

1. The function of this paragraph is to present an introduction to the topic, the predictions about higher education in future.
2. It compares and contrasts two common predictions: the optimistic one and the pessimistic one, thus introducing the topic and arousing readers' interests.

Appendices

I. Chinese version of Text A

大学学位真的值得花费时间和金钱吗？

妮雅·R.德希穆克

¹最近的一项研究表明，60%的美国本科生认为大学学位是值得（付出时间和金钱）的。剩下的40%的学生，或是觉得很难抉择，或是相当肯定地认为大学学位不值得花费时间和金钱。因此，这一切都取决于个人的选择。但是，一个从未体验过大学生活的人能在社会中生存吗？这真的有可能吗？如果有可能，这类学生的未来前景如何？如果不可能，那么那些确实获得了大学学位的学生又收获了些什么呢？确实，都是很难回答的问题！

硬币的一面：背面

²人们普遍认为，来自富裕家庭的学生很容易负担大学学位所需费用。而其他学生就不得不申请教育贷款，并在未来几年里持续偿还。另外，他们是否真的喜欢学位课程中教授的科目，也是一个值得关注的问题。学生获得大学学位后也

不能保证找到工作。显然，这对于父母和学生来说，都是一件担忧的事情。毕竟，谁愿意为大学教育白白浪费成千上万美元，到头来却找不到任何途径来收回成本？有些学生希望获得学位仅仅是为了自我满足；有些是为了经济利益；还有些是因为不得不这样做！存在无数的理由，无数的事实和无数的观点！因此，有些人得出结论：他们可以在家里自己教孩子必修的科目，从而完全跳过大学。由此的争论是：“大学学位是否值得？”

³ 专家说，若干年后可能会出现这样的情况，大学的规模会缩小，因为大多数学生更喜欢做生意，从而在实践中学习。比尔·盖茨就是一个这样的人，他从未获得任何学位，甚至是个大学辍学生，但却成功地成为今天的样子。但问题是，你会将一笔资金投入到一个你几乎没经历过的行业里吗？比起获得大学学位后找不到工作，这个风险不是更大吗？更重要的是，对于学生的全面发展该怎么说？任何地方都需要最好的医生、工程师、律师、科学家、教师和领导人来服务国家和社会。但是，如果他们都没有接受过大学教育，把他们最好的一面展现出来肯定是很困难的。最后谁会输：是这些有能力的个人还是作为一个统一体的社会？从实际上说，病人对医生的依赖和信任可能会丧失。因此，如前所述，这一切都取决于个人看法。

硬币的另一面：正面

⁴ 有人问：“大学学位对于成功是必要的吗？”现在，这个问题完全可以回答了。不，大学学位对于“成功”来说不是必要的，但却是获得知识和道德价值的必备条件。学生在大学里所获得的濡染，在其他任何地方都无法再复制。它不同寻常，永不过时。学生参与的大学社交活动是独一无二的。在获取学位的过程中，学生会遇到无数经历，这在其他地方都无法习得或体验到。学生可以聆听不同领域中的很多专家（的教导）。他的想法、思想和喜好都能得到恰当的引导。如果没有人引导，他肯定会感到困惑并在无数的职业选择中迷失。拥有本科和研究生学位的学生总比没有获得恰当教育的学生更受青睐。他一定也会获得更多的提升机会。全球经济在今天的竞争如此激烈，学生需要具备良好的学术背景才能生存和发展。而且，这不仅仅关乎是否获得工作，更关乎舍此途径就无法获得的伦理和道德之学习。

⁵ 美国政府已批准投入数十亿美元用于推动大学教育。由于缺乏有技术和训练有素的人员，在研究和技术领域还有许多空缺职位。因此，不管是对于个人的全面发展还是整个国家的发展，这都是一个值得关注的问题。美国政府向真正愿意学习但却难以解决经济需求的学生提供奖学金。如前所述，比尔·盖茨就是这样一个从未获得大学学位却取得巨大成功的范例。那是因为他知道自己的兴趣所

在，并且有能力经营之。事实上，每个知道如何操作电脑的学生都可能如此吗？学生只有从大学获得适当的理论和实践知识，才有可能获得全面发展和成长。获得合格教育的学生更自信，他知道自己的价值。他能在竞争的世界中生存下来。

⁶不上大学，而是较早地开始赚钱有错吗？当然没错，但问问你自己，是否想通过建造或发明某样造福社会的东西来赚取你的百万财富。那么，回到现实中来，支付大学费用确实是一项艰难的任务。但是，从个人的角度来看，这是值得的！比起你在生活中支付的费用，你未来的收获肯定要大得多！

II. Transcript of the video

Is an American College Degree Worth the Cost?

—“It’s a real treat to go to an American college. The education is world class. The facilities are spectacular. There’s almost nothing a student of George Washington University can’t study or do. But every treat has a price.”

—“I currently work two part-time jobs. I work a lot of night shifts, usually about three to four shifts. And there are about four-hour shifts.”

—“These students don’t come from wealthy families, so they have to find other ways to pay the high fees.”

—“Usually each semester I do about thirty hours of work, whether it’s one or two jobs on campus.”

—“I have been working two to four jobs this semester.”

—“You have 60,000 dollars of loans today. When you finish college, how much money do you think you will owe?”

—“120K.”

—“The high fees don’t just go on teaching. US colleges compete to provide the best possible extras and here that means basketball. The university’s team, the Colonials, is doing well. Tonight the game is being broadcast on national television. It’s not cheap though to have top-notch sports. In 2008 this stadium got a 43,000,000 dollar face-lift. George Washington University costs about 48,000 dollars a year. By comparison, a British student can attend Edinburg University for around 14,000 or you can go to the heavily subsidized Sorbonne in Paris for less than 500 dollars, which begs the question, Are US private universities really worth it?”

—“I’m going to admit that I have a vested interest in this story. My family’s done an

experiment. I have one child who's been to university in the UK, and another who's been to university here in America. And it's pretty clear that the quality of the education is better here in the States. There's simply more teaching going on. What's less clear to me, though, is whether it's worth the enormous extra cost."

—"Of course it's hard to put a number on the value of an education, but students around the country are prepared to fork out large sums, because it's the surest route to a high paying job."

—"US degrees in the United States are more valuable than degrees are in other countries. There's a much smaller welfare state here. Fewer vacation days, fewer government-paid benefits and less of a social safety net, so when you're talking about your career and how much money you're gonna make, your college investment is basically your down payment."

—"Fees of George Washington doubled in the last two and a half decades. It was a deliberate strategy to make the college more attractive. And because humans are complicated animals, it worked."

—"Is it worth the money?"

—"Who knows? Is it better to drive a Cadillac than a Chevrolet? Uhh, both of them get you from point A to point B."

—"The university's former president oversaw an investment boom here and has no regrets about runaway fees."

—"The tuitions are a problem only if the jobs aren't available on the other end. If they can't find a job, they waste their money, presumably, and their years. But if they can find a job and they are able to practice their profession and they can make a living, well, then the university has served the purpose presumably. They want it, society want it, and if they can pay the debt back it's not a problem."

—"Eventually competition will cap college fees in America and it won't come from buildings and stadiums and beautiful dorm rooms, it will come from the Web. Today more US schools offer online classes virtually for free and more students are saying that's a very good deal."