READING COMPREHENSION

Why Art Education is Essential in the Digital Age

In today's fast-paced digital world, many people argue that STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) subjects should be the sole focus of education to ensure career success. However, integrating art into the school curriculum is not just a luxury; it is a necessity. Art education plays a vital role in developing well-rounded individuals who can navigate the complexities of the modern workforce.

Firstly, art fosters creativity and innovation, which are the backbones of the 21st-century economy. When students engage in painting, music, or drama, they learn to think outside the box and approach problems from multiple perspectives. This creative mindset is exactly what tech giants and global companies look for when they need to develop new products or solve unique challenges that logic alone cannot fix.

Secondly, art education significantly improves emotional intelligence and empathy. Through the study of various artistic expressions, students learn to interpret human emotions and cultural nuances. This helps them build better social skills and understand diverse viewpoints, which is crucial in our increasingly globalized society. By appreciating art, students become more sensitive to the world around them.

Furthermore, practicing art enhances critical thinking and discipline. Creating a piece of art requires careful planning, constant evaluation, and the patience to refine one's work. It is a process of trial and error that teaches students that failure is a part of growth. These "soft skills" are transferable to any professional field, from medicine to law, where attention to detail and resilience are required.

In conclusion, while technical skills are undeniably important, art education provides the essential creative, emotional, and critical foundations that students need. It is clear that art should remain a core pillar of the education system to ensure that the next generation is not only technically proficient but also imaginative and empathetic.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Essay

Instructions: Answer the following questions based on the text above.

1. What is the main goal of the writer in writing the text?

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2. Explain in your own words how art helps students in "thinking outside the box."

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3. Why is emotional intelligence considered important in today's globalized society according to the text?

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4. What specific "soft skills" can be developed through the process of creating art?

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5. The writer mentions that art skills are "transferable." What does this mean in the context of professional careers like medicine or law?

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6. Identify the **Thesis**, **Arguments**, and **Reiteration** sections of the text.

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7. Based on the text, do you agree that art is as important as mathematics? Provide a brief reason for your answer.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS