

## Eiken Grade 1 2015-2A

No. 1      Should more be done to protect the cultures of the world's indigenous peoples?

*I believe that we need to do more to protect the cultures of indigenous peoples. I will now present three reasons why I believe protection is necessary. First, the lives of indigenous peoples have often not been valued equally with other citizens. They have often not received the same protections as those belonging to the dominant culture and have even been killed to make way for progress. Second, indigenous peoples should have the right to choose and to live the lifestyle they want, as do all humans. They may choose to live a more traditional, isolated lifestyle. However, to make this option possible, nations must work to preserve areas where indigenous people can be free from threats of destruction or pressure to adopt modern lifestyles. Finally, we all benefit from having diversity in the world. Some people believe that happiness or success in life is dependent on advancement and financial success, but indigenous peoples show us that there are other valid ways of living. In fact, indigenous peoples often show us that our advancement has come at a great cost in terms of such things as higher stress and damage to nature. The loss of indigenous cultures would truly be a loss for all of humankind.*

No. 2      Are large corporations solely interested in generating profits?

*Large corporations cannot only be interested in profits if they want to survive. Let me explain. First, most large corporations are successful because they have developed a reputation for excellence. This reputation is a brand which must be protected by providing benefits to society and avoiding scandals. Second, successful corporations need high-quality management and employees. They not only need to attract quality workers, but they must also keep them to maintain consistency. To do this, they must offer good working conditions and maintain a positive working environment. Third, corporations often play important roles in their local communities beyond providing jobs and boosting the local economy. Many large companies need to follow a practice called CSR, or corporate social responsibility. This means that companies need to help local communities through activities such as giving donations or volunteering. Moreover, companies need to be concerned about world issues like environment protection and maintaining sustainable practices. In this sense, successful corporations can have a win-win way of thinking. By giving back to society and acting in responsible, ethical ways, they increase their brand image and customer loyalty.*

No. 3 Agree or disagree: Social class is still relevant in modern society

*I agree that social class is still relevant in modern society. I will give three reasons why I feel this way. Firstly, in almost every country in the world people are rewarded for their contributions to society through the money they earn. Naturally, certain people make more money than others. This creates clear social boundaries from the start, for people with more money have more life options and they also earn more respect. Secondly, education often plays a role in deciding who is and who is not in the upper social classes. Highly educated people not only have better work opportunities, but they normally have more knowledge and confidence as well. The quality and level of education people receive varies greatly. Finally, leaders in government and business are usually regarded more highly than normal citizens. This is true even in so-called classless societies in communist countries. On a business trip, I was once shown a wealthy neighbor in a city in Vietnam and told that high-ranking members of the communist party lived in this community, members who were clearly in a higher social class. For these reasons, I believe there will always be different social classes and that humans will always judge others by their standing in society.*

No. 4 Is enough being done to stop cyberbullying in Japan?

*Not enough is being done to stop cyberbullying in Japan. I would like to present three reasons to support this belief. First, cyberbullying has been increasing. The pain caused by this has been so great that some teenagers even kill themselves. I read that over half of teenagers have been bullied on their cell phones or online and many teenagers participate in cyberbullying. As young people go through their emotional ups and downs and face social pressures, it becomes an attractive option for many to let off steam by bullying online. Second, a bigger educational effort needs to be made to inform young people about what to do when they are bullied. The majority of victims fail to tell their parents or other adults who could support them and help stop the bullying. Third, an additional educational effort needs to be made to prevent cyberbullying. Potential bullies need to be aware of the pain they cause and the seriousness of their actions. They also need to know that they will not be as anonymous as they may think, since it is becoming easier to track bullies online. They will be found and punished. It is clear that more needs to be done in Japan to support cyberbullying victims and to reduce cyberbullying.*

No. 5 Is political correctness really necessary in today's world?

*I feel political correctness is still necessary in the world today. I would now like to give three reasons why it's necessary. First, most governments and people today believe in equal rights for all human beings, including the right to be treated with dignity and respect. It is important to continue to push for language that is respectful as a way to fight for the rights of minorities and others who have been historically discriminated against. Second, there are still many who will take any opportunity to turn back the clock to the old days of intolerance and discrimination. Discrimination is difficult to eliminate completely, so the effort to have people understand the feelings of those who have suffered discrimination requires a long-term commitment. Third, it is important to educate young people to be tolerant of others. Schools are becoming increasingly diverse, so it a good place to introduce political correctness to children. Parents and all adults can make an effort to reinforce this behavior so that young minds can be more open and understanding. In these ways, continuing to push for political correctness will help make a more peaceful and tolerant world in the future.*