

**OR**

- 7** 'Life in today's world is just so busy that we do not have time to value the things that really matter.'

You have been asked to deliver a speech to your peers in which you give your views on this statement.

Your speech may include:

- whether you agree or disagree with the statement and why
- the things in life that we should value
- any other points you wish to make.

*Your response will be marked for the accurate and appropriate use of vocabulary, spelling, punctuation and grammar.*

**(Total for Question 7 = 45 marks)**

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Indicate which question you are answering by marking a cross in the box ☒. If you change your mind, put a line through the box ☒ and then indicate your new question with a cross ☒.

Chosen question number: Question 6 ☒ Question 7 ☒

~~The world~~ <sup>Life</sup> can be a chaotic, confusing haze of duties and emotions, ~~enables~~ decisions and luck, chance and fate. <sup>Every individual</sup> ~~It's not we~~ faces separate struggles, relative to them, and we are <sup>often</sup> met with challenging times in our lives that can define who we are as people. And so it's understandable, that throughout this scuffle of confusion we, ~~perhaps~~ both individually and collectively, forget what 'really matters'.

Many of us may disagree with that statement. Personally, I both agree and disagree. It really boils down to the question of - what <sup>does</sup> 'really matters'? A lot of us sitting here today are quick to think 'family', or 'my career', or 'religion' as the ultimate answer. And it would be ignorant to assume the aspect that is most important to <sup>one of</sup> us would be the same for all individuals.

But what's the point in knowing what really matters? There never seems to be any time to focus on it. From a young age, we, as children are <sup>unwittingly</sup> <sup>the</sup> put into "competitions" that is life. Our educational value is relative to others, if others have done better, have you really done your best? This is a question, we, as students, find ourselves asking, yet in the grand scheme of things, too often do we end up being considered another employee.



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with a university degree we specialise in, only to work in a 9-5 corporate job. So is it <sup>even</sup> education or our career that really matters? Or is it pity and religion, praying and believing in something that others claim is a waste of time. 'It's pointless, why bother?' Well, it must be family, those that love and love you unconditionally, who are there for you when the rest of the world falls apart ... Until <sup>you see that</sup> mom and dad get a divorce, or your parents are abusive, and you realize that no one in this world is genuine anymore - we're too distracted by superficial, materialistic things that won't matter in the grand scheme of things.

So, what really matters? ...

... Does anything really matter?

greater

In a world where mental health becomes <sup>an</sup> issue everyday, this is a common question <sup>in depression</sup> people are asking themselves, <sup>at</sup> ~~even~~ a younger age each time. And who am I to know, a 15 year old who hasn't even finished her exams yet? So I don't know, naturally. But I am naive enough to have my own answer to the question:

What really matters?

Well, <sup>personally</sup> ~~me~~, I'd say perspective. And balance. Because education matters, when it's what girls in third world countries are aching for, when it's a form



of liberation and passion. Your '9-5' job matters, when it is something you are passionate about and helps you provide for your family. They matter, too, as does your religion and anything else you can possibly think of that's an incentive to keep going. It's about our perspective, now we ~~look~~ <sup>look</sup> at situations, but also our balance. A balance between individuality and unity, between ~~time~~ ~~person~~ who we love and what we love. With balance, we ~~it~~ will not be too busy to spend time on what's really important, and with perspective, we can find out what is really important.

~~And so~~

But, as I said earlier, I'm only a 15 year old girl with no real qualifications. ~~And so~~ But to me, these are two aspects <sup>4c</sup> that I believe everyone should value. ~~But~~ at the end of the day, we're all trying to live our lives how we see fit, and as long as we are "living and loving and learning", I can't say much else than to at least ~~give~~ ~~may~~ contemplate on <sup>the</sup> ~~big~~ idea of perspective and balance.

Thank you for your time. ~~strangers~~.



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