**GP Essay Outline - Education**

**Question: ‘Education perpetuates rather than fights inequality.’ Comment.**

**Type of question: DYA**

**Thinking aspect:**

This question needs to examine the positive and negative impacts of education. There must be an assessed relationship linking aspects of education to the issue of inequality. Students are required to show whether education worsens or resolves the inequality problem and make a definite stand at the end of the introduction paragraph. It is also imperative to take note that there is a need to discuss with reference to different types of inequality.

**Introduction**

Education has played a vital role in facilitating the advancement of human civilisation. From an early age, individuals have received education to be equipped with the knowledge and skills to meet the demands of various industries, highlighting its beneficial impacts on humanity. However, there are some detrimental impacts that education may perpetuate and one such damage is seen from its impact on equality. Some philosophers may argue that education perpetuates inequality as the unequal access to education has widened the social and economic divide. In contrast, educators disagree as they argue that education has always been the key approach to fight inequality, rather than worsen the issue. In view of these polarising views, this essay is more inclined to the perspective that education fights rather than perpetuates inequality.

**Main body**

Point 1.1 - Opposing view 1

Those that opine education worsens economic inequality, they posit that the uneven access to education has led to the unequal distribution of benefits, such that those who benefit from education will gain access to wider economic opportunities, while the rest are left behind, creating an education divide that depicts inequality

Point 1.2 - Opposing view 2

In addition, education exacerbates social inequality as differences in the level of education will reinforce social perceptions towards the capability and competency of individuals, thus driving a wedge between people in various communities.

Point 2 - Rebuttal

However, the views that education perpetuates social and economic inequality do not hold true if we consider the inherent obstacles such as regional enclaves that affect the distribution of its benefits to developed and developing nations.

Point 3 - Supporting view 1

While education has been blamed as a divisive force that perpetuated economic inequality, the study of new fields has broadened opportunities for individuals to capitalise on, thus closing the income gap.

Point 4 - Supporting view 2

Through education, individuals are inculcated with the ethical and moral values to build up a fair and just view about the world.

Point 5 - Supporting view 3

Individuals will be enlightened and enriched to have common values to forge a sense of belonging which will create a common identity that promotes cohesiveness and a sense of belonging.

**Conclusion**

In conclusion, the platitude that education is key to social mobility is still true. Though the criticism of education perpetuating inequality does hold some merit, all-encompassing and reliable nature of education in promoting social mobility through economic, social and political means is the underlying reason for the adoption and promotion of public education in almost every country in the world today. Education is undoubtedly one of the main factors in promoting the more egalitarian democratic societies observed today as opposed to the past.