'It is increasingly difficult to tell right from wrong today.' How far do you agree?

In this essay, we need to consider the factors on whether individuals are equipped with the capacity to make judgement between the right and the wrong issues before assessing the underlying developments that may improve or worsen said capacity.

Type:	EOA	Date:	07 Aug 2019
Name:	San Ann Tau	Album:	Social Media

Student Answer

1) Introduction

Steps for Introduction:
1. Set the observation to give an overview of the subject
- Provide an explanation of the subjects
- Link the subjects with a yardstick on the issue of discussion
2. Set the perspectives or aspects of the discussion
3. Set your stand of argument for the essay

Answer
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2) Proposition Point 1

Explain why it is increasingly difficult to tell right from wrong.
- Discuss the problem of misinformation in today's digital world and how the increase of such overwhelms digital readers and make it increasingly difficult to tell right from wrong.

Steps to write the paragraph:
1. Set the topic sentence - provide a conceptualised idea based on a category of discussion
2. Provide the elaboration - show how this idea can answer the question
3. Support with evidence - substantiate your point with an example
4. Conclude the paragraph - include a linking sentence to reiterate your view

Answer
-- none --

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3) Extent of Agreement 1

- Provide an argument why 'Proposition Point 1' is wrong.
- Students have to identify the point in the proposition point and prove it wrong.
*Do not attempt to give another point - you are proving the supporting view if you do not argue against the proposition point.

Answer
-- none --

4) Proposition Point 2

Explain why it is increasingly difficult to tell right from wrong.
- Discuss the problem of diverse opinions, especially those weighing on populist views and how these opinions affect make it difficult to differentiate between credible and non-credible opinions.

Steps to write the paragraph:
1. Set the topic sentence - provide a conceptualised idea based on a category of discussion
2. Provide the elaboration - show how this idea can answer the question
3. Support with evidence - substantiate your point with an example
4. Conclude the paragraph - include a linking sentence to reiterate your view

Answer
-- none --

5) Extent of Agreement 2

- Provide an argument why 'Proposition Point 2' is wrong.
- Students have to identify the point in the proposition point and prove it wrong.
*Do not attempt to give another point - you are proving the supporting view if you do not argue against the proposition point.

Answer
-- none --

6) Proposition Point 3

Explain it is increasingly difficult to tell right from wrong.
- Discuss the problem of advertisement and how the increase of digital advertisement crowds

out objective information, making it difficult to distinguish between sponsored content and objective reporting.

Steps to write the paragraph:
1. Set the topic sentence - provide a conceptualised idea based on a category of discussion
2. Provide the elaboration - show how this idea can answer the question
3. Support with evidence - substantiate your point with an example
4. Conclude the paragraph - include a linking sentence to reiterate your view

Answer
-- none --

7) Extent of Agreement 3

- Provide an argument why 'Proposition Point 3' is wrong.
- Students have to identify the point in the proposition point and prove it wrong.
*Do not attempt to give another point - you are proving the supporting view if you do not argue against the proposition point.

Answer
-- none --

8) Conclusion

1. Reiterate your stand on whether you agree or disagree with the question.
2. Provide an analysis on which is the key determinant on the extent of agreement to derive the view on how far it is agreeable.
3. Provide an opinion on the issue.

Answer
-- none --

Tutor Answer

1) Introduction

Steps for Introduction:
1. Set the observation to give an overview of the subject
- Provide an explanation of the subjects
- Link the subjects with a yardstick on the issue of discussion
2. Set the perspectives or aspects of the discussion

3. Set your stand of argument for the essay

Answer

With the contemporary explosion in information and information technology, the average Joe has never had more ideas to consider, more things to know, more "facts" at his fingertips. Some contend that this glut of information has made it more difficult to distinguish fact from fiction, to tell right from wrong. Perhaps, but the extent to which that is true depends on the strength of various assumptions. While the growth in information proliferation and the constancy of vested interests in content and dissemination would suggest that it is indeed harder to distinguish right from wrong today, the extent to which a reasonable man finds it challenging to do so, inasmuch as "right" and "wrong" can even be objectively delineated, depends on the strength of his discernment and the soundness of his intellectual habits of mind.

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2) Proposition Point 1

Explain why it is increasingly difficult to tell right from wrong.
- Discuss the problem of misinformation in today's digital world and how the increase of such overwhelms digital readers and make it increasingly difficult to tell right from wrong.

Steps to write the paragraph:
1. Set the topic sentence - provide a conceptualised idea based on a category of discussion
2. Provide the elaboration - show how this idea can answer the question
3. Support with evidence - substantiate your point with an example
4. Conclude the paragraph - include a linking sentence to reiterate your view

Answer

It is increasingly difficult to tell right from wrong today as the amount of deliberate misinformation has substantially increased, making it more difficult to discern the accuracy of information.
- Alleged Russian interference in the 2016 US Presidential Election - spread of fake news to lower the credibility of presidential candidate Hillary Clinton

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3) Extent of Agreement 1

- Provide an argument why 'Proposition Point 1' is wrong.
- Students have to identify the point in the proposition point and prove it wrong.
*Do not attempt to give another point - you are proving the supporting view if you do not argue against the proposition point.

Answer

However, many countries are embarking on the eradication of fake news and falsehood through legislation and the inculcation of greater awareness about fake news through public education.
A higher degree of public awareness on this matter will be a good start to help the individuals from being misled and raise capacity to make a better judgement.
Legalisation against the act of falsehood and manipulation will strongly deter

- The bill on the Protection from Online Falsehood and Manipulation Bills

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4) Proposition Point 2

Explain why it is increasingly difficult to tell right from wrong.
- Discuss the problem of diverse opinions, especially those weighing on populist views and how these opinions affect make it difficult to differentiate between credible and non-credible opinions.

Steps to write the paragraph:
1. Set the topic sentence - provide a conceptualised idea based on a category of discussion
2. Provide the elaboration - show how this idea can answer the question
3. Support with evidence - substantiate your point with an example
4. Conclude the paragraph - include a linking sentence to reiterate your view

Answer
It is increasingly difficult to tell right from wrong today as opinions of uneven credibility and weight have proliferated with ease and speed unique to our modern world, making it difficult to identify the credible and weighty opinions.
- The democratisation of media - anyone can become a content creator, regardless of the rigour or relevance of his or her views
- Roy Ngerng's defamatory post on the Central Provident Fund (CPF) and the Government of Singapore Investment Corporation (GIC)
- Amos Yee's critical remarks on the first PM of Singapore, LKY
- Steve Bannon & Breitbart News - far-right American news

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5) Extent of Agreement 2

- Provide an argument why 'Proposition Point 2' is wrong.
- Students have to identify the point in the proposition point and prove it wrong.
*Do not attempt to give another point - you are proving the supporting view if you do not argue against the proposition point.

Answer
However, this is only true to the extent that the explosion in opinions has been misleading instead of enriching. It is arguable that the growing diversity of views has also enabled viewers to cross-check information and verify the authenticity.
- fact-checking resources - Google News Initiative Verification Tools Course can be used to assess the accuracy of images, reports and videos that are found on social media sites

6) Proposition Point 3

Explain it is increasingly difficult to tell right from wrong.
- Discuss the problem of advertisement and how the increase of digital advertisement crowds out objective information, making it difficult to distinguish between sponsored content and objective reporting.

Steps to write the paragraph:
1. Set the topic sentence - provide a conceptualised idea based on a category of discussion
2. Provide the elaboration - show how this idea can answer the question
3. Support with evidence - substantiate your point with an example
4. Conclude the paragraph - include a linking sentence to reiterate your view

Answer
From an economic point of view, the high degree of commercialisation in the form of an explosive increase in scale and ingenuity of advertising makes it difficult to distinguish objective analysis from paid shilling. From advertorials to media in cooperation with states, to paid studies and articles, it is difficult to distinguish objectively derived information and findings from the information presented and often "created" to fulfil a commercial agenda.

Example: the proliferation of native advertising where the content of advertisement is built into an artilce to convince consumers.

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7) Extent of Agreement 3

- Provide an argument why 'Proposition Point 3' is wrong.
- Students have to identify the point in the proposition point and prove it wrong.
*Do not attempt to give another point - you are proving the supporting view if you do not argue against the proposition point.

Answer
However, this is only true to the extent that not all advertising is "wrong" or misleading, with some in fact allowing us to distinguish the superior features of products, as well as products from competitors, both of which are "right" or at least relatively objective information.

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8) Conclusion

1. Reiterate your stand on whether you agree or disagree with the question.
2. Provide an analysis on which is the key determinant on the extent of agreement to derive the view on how far it is agreeable.
3. Provide an opinion on the issue.

Answer

In summary, the advancement and democratisation of social media have indeed made it difficult for people to distinguish right from wrong. Ultimately, the extent to which the reasonable man can distinguish right from wrong in this info-saturated world depends on his individual ability to exercise discernment and judgment, and the strength and utility of his habits of mind. In line with this concern, it is important for our society equips individuals with the capacity to distinguish what is right or wrong.