

Essay Question #1

Increasingly, the western world has been outsourcing its labour-related jobs to cheaper alternatives available in less developed countries. Although this creates opportunities for people in poorer nations, it is a policy that is criticized by many in the west. Write an essay response supporting the case for the outsourcing of labour-related jobs.

Student's nationality: Japanese

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Part 1: The essay response as written by the student

Today, outsourcing is a common strategy in business. Many companies especially industrial ones have adopted this. This way should be supported. Two elements which will be analyzed to back this idea is lower price of products in the outsourcing country as well as job opportunity in the country accepting it.

One big benefit from outsourcing is lower cost of items in the developed country. Cheap labor force in the less-developed country can realize cheaper products. For example, Although today computers are an essential tool for many, if all the process are conducted in the rich country, people can not have them as they do now due to the unbelievably high price. As to other many products, the same must happen. Outsourcing are sustaining the comfortable living in the rich country. Thus, it is clear that this should be appreciated.

Another aspect to support the point of view is the increase in job opportunity in the country taking jobs outsourced. Outsourcing can provide people there good jobs they can make enough money from. Generally the currency in the rich country is strong against that in the less-developed one and prices in the needy nation are low. As a result, the outsourcing company can offer not high salary for itself but for the employees. For this, in fact, now many in developing countries benefit from jobs outsourced. Thus the idea can be agreed.

After analyzing low price of products in the outsourcing nation and employment opportunity in the accepting one, it is obvious that the system is beneficial to both the countries and should be valued. More and more companies will adopt this in the future. In order to survive in business, global points of view and international strategies like this will be more highly required.

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*Part 2: The essay response with **corrections** and **comments** from Ryan*

Today, outsourcing is a common strategy in business **and** companies, especially industrial ones, have adopted this. This way should be supported. (← Can you see how this thesis is weak? You need to write a sentence that *directly* answers your essay question. For example, something like 'It is argued that the outsourcing of labour related jobs is a strategy that benefits everyone involved.') **To support this, the ability of outsourcing to lower the price of products being sold will be analyzed as well as the job opportunities it creates.**

One big benefit **that results** from outsourcing is **the lowering of the** cost of items in developed countries. **The** cheap labor force in the less-developed country can realize cheaper products. (←What does this sentence mean?) For example, **although** today's computers are an essential tool for many, if all the process are conducted in the rich country, people can not have them as they do now due to the unbelievably high price. (← Good point, but this sentence is way too long. Can you shorten it or perhaps turn it into two sentences?) **As for many other** products, the same must happen. **As can be seen, it is clear that the outsourcing of labour creates and sustains new markets and healthy competition within the capitalist system and thus raises the standard of living for everyone involved.** Thus, it is clear **why the argument for the outsourcing of labour** should be appreciated. (Don't forget that the last sentence in your supporting paragraphs should directly link back to your thesis.)

Another aspect to support **this** point of view is the increase in job opportunity in the country taking jobs outsourced. (← '...taking job outsourced'? I know you can write this sentence more clearly than this!) Outsourcing can provide **opportunities to underdeveloped countries and can provide these people with a chance to raise their standard of living.** Generally the currency in rich countries is strong against that in the less-developed ones and prices in needy nations are low. As a result, the outsourcing company can offer not high salary for itself but for the employees. (← Is this the example? Can you think of any real life examples? Think of tech support hotlines in India, manufacturers in China, iPhones, or even examples like how Taiwan was the world's manufacturer of everything and as a result the standard of

living in Taiwan improved dramatically during the 20th century. These are the kinds of examples you want, not just some idea that you pull out of your head. Think *real* life.) For this, in fact, now many in developing countries benefit from jobs outsourced. Thus the idea can be agreed. (What idea? Have you watched my videos? There is no link here to your thesis. When I read this I feel like I do not really understand what you are referring to. Look at the concluding sentence in supporting paragraph 1. Can you see how I changed it to better reflect your thesis? Do this here, too.)

After analyzing how the outsourcing of labour benefits the capitalist system in the developed nation and provides opportunities to the developing nation, the argument supporting it can be clearly understood. Thus, it is expected that more and more companies will adopt the practice of outsourcing labour in the future, perhaps even someday such practices will become a vital business strategy to maintain competitiveness in the global market.

Dear student,

This essay was a very good attempt. I think your supporting ideas are pretty good and I am pleased to see that you understood the meaning of the question on your first attempt (I have had many students misinterpret this idea to mean the *importing* of labour by more developed nations).

Please take the following points seriously; they will help you greatly on your exam:

- 1) Everything in an argument essay hangs onto the essay's thesis. What this means is that if your thesis is in error (or has simply been omitted) the essay fails fundamentally. This is the second time you have submitted an extremely poor thesis to me. Commit yourself to stopping this habit right now.
- 2) Your examples should pull from real life. Use names ('Microsoft', 'China', 'President Obama', etc) to convince your reader. Do *not* pull examples from your head that have no connection to any real thing.
- 3) Remember to restate your thesis in the conclusion paragraph. It is ok to repeat yourself in your essay (in fact, this is *necessary* at times to create emphasis on points you want to highlight).

These are my three major suggestions for you to fix up. As far as your grammar goes, don't be afraid to write in short, concise sentences, linking them with cohesive phrases (e.g. because of this, as this shows, thus, however). I think you have employed cohesive phrases quite well above, but there were numerous times where I lost track of what you are talking about simply because your sentence was too long.

Good luck!
Ryan

Increasingly, the western world has been outsourcing its labour-related jobs to cheaper alternatives available in less-developed countries. Although this creates opportunities for people in poorer nations, it is a policy that is criticized by many in the west. Write an essay response supporting the case for the outsourcing of labour related jobs.

Part 3: A final version of the essay, written from start to finish by Ryan

The outsourcing of labour related jobs is an area of contention among many in the west. However, the overall benefits that derive from outsourced labour far outweigh the drawbacks. Thus the argument to transfer labour intensive jobs from wealthier countries to other, less-developed areas of the world is one that is supported. The reasoning for this will be shown by analyzing both how it creates competitive advantages for the outsourcing country as well as how it creates jobs and opportunities for the country being outsourced to.

Firstly, countries that commit to outsource labour create international competitive advantages for the companies that reside within them. Take Apple as an example. Apple outsources the assembly of its electronic products to China. This move harnesses the reduced price of labour in China and allows Apple to pass on these savings to its consumers and in effect be a more effective and competitive company in the global electronics sector. Thus the global trend of wealthier countries outsourcing their labour related jobs to developing countries is something that should be supported.

In addition to helping wealthier countries, the outsourcing of labour creates jobs and other opportunities for developing countries the world over and in turn helps them to create industries for themselves. For example, the outsourcing of labour to Korea during the 20th century was one of the key factors that allowed Korea to develop into the modern country it is today. Due to the outsourcing of wealthier countries, Korea was able to capture opportunities and create industries for itself and no one can deny Korea's competitiveness today as an innovative developing of technologies in the high-tech and auto sectors. From this it is clear why the subject of the outsourcing of labour should be supported.

To conclude, after analyzing the benefits created through the outsourcing of labour for both the developed country and the developing country, it has been proven that the outsourcing of labour is a topic that should be supported. As global trends currently dictate, it is expected that the current outsourcing of labour from wealthy to less-wealthy countries will continue.