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# “Commercialization of Education and its impacts on our society” [For CSS and PMS]

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Write 2000-3000 word Essay on “Commercialization of Education and its impacts on our society” for CSS and PMS Exams.

## OUTLINE:

1. Introduction
2. Education system of Pakistan
3. Education situation in Pakistan
4. Positive impacts of the commercialization of education on society:
  - I. **Increased access to education**
  - II. **Innovation**
  - III. **Competition**
  - IV. **Greater choice**
  - V. **Flexibility**
  - VI. **Employment opportunities**
  - VII. **Economic growth**
  - VIII. **Improved infrastructure**
  - IX. **Increased funding**
  - X. **Globalization**
5. Negative impacts of the commercialization of education on society:
  - I. **High cost of education**
  - II. **Quality of education**
  - III. **Inequality**

- IV. **Teacher compensation**
- V. **Profit-driven decision-making**
- VI. **Lack of accountability**
- VII. **Exploitation**
- VIII. **Short-term focus**
- IX. **Reduction of public funding**
- X. **Commercialization of knowledge**

## 6. Conclusion

The commercialization of education refers to the increasing involvement of for-profit businesses in the education sector. This trend has been on the rise in recent years, as private schools and universities, online education providers, and companies that sell educational materials or services have become more prevalent. While the commercialization of education has the potential to bring some benefits, it also raises a number of concerns and has a number of impacts on society.

Pakistan’s education system is divided into four levels: primary, middle, secondary, and higher secondary. The primary level of education consists of grades 1-5 and is compulsory for all children between the ages of 5 and 9. The middle level consists of grades 6-8 and is followed by the secondary level, which consists of grades 9-10. The higher secondary level consists of grades 11-12 and is the final stage of compulsory education in Pakistan. In Pakistan, the education system follows a 10-point grading scale, with “A+” being the highest grade and “F” being the lowest. The grades are calculated based on a combination of class participation, homework, quizzes, tests, and exams. The education system in Pakistan also includes a system of merit-based scholarships, which are awarded to students who excel academically.

In Pakistan, the current literacy rate is 62.3%. In the Budget (FY-2021-22) 1.7% of GDP has been allocated to Education Budget which is the lowest in the region. According to World Bank, nearly 23 million Pakistani children aged 5 to 16 do not attend school. Aside from teacher shortages, distance to school and safety are the largest barriers to accessing education in rural areas, with 29 per cent of parents saying that schools are simply too far away. While the biggest problem facing education today is the lack of innovation and mobility in education. Because of a number of private and public factors, colleges and universities have turned into massive private businesses with multi-million dollar athletic departments and multi-billion dollar endowments. Overall, the education system in Pakistan has made significant progress in recent years, with the enrollment rate at the primary level increasing

and the literacy rate continues to rise. However, there are still challenges and inequalities in the education system, including a lack of resources and trained teachers in some areas, and a gender gap in education.

The commercialization of education can have both positive and negative impacts on society. Some of the potential positive impacts include increased access to education, innovation, competition, greater choice, flexibility, employment opportunities, economic growth, improved infrastructure, increased funding, and globalization.

**Increased access to education:** The commercialization of education may increase access to education by offering more flexible or innovative educational programs. For example, for-profit institutions may offer online courses or programs that can be taken from anywhere in the world, making it easier for people who live in remote or rural areas to access education. This can also be beneficial for people who have other commitments, such as work or family responsibilities, as they may have more flexibility to take courses at their own pace.

**Innovation:** For-profit institutions may be more open to experimenting with new teaching methods or technologies, leading to innovation in the education sector. For example, a for-profit university may be more likely to adopt virtual reality technology for use in their classrooms, leading to a more immersive and interactive learning experience for students. This can also include the use of online tools and resources, such as video lectures and discussion forums, which can enhance the learning experience and provide more opportunities for students to engage with course material.

**Competition:** The presence of for-profit institutions may create competition among schools and universities, potentially leading to improvements in the quality of education being offered. For example, a for-profit university may offer more resources and support for students in order to attract more applicants and stay competitive in the market. This can include things like state-of-the-art facilities, financial aid, and extracurricular activities.

**Greater choice:** The commercialization of education may provide more options for students, allowing them to choose the education path that best suits their needs and goals. For example, a student may have the option to choose between a traditional university, an online education provider, or a for-profit trade school, depending on their interests and career goals. This can give students more control over their education and allow them to tailor their learning experience to their specific needs and goals.

**Flexibility:** For-profit institutions may offer more flexible scheduling or online programs,

making it easier for people to balance education with other commitments. For example, an online education provider may offer courses that can be taken at a student’s own pace, allowing them to fit their education around their work schedule. This can be especially beneficial for people who are working full-time or have other responsibilities that may make it difficult to attend traditional on-campus classes.

**Employment opportunities:** The commercialization of education may create employment opportunities for teachers and other education professionals. For example, a for-profit university may hire teachers to teach a variety of subjects, providing employment opportunities for educators who may not be able to find work at a traditional institution. This can also include opportunities for people to work in administrative or support roles, such as admissions or financial aid.

**Economic growth:** For-profit institutions may contribute to economic growth by providing education and training to students who will go on to enter the workforce. For example, a for-profit trade school may offer courses in high-demand fields such as healthcare or technology, providing trained workers to fill these positions and contribute to economic growth. This can also include opportunities for students to start their own businesses or create new products and services, which can drive innovation and economic growth.

**Improved infrastructure:** For-profit institutions may invest in infrastructure and technology, leading to improved facilities for students. For example, a for-profit university may invest in state-of-the-art classrooms and laboratories, providing students with a modern and well-equipped learning environment. This can also include investments in online resources and technologies, such as virtual reality or online learning platforms, which can enhance the learning experience for students.

**Increased funding:** For-profit institutions may generate revenue from tuition and other sources, which can be used to fund educational programs and initiatives. For example, a for-profit university may use tuition revenue to fund scholarships or research projects, providing additional resources for students and faculty. By providing additional resources for students and faculty, for-profit institutions may be able to improve the quality of education they offer and create a more positive learning environment. For example, a for-profit university may use revenue from tuition to provide students with access to state-of-the-art equipment and resources or to hire additional faculty members to reduce class sizes and improve student-teacher ratios.

**Globalization:** The commercialization of education may lead to a global market for education,

allowing students and educators from different countries to interact and learn from one another. For example, a student in the United States may be able to take a course offered by a for-profit university in another country, providing them with a unique and international learning experience. This can provide the student with a unique and international learning experience, as they will be exposed to different cultures and perspectives. Similarly, educators from different countries may be able to teach or conduct research at for-profit institutions in other countries, allowing them to share their expertise and experience with a global audience.

READ: [Classroom decides the future of a nation. \[CSS 2021\]](#)

**However**, there are also a number of potential negative impacts of the commercialization of education, including expensive education, concerns about the quality of education, inequality, lower salaries and benefits for teachers, profit-driven decision-making, lack of accountability, exploitation of students, a focus on short-term profits rather than long-term outcomes for students, reduction of public funding, and the commercialization of knowledge.

**Expensive education** is the one of the drawbacks of the commercialization of education. The increasing cost of education may make it difficult for some students to afford to attend school, potentially leading to a more stratified society in which only those with financial resources have access to higher education. For example, a student from a lower-income family may not be able to afford the tuition at a for-profit university, preventing them from pursuing higher education.

**Quality of education:** There may be concerns about the quality of education being provided by for-profit institutions, which may prioritize profits over the educational needs of students. For example, a for-profit university may hire less experienced or qualified teachers in order to cut costs, leading to a decline in the quality of education being offered.

**Inequality:** The commercialization of education may contribute to inequality, as those who can afford to pay for higher education may have better job prospects and higher salaries than those who cannot. For example, a student who attends a for-profit university may have better job prospects and higher earning potential than a student who attends a public university due to the prestige and resources of the for-profit institution.

**Teacher compensation:** The commercialization of education may lead to lower salaries and benefits for teachers, as schools and universities seek to cut costs in order to maximize

profits. For example, a for-profit university may offer lower salaries and fewer benefits to teachers in order to save money, leading to a decline in the quality of teaching.

**Profit-driven decision-making:** For-profit institutions may prioritize profit-making over the needs of students, leading to a focus on revenue-generating programs rather than those that may be more beneficial for students. For example, a for-profit university may offer more courses in high-demand fields such as business or engineering, even if these courses are not the best fit for all students.

**Lack of accountability:** For-profit institutions may be less accountable to students and society than non-profit institutions, leading to a lack of transparency and accountability in the education sector. For example, a for-profit university may not be required to disclose information about their finances or governance in the same way as a public university, making it difficult for students and society to hold them accountable for their actions.

**Exploitation:** For-profit institutions may exploit students by charging high tuition fees and offering subpar education, leading to a waste of time and money for students. For example, a for-profit university may charge high tuition fees but offer a poorly organized or inadequate education, leading to students paying a lot of money for a subpar educational experience.

The commercialization of education may lead to a focus on **short-term profits** rather than long-term outcomes for students. For-profit institutions may prioritize generating immediate revenue over investing in programs or initiatives that may have long-term benefits for students. This can result in a lack of investment in research or long-term projects that may not generate immediate profits, even if they could have a positive impact on students’ education or career prospects in the long run. For instance, a for-profit university may be less likely to invest in research projects or initiatives that could have long-term benefits for students.

**Reduction of public funding:** The presence of for-profit institutions may lead to a reduction in public funding for education, potentially leading to a decline in the quality of education being offered at public institutions. For example, if more students choose to attend for-profit institutions due to their perceived superiority, public institutions may receive less funding, leading to a decline in the resources and support available to students.

**Commercialization of knowledge:** The commercialization of education may lead to a commodification of knowledge, with education being viewed as a product rather than a public good. This could have negative consequences for the sharing of ideas and knowledge within society. For example, if knowledge is only available to those who can afford to pay for it, this



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may discourage the sharing and dissemination of ideas, leading to a less intellectually diverse society.

In conclusion, the commercialization of education has the potential to bring some benefits, such as increased access to education and innovative teaching methods. However, it also raises a number of concerns and has a number of impacts on society. These include issues related to access to education, quality of education, inequality, and teacher compensation. It is important to carefully consider these issues when determining the role that for-profit businesses should play in the education sector and to ensure that the needs of students and society as a whole are being met. In short, positive factors can all contribute to the overall quality of education and help to ensure that all students have access to educational opportunities but negative factors can also contribute to a decline in the quality of education and make it more difficult for some students to access educational opportunities. In order to mitigate the negative impacts of the commercialization of education, it is important to take a range of steps at the individual, institutional, and societal levels.

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This is not the final draft of the essay on the topic “Commercialization of Education and its impacts on our society”. It may need further improvement. So, please let us know about your feedback on [SeekerGK.com](http://SeekerGK.com) [[Info@SeekerGK.com](mailto:Info@SeekerGK.com)] or write in the box below that on which topic you want us to write an essay:)

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**KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR THE POST OF  
NAIB TEHSILDAR—2020**

**GENERAL ENGLISH**

**Total Marks: 200**

**TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS**

Note: All questions are compulsory.

70

Q1. Write a comprehensive analytical essay of about 700 words on any one of the following.

- (1) Our education system prepares us for exams, not for life.
- (2) Wars are ugly.
- (3) A man is known by the company he keeps.
- (4) Freedom of thought is more important than the freedom of speech.
- (5) Rules are meant to be broken.
- (6) Unity in diversity.

40

Q2. Read the following passage and answer the questions at the end.

... .. of incessant change, and of astonishing

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