

PHIL 205 – Critical Thinking and Writing in Philosophy
San Diego Miramar College
Reflection 1.1
March 2, 2026

Subject: Critically reflect on the role of education in your life

In 1-2 paragraphs, critically reflect on the role of education in your life. What is the value of education? What experiences caused you to pursue an education? Why are you pursuing an education?

Education's value is subjective; it depends on the question "What are you trying to accomplish with education?". Some pursue education with the goal of acquiring a job, which would mean that in this case, the value of education is the skills it teaches you that assimilates a real professional setting and prepares you for it. Another value would be for knowledge's sake, which is uncommon these days. The value in this case is the acquisition, refinement, and extension of knowledge about a particular expertise or discipline. Derived from this type of value comes higher levels of academic education such as Masters and PhDs, which could also overlap with the first value of finding a job in an academic institution, a path that is totally valid. Furthermore, another value for knowledge's sake is the application of discipline's knowledge onto the real world, not only financially and academically, but socially and politically as well, which in my opinion, is the greatest value of education. The experiences that caused me to pursue education were several observations and conclusions upon my lack of understanding of socioeconomic and political events that me and my loved ones find ourselves surrounding by daily. I knew and presently know that to act upon a socioeconomic and political environment one has to be keen on the observations one makes, and intelligent on the actions one takes, two attributes that education gives you. The reason I am pursuing an education is to refine, extend, and acquire more knowledge of the discipline of Sociology, which, as well as other disciplines, I believe has great insight of how our society is structured, it leads you to observe social behavior, ranging from politics, economics, social psychology, philosophy, to statistics, communication, literature, among others; It also leads you to apply sociological concepts to these observations in order to act upon them. I want to understand the subtle and material forces that not only influence society and the future of it, but that also influence me, my loved ones, and our future.

Response to classmate:

Hi Ahmed, something that you emphasized in your response is the importance of the curiosity of learning new things. I didn't think of that. There is always this beauty, satisfaction, and refined comprehension of an expertise that learning something new gives you, just as when you first

discover something; love, a dish you like, an experience with someone you love, a new concept, etc. The beauty of learning something new cannot be disregarded, such beauty compels you to an incessant continuation of learning.