

I

I think it would be much better to be 60 years old and be financially very well off. This is because, from the age of around 60, most people are not as physically strong or energetic, and if they have not reached financial stability, they may end up living and dying in poverty. This is especially true in today's society when people cannot afford to have many children to look after them in their old age. Having wealth ensures one's dignity and the ability to live a meaningful life without depending on others.

(93 words)

I think it would be better to be 20 years old and have very little money because without money, a person needs to use all his or her senses to think of ways to get by in the world. They can learn to live simply and honestly while building resilience and creativity. It is also important to understand that money is not necessary to live a meaningful life; in most cases, having a lot of money only leads to excessive greed and unhappiness rather than true fulfillment. (87 words)

II

This graph illustrates two significant trends regarding myopia. First, the number of people with myopia began increasing early in life and peaked between the ages of 20 and 29 in 2000, but in 2050, this upward trend is projected to accelerate. This is probably caused by most of us spending so much time staring at the small screens of our cell phones. Second, the overall scale of myopia is expected to get much worse by 2050. The number of myopes in the age group at its peak is projected to rise from roughly 200 million in 2000 to 400 million in 2050, and the prevalence of myopia among adults is projected to rise from about 30% in 2000 to about 65% in 2050.

(123 words)

III

マイケル・サンデルによると、能力主義は機会の平等を掲げつつも、実際には才能や家庭環境といった要因による格差を正当化してしまう。そのため運や環境への想像力が欠け、社会の連帯が損なわれる。大学入試による実力主義的選抜が不平等を是正するという考えも、有力校入学者の出身家庭に大きな所得水準の偏りがある現状では疑わしい。学生に「努力で競争に勝った」と錯覚させる側面もある。抽選選抜の導入は、こうした問題の緩和策となりうる。