**Education p. 74**

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| **Some people say history is one of the most important school subjects. Other people think that, in today’s world, subjects like science and technology are more important than history.**  **Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.** |

Some people maintain that schools should primarily teach history while others say that the focus should be more on other subjects. Personally, ①I support the latter viewpoint because subjects such as science and maths are of practical use and value in today’s world.

Supporters of history-focused education might cite certain valuable life lessons learned by historical figures as useful examples from which children can be educated about traditional values and philosophical thinking. For instance, ②Thomas Edison devoted his entire life to creating inventions like the light bulb and the telephone, while Helen Keller dedicated herself to human welfare including charity drives and other social activities to help people in need. ③These enormous contributions to society and personal qualities such as tenacity and volunteer spirit can serve as positive role models for learners, leading to enhanced character development.

Proponents of emphasising other subjects would maintain that the knowledge and skills gained through studying science and maths is of significant use in modern society. In a maths or science class, students are usually given tasks that have more than one answer or interpretation. ④Active engagement in such work can not only develop students’ ability to analyse figures such as graphs and diagrams, but also their problem-solving skills and reasoning based on the data with which they are faced. ⑤Acquisition of these skills could provide a useful competitive edge after graduating, particularly when presenting an argument, both in business and academic settings in this communication-oriented world.

In conclusion, children can possibly explore valuable thought processes applicable to the modern world through a history-centred curriculum. ⑥However, I would argue that schools should ensure that science and maths are a consistent feature across their core syllabus so that students can join the workforce equipped with practical skills. (292 words)

**〇Analysis**

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