

THEMES DESCRIPTION FOR SPEECH

THE 23RD ALSA NATIONAL ENGLISH COMPETITION

SPEECH COMPETITION

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Preliminary

1. Role of students in preventing bullying to their peers.

Bullying is an aggressive behavior done deliberately and repeatedly to upset, frighten, threaten, or hurt someone else¹. Bullying can be in form of verbal, physical, cyber, relational, and collective bullying. Bullying can happen anywhere, such as in family, workplace, neighborhoods, social media, and the most common place where bullying happens is in school. Studies have shown that many of the victims of bullying get negative impacts from bullying.² Nowadays, bullying is one of the most important issue that teenagers are facing, and many teenagers have realized the importance of the issue of bullying in daily life. From this notion, participants are encouraged to find crucial problems of bullying, explain the importance of the students' role in preventing bullying, and the solutions they can give realistically to the problems.

2. Views on gender pay gap and the significance of gender equality.

Gender pay gap is the gap between what men and women are paid. Gender pay gap is one of the problems of gender inequality. In 2017, gender equality is the fifth of seventeen sustainable development goals of the United Nations and it is one of the objectives of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights³. From this notion, participants are encouraged to give their views on gender pay gap and the importance of gender equality for a better future. Not only that, participants are also encouraged to find crucial matters on gender pay gap and gender equality and express

¹ American Psychological Association, *Bullying*, <https://www.apa.org/topics/bullying>, accessed March 12, 2019.

² Rosario Ortega-Ruiz, et. al, *The Emotional Impact of Bullying and Cyberbullying on Victims: A European Cross-National Study*, "Aggressive Behavior", Vol 38, 2012, 342–356, pg. 346.

³ Sustainable Development Goals, *Goal 5: Achieve Gender Equality and Empower All Women and Girls*, <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/gender-equality/>, accessed March 12, 2019.

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their thoughts to why gender pay gap and gender inequality is still common although the United Nations have made it one of its goals.

3. The rights of citizens towards free tertiary education.

Tertiary education (post-secondary) is the educational level pursued after high school (secondary education)⁴. Tertiary education includes undergraduate, graduate, diplomas, bachelor's, master's, associate's, and doctoral degrees. Tertiary education is often done in universities, colleges, academies, and institutions. The right to access higher education is very important and has been mentioned in a number of international human rights instrument. Yet, the percentage of people who take tertiary education is still very small.⁵ From this notion, participants are encouraged to find crucial problems to why tertiary education is still uncommon in society and the solution for the problems. Participants are also encouraged to explain their views on the rights of citizens toward free tertiary education and the benefit a country will get from free tertiary education.

Semi-final (Announced on the day of the competition – impromptu)

Finals

HS: The Freedom for Youths in the Pursuit of Success, regardless of Society's Stereotypes.

Youths are always learning and growing. In their journey of life, children will discover their own passion and interest. What their hobbies are and what they are good at, what they love to learn and what they want to be in the future. However, sometimes what those children dream to become is uncommon in society. Through this notion, participants are encouraged to express their views on the freedom for youths in the pursuit of success, regardless of society's stereotypes. Participants are also encouraged

⁴ Learn.org, *What is Tertiary Education?*, https://learn.org/articles/What_is_Tertiary_Education.html, accessed March 12, 2019 .

⁵ OECD, *Highlights from Education at a Glance*, https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/eag_highlights-2010-5-en.pdf?expires=1552392387&id=id&accname=guest&checksum=C63F0915D719A8A531018D81DB64B128, accessed March 11, 2019.

to find crucial problems that children may face regarding society's stereotypes. Participants have to state the solutions they can offer towards the problems, and find out why some stereotypes are still affecting the societies strongly.

VARSIITY

Preliminary

1. Role of university students as a tool or agent of change.

University students have a significant role in the nation as agents of change in order to ensure the integrity of the nation's bureaucracy. Being agents of change, university students have to be critical towards the law, regulations and changes made by the officials, as well as to come forward in regard to the public's rights and needs. They have to play a crucial role in the development of higher education, and also have to be the most active part of society, influencing social, political, economic and cultural changes in the country. From this notion, participants are encouraged to give their views on one of university students' role in this nation, which is to be a tool or an agent of change and the concrete actions the university students can implement in real life. Participants are also encouraged to find the consequences and aftermath that this role may cause.

2. Indonesia in combating human trafficking and the effectiveness of Law Number 21 Year 2007 concerning Eradication of Criminal Acts of Trafficking in Persons.

According to International Organization for Migration (IOM), in the period from March 2005 to December 2014, the number of trafficking in persons or human trafficking in Indonesia reached 6,651 people.⁶ IOM's National Project Coordinator for Counter Trafficking and Labor Migration Unit, Nurul Qoiriah, said that it was the largest number among the countries where human trafficking occurred in the world. Meanwhile, Law Number 21 Year 2007 concerning Eradication of Criminal Acts of Trafficking in Persons has already been implemented for 7 years during that period of time. From this notion, participants are encouraged to give their views on how to

⁶ Marsaulina Gultom, *Berawal Dari Pengabaian.*, <http://puspensos.kemsos.go.id/home/br/788>, accessed February 19, 2019.

combat human trafficking from happening in Indonesia and their opinions on the effectiveness of the regulations concerning this issue.

3. Support for mental health patients in a stigmatized world.

The National Institute of Mental Health has a mantra, "No health without mental health." However, due to the stigma that often surrounds mental health—for instance, people who are visiting shrink are considered lunatics thus they're eschewed by the society—millions of people worldwide do not receive the help they need and often overlook this extremely prevalent health issue.⁷ Data Riset Kesehatan Dasar (Riskesmas) shows that the prevalence of mental disorders with symptoms of depression and anxiety at 15 years of age has reached 14 million people.⁸ This number is equivalent to 6 percent of Indonesia's population. Meanwhile, the prevalence of severe mental disorders such as schizophrenia reaches four hundred thousand. The high number of people with mental disorders goes hand in hand with the number of suicides in Indonesia. According to The Central Statistics Agency (BPS), at least 812 suicides that have happened in all regions of Indonesia in 2015.⁹ From this notion, participants are encouraged to give their views on the support that can be given for mental health sufferers, in spite of the society's tendency to look past through it.

Semi-final (Announced on the day of the competition – impromptu)

Finals

VS: Importance of changing the environmental policies that affects the global population all-over the world.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Puput Tripeni Juniman, *15,8 Persen Keluarga Hidup Dengan Penderita Gangguan Mental.*, <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/gaya-hidup/20180830182931-255-326289/158-persen-keluarga-hidup-dengan-penderita-gangguan-mental>, accessed February 12, 2019.

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The world population is more than 7.3 billion people.¹⁰ That means more than seven billion three hundred million bodies need to be fed, clothed, kept warm and ideally, nurtured and educated. More than 7.3 billion individuals who, while busy consuming resources, are also producing vast quantities of waste, and the numbers continue to grow, thus there's a high probability that environmental damage is going to happen or is already happening. One of the examples is the condition of the farmers in India. India is an agrarian country with around 70% of its people depending directly or indirectly upon agriculture, but as per the Central Government despite a multi-pronged approach to improving income and social security of farmers, over 12.000 suicides were reported in the agricultural sector every year since 2013.¹¹ Farmer suicides account for approximately 10% of all suicides in India.¹² Some of the main causes of this issue are water crisis, climate change, and high debt burdens.¹³ Regarding this, governments need to instigate shifts in environmental policy to protect and enhance natural areas, reduce CO₂ and other greenhouse gas emissions, invest in renewable energy sources and focus on conservation as priorities. Through this notion, participants are encouraged to express their views on how the environmental policies can affect the global condition of the environment and the policies can be implemented.

¹⁰ Stephen Dovers and Colin Butler, *7.3 Billion People, One Building.*, <https://waitbutwhy.com/2015/03/7-3-billion-people-one-building.html>, accessed February 12, 2019.

¹¹ Ankita and Raghav, *Farmers' Suicides in India - Reasons and Responses*, <https://www.clearias.com/farmers-suicides>, accessed February 12, 2019.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ibid.

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