

Essay Question and Instructions for 2027 AO April Entry (Overseas)

Essay Question

This is a list of short passages quoted from different academic fields. Please select two of them and elaborate your own idea that examines these two viewpoints from one perspective. Also, please explain, based on classes at your high school or other equivalent institutions, or other personal academic experiences, why you choose these two passages and explain how your choice can be related to your future studies at SILS, citing specific course examples*.

*Course examples can be referred from the following websites : <https://www.wsl.waseda.jp/syllabus/JAA101.php?pLng=en>
https://www.waseda.jp/fire/sils/en/students/registration/#anc_1

1. “The poetry of history lies in the quasi-miraculous fact that once, on this earth, once, on this familiar spot of ground, walked other men and women, as actual as we are to-day, thinking their own thoughts, swayed by their own passions, but now all gone, one generation vanishing after another, gone as utterly as we ourselves shall shortly be gone like ghosts at cock-crow.”
(G. M. Trevelyan, "Autobiography of an Historian," in *An Autobiography and Other Essays* (London: Longmans, Green and Co., 1949), 13.)
2. “You may drive out Nature with a pitchfork, yet she will ever hurry back, and, ere you know it, will burst through your foolish contempt in triumph.”
(Horace, *Satires, Epistles, Ars Poetica*, trans. H. Rushton Fairclough, Loeb Classical Library (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1961), *Epistles*, 1.10.24, 317.)
3. “Conceptual metaphors are grounded in everyday experience.”
(George Lakoff and Mark Johnson, *Metaphors We Live By* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1980), 272.)

4. "Cognition is therefore not an individual process of any theoretical "particular consciousness." Rather it is the result of a social activity, since the existing stock of knowledge exceeds the range available to any one individual."
(Ludwik Fleck, *Genesis and Development of a Scientific Fact*, trans. Fred Bradley and Thaddeus J. Trenn (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1979), 38.)
5. "The struggle of man against power is the struggle of memory against forgetting."
(Milan Kundera, *The Book of Laughter and Forgetting* (London: Faber & Faber, 1980), 4.)

Instruction

- Write your essay of around 800 words in English.
- Your essay is a chance to explain yourself to the school and should be completed by yourself. Using generative AI to create this document and presenting it as your own work may be considered as cheating and could affect the evaluation of your application.
- We will not accept any inquiries regarding the essay prompt.

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