

SAMPLE ADMISSION ESSAY

A million dollars or knighthood: what would you choose and why? (300 words max)

Essay: (267 words)

The popular American TV quiz show sells on the line "Who wants to be a millionaire?" This one catchy phrase has been enticing millions of viewers to participate in the quiz show, the world over for several years.

Then this essay topic "A million dollars or knighthood?" set me thinking. What would knighthood give me? Honor and recognition definitely. A sense of satisfaction, pride, accomplishment ...all that and more. To attain knighthood from the British Kingdom means that one should already have been recognized many times over (Sir Bill Gates), contributed enough (Sir Elton John) and /or create enough controversy (Sir Salman Rushdie) to be "visible" in the eyes of the selectors.

I prefer a million dollars to knighthood and I came to this conclusion after some deliberation.

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give". As I cannot share the Knighthood, I cannot contribute to society with this title. A million dollars can be shared. It can be multiplied into many millions .I could build an industrial empire and then contribute towards building schools, healthcare systems and welfare trusts.

The pot of gold at the end of a rainbow: a million dollars for following my dreams. Money rewards motivate me far more than awards and recognition. If one works diligently towards one's passions, awards and recognition will definitely come. There are at least a hundred people I can think of, who have made a difference to this world and who have not been knighted.

And then what if knighthood comes my way anyway? It is fashionable to decline!