

Cosplay

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If you see people in outrageous wigs, costumes and gigantic props, don't be surprised. They are probably teenagers who are cosplaying. Nowadays, cosplay is a growing trend among teenagers. They dress and act like comic book characters. To understand more about this trend, I talked to some of my classmates and I found that their opinions were divided into two main groups — for and against cosplay as a meaningful activity.

When I talked to the classmates who support the trend, they were very excited about it. They said there were three main reasons for them to support cosplay.

Firstly, cosplay makes positive changes to the teenagers' dull lives. With cosplay, they could do things they would never think of doing in real life. They could have something else to do apart from spending the whole day surfing the Internet, and this adds colour to their lives.

Also, cosplay could expand teenagers' social network. Teenagers could make new friends who are equally passionate about cosplay. Teenagers have to contact various cosplayers and organize functions, thus enhancing their communication as well as organization skills.

Moreover, cosplay gives spice to the fashion industry. It is easy to get bored seeing the same type of clothing every day. Cosplay and cosplayers are special eye candy to people. The special clothes catch our eyes and add a creative touch to everyday clothing.

However, some of my other classmates objected to the above arguments. They strongly believed that this trend brought more adverse than good effects to teenagers.

Their major argument is that cosplay is a waste of money and time-consuming. Teenagers tend to spend most of their precious time searching for the costumes. They read comic books frequently in order to get a more extensive understanding of the characters they are going to act. They also spend a large portion of their pocket money on costumes, props and comic books.

Furthermore, it is easy for the cosplayers to mix up the real world with the cosplay world. Teenagers who get more satisfaction in the world of cosplay than in real life would get addicted to the fancy world of cosplay. They would spend an increasing amount of time on cosplaying. Eventually, they would think that they are not acting those comic book characters, but actually are the characters themselves.

For me, it is all about being rational and having control of ourselves. Undoubtedly, cosplay is equal to the meaning of life to some teenagers. They may go crazy and be tremendously happy when they are cosplaying, and may become irrational sometimes. However, if they know how to control themselves, the drawbacks of cosplay will be lessened. Teenagers have to distinguish clearly that cosplay is merely an interest, not their real role in society.

I believe teenagers would have great fun cosplaying as long as they can manage their time well and do not overdo it.

Teacher's Feedback : Ideas flow smoothly throughout the essay with a good use of vocabulary. However, it will be even better if more elaborations are made to some of the points. (Miss Lai Ming Lee)