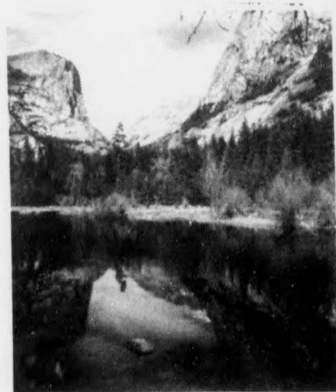


d i s t r i b u t i o n s

Tommy Travels



Charles Bridge and
Ultava River, Prague



Mirror Lake, Royal Arches, Half
Dome at Yosemite, California

Where in the World Winners

1. Janice McConnell
 2. Neil Duxbury
 3. Gianluca Deluca who had the most entertaining answers.
 3. Pavol Seres
 5. Willem Atsma
- Consolation draw from the remaining answers goes to Richard Grieve.

Where in The World Contest Wrap-up



San Marco Square, Venice,
Italy



Sevilla Cathedral, Spain



Victoria Peak, TST, Hong Kong



Navajo Watchtower, Desert View,
South Rim, Grand Canyon, Az



Borobudur, Central Java, Indonesia



Emperor's Palace Gate House,
Tokyo, Japan



Wailua Falls, Kauai,
Hawaii



Painted Wall, Black Canyon of
the Gunnison, Colorado



POETRY WINNER

The Winner is Alan Wong with his poem "In my room, cold and dark." He can be seen here receiving a \$50 gift certificate to Kingfisher Books from organizer Steve Mason.

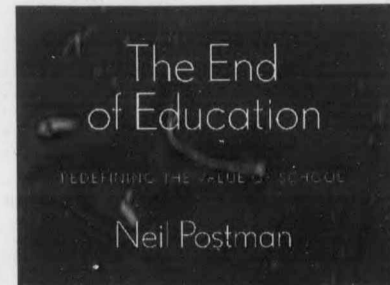
Thanks go to the judges Eric Hill of Backstreet Records and John Butters of Lapsilla IV, as well as to Kingfisher Books Ltd. for their donation of the prize. Furthermore, thanks go out to the 25 entrants who took the time to enter and support Youth Challenge International.

Alan Wong

photo by Warren Watson

THE END OF EDUCATION

The belief that learning ends once a job is obtained is false. Learning never ends and real life "tests" usually have more at stake than those in university.



The End of Education by Neil Postman

(Alfred A. Knopf, Inc./Random House, Inc.)

Neil Postman, a former elementary school teacher and a current New York University professor, believes learning has lost its purpose and in his book, *The End of Education*, he proposes possible solutions to important questions. Are we in an education crisis? Have we lost sight of why we learn? The title does not mean that education ever ends in one's life or that it is in such a state that we should give up on it. The "end" of education refers to what "end" the means should serve. Why do we need to be educated?

"He who has a why to live can bear with almost any how."

To quote Nietzsche, "He who has a why to live can bear with almost any how." Schooling changes the way we view the world and shows us how to give meaning to our lives. Postman refers to schools as "lenses of the world," and he uses the terms narratives or gods to describe the reasons we learn and live. He further writes that narratives "give point to our labors, exalt our history, elucidate the present and give direction to our future ... Without narratives, schools are just places of detention not attention." With the end of one's schooling, the author hopes that one will be better prepared to continue one's education.

Examples of narratives that have failed are communism, Nazism, fascism, the American dream, economic utility, consumership, technology and multiculturalism. These gods, in some way, at some time, served to give purpose to education and life but fell short of achieving their goals. The American dream fails because it is not equally available to all Americans. For millions of blacks, this dream consists of poverty and alienation in their own country.

The narrative of economic utility holds that we get educated with the sole purpose of getting a good job. This purpose is too limited as the more

general a person's education is, the more adaptable it will be. The belief that learning ends once a job is obtained is false. Learning never ends and real life "tests" usually have more at stake than those in university. Consumership picks up where economic utility leaves off. Consumership relies on the idea that consumption makes the world go around. This attitude is reflected in the slogan "Whoever dies with the most toys, wins." Even with a lot of purchases and a job, life still needs a purpose, and that is where education should come into the picture.

Technology is also a false god. It overwhelms us with information and provides us with no purpose. Classrooms and teachers will never be replaced because we are social. Students must interact with their peers and learn about the social values that make us a civilized people. Jumping on the information highway is fine, but students must use the off-ramps once in a while. Teachers stimulate social interaction and act as filters to the vast quantity of information out there.

Multiculturalism fails because it encourages the separation of different cultures. Privatizing schools closes students' minds to these cultures; a closed mind is more likely to foster hatred. Understanding other cultures is an important part of being civilized. Activities that lead to separation and misunderstanding will eventually lead to the demise of education.

Postman offers five narratives that give purpose to education.

Postman offers five narratives that give purpose to education. These are the Spaceship Earth, which maintains that we are all responsible for the well-being of our planet; the Fallen Angel, which holds that knowledge is not perfect or absolute, so it is understandable that people have conflicting beliefs (such as religious beliefs, for example); the American Experiment, referring to the fact that countries are evolving and they are doing so at different speeds; Diversity, which occurs because different cultures have a different knowledge base; and Word Weavers/World Makers, which recognizes that language not only allows us to convey our thoughts, but it also influences where our thoughts go.

With these proposed narratives giving purpose to education, Postman realizes that "knowledge is not a fixed thing, but a continuous struggle to overcome prejudice, authoritarianism and even common sense." The title *The End of Education* may, to some, express pessimism, but Postman refuses to accept this. To quote a metaphor by Rousseau, "plants are improved by cultivation, and man by education." To give purpose and meaning to our life is an "end" of education.

by Warren T. Watson

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE OR ORGANIZATIONS FOR THEIR DONATION OF PRIZES FOR THE WHERE IN THE WORLD CONTEST:
ST. MARTIN'S PRESS (LET'S GO)
UNB BOOKSTORE
GIL WHITE