

## A Speech by Muaaz Kamran in 5<sup>th</sup> Year

Good morning Mr Dan, my fellow classmates, members of the opposing team and my trustworthy teammates. Before I begin, I would like to extend my utmost thanks to Mr Dan for judging and overseeing this series of morning debates. I know I speak for everyone in this room when I say it is really appreciated. Furthermore, I would like to express my gratitude towards the audience, all of you, my classmates, for allowing me this glorious opportunity to speak about a topic that I feel has the potential to misguide and mislead many people. Indeed, I firmly oppose the motion: 'We live in an unheroic age.' I believe that this motion certainly presents a pessimistic vision of our world which is already tattered in a sea of misconception. I wholeheartedly feel that we definitely live in a heroic age, and who knows? Maybe there are even heroes among us in this room.

I know that the pandemic has been tough on us. I know that we couldn't do a number of things and I know that we are all tired. However, do people working in hospital settings ever tire of their work? Even before the pandemic, healthcare workers have worked tirelessly, almost collapsing with fatigue. Although they don't wear capes, fly or have superpowers, they're undoubtedly as heroic as the heroes who fill our screens. My fellow classmates, we need to understand that being heroic does not necessarily translate to being an over-powered, Marvel superhero. In fact, heroes come in all shapes and sizes. But they have one thing in common: a kind heart. A heart that is not only warm but compassionate, a heart that is endearing, and a heart that answers the call of others. Members of the 'Morning Debate Club,' don't tell me we live in an heroic age, when we live in a world with such heroic healthcare workers.

My fellow classmates, another reason why I believe we live in an unheroic age is hidden away among the under-appreciated workers. Classmates, I would like for everyone to imagine a world without blue collar workers, retail workers or cleaners. Can you imagine coming into school without the rooms being cleaned? Can you imagine a world where all construction halts? I can certainly see the anguish in some of your faces. It's a grim world. However, workers like these, retain order and keep society from collapsing into mayhem. Although these unsung heroes might not be viewed as 'heroic,' I feel that nowadays we see our world through a pixelated lens, tainted with a lack of appreciation and gratitude. In short, we as humans fail to recognise the little things in life. Without these little things, our world would be dancing on its axis in disarray and peril. However, the underappreciated workers from the shadows save the world from becoming unruly. I am not sure about you, but I would certainly discern that many of us are in fact heroes in today's world. Indeed, we live in a heroic age.

I want to make it clear that I am not a scientist. However, I deeply believe that everyone has a heroic side to them, in more ways than one. Yes, that includes you. I am convince that everyone has exhibited at least one moment of heroism, one moment that shows that the act of valour is firmly entrenched and etched into our hearts. I know it is hard to see the intangible aspects of our character, but I know that that heroism unquestionably exists in our world, however

inconsequential it may seem. My fellow classmates, this motion is an erroneous one, one that is enveloped by falsehoods and pessimism.

In conclusion, we live in a heroic age, and the evidence is displayed all around us. Ultimately, I utterly believe that there is no scope or conclusive evidence to show that 'we live in an unheroic age.' Once again, I would like to express my utmost gratitude to you all for empowering me to debate a topic that I feel so strongly about. With that, I bid you all adieu.