What does it mean to be an educated person?

By the definition, university means a high-level educational institution in which students study for degrees and academic research is done. People from all over the world come together to build their future life. Students all have same opportunities to change, improve, or develop their skills and try to make a basic plan for their future life. All of the students are at the same starting point, but when you relax vigilance, you may fall behind others. College experiences are full of ideas, challenges and cooperations. There are many things that have happened in the past few years, it may evoke people’s curiosity of what is a real educated person. My answer is that the truly educated person is one who always internally motivated to learn and do things instead of externally motivated.

I think the most important thing that can help to make an educated person is the temperament. And based on a good attitude, critical thinking and a creator mindset also can
help students to become an educated person. There is an example Downing provides in “Case study in critical thinking” of a student who turns in homework late after having many distractions and receives a “0” at the end (Downing, n.d. p.40). We know that this student loses her ability of critical thinking when there are many external elements to impede her to turn in the homework on time. A well-educated person should keep his/her ability on critical thinking when they are doing things. That’s important because if you lose the ability of critical thinking once, you may get in trouble with something, whether it is serious or not, you all still lose something as the price. Things can be made up, but the part that you use in order to make up will never make up.

Many people don’t know the difference between college and university. For example, Andrew Delbanco says: “We use the terms ‘college’ and ‘university’ interchangeably” (Delbanco, 1952, p.2). For the term “college”, in most colleges, it offers more limited options of program, such as they often don’t provide master’s program. But in term “university”, it offers full undergraduate and graduate programs. Also, it has many other programs that college don’t offer to students. In a university, it has many schools. Here’s an example, IU, IU is a university, it has many schools, such as Jacobs Music School, Kelley Business School,
SPEA School, Informatics and so on. They all belong to IU system. But a single college
don’t have many schools like IU, because they provide very limit options for students to
choose. But the same thing is that they all provide educated person. Both college and
university provide many excellent educated person to world. They may engage in different
fields, but they all make the contribution to the society. For example, there’s many prizes that
award to students who have create some new things that is very useful to society or he/she
have done something that cause a good influence to society. The award may will make those
people happy, but the most valuable things they have got is the process of creating or helping
others. They feel full satisfaction. An educated person should help society because they can
gain many things to improve themselves.

For me, I’m not a well-educated person, but I’m trying to make myself to be a
well-educated person as best as I can. How I realize I’m not a well-educated person, because
I can’t learn and do things without external things whether the external things are good or bad.
For example, as I’m doing my homework, if someone come and ask me to do some other
things with them, the first thing come to my mind is not refusing or considering, it’s say
“yes”. That’s sounds like bad, but sometimes I am like that. But after the first semester of
being a freshman at IU, I have learnt to refuse and consider about some cases. Brooks says people should construct their own stories (Brooks, 2009). This means don’t let other things master your stories, all you need to do is control yourself and create your own stories.

The goals that I have set for myself to become a well-educated person are divided in different parts. The first part is about academic at IU, I need to learn the specific knowledge and something that I think will help me a lot; graduate from IU; have a great progress on my academic level and so on. The second part is about the things I can do for society. What things I have planned for is being a volunteer. Every time as I have saw the news about people in poverty, I felt so sympathy and want to help them, no matter whoever they are and wherever they are, the things I want to do with them is help them, to show my spirit of compassion. An educated person should not only do well on themselves, but also on the society. This is the sentence that I remind to myself all the time. This influenced me a lot, the things that I really want to learn to achieve my goals is about the science of resource administration. It can help me to organize and use every single resource I have, help me avoid wasting any resources. At this semester, my goal has some new progress, my grade has changed a lot better than last semester, this a small step that I have achieved. I hope I can do
more progress on study in order to achieving my goals.

That’s what I have defined the educated person, no matter any external things there are, just focus more, learn more, and do more valuable things.
Reference


