

READING
HIGHER EDUCATION

Three students talk about their first impressions of university life. Read the passage and then do the tasks that follow.

Sarah

On the first weekend I went out with my new friends, walking around campus. It was exciting, thinking how I was at college, meeting people who could become good friends of mine. The most exciting thing was that I didn't have to explain to my parents where I was going, who with, or what time I'd be home!

On Saturday night, I followed my roommate to a party. The people at the party were busy playing some game, and no one seemed to notice my existence. I suddenly felt so lonely. Fighting back tears, I ran back to my room, thinking I would never feel at home at college.

Ellen

My roommate left the window open all the time, even when it was 10 degrees Celsius out, and went to bed at 10 every night. When she got sick after midterms, she blamed my typing and having a light on while she was trying to sleep.

At first, college was a little daunting. I graduated from a small school. After seeing the same people over and over for many years, it was amazing, but a little scary, to be in a place where it seemed like I never saw the same person twice.

Brenden

The first year at college was probably the best and most challenging year of my life. Academically, I enjoyed it thoroughly. Taking part in the Advanced Engineering project gave me a chance to use my creativity and knowledge to help society.

Socially, I made lots of new friends both through engineering and living at St John's College on campus. The social calendar of the colleges provides plenty of opportunities to meet non-engineering students as well as other engineers, many of whom have become my best mates.

Multiple choice

1. Sarah: On the 1st weekend, Sarah _____
 - A. went out with her new friends.
 - B. walked around campus .
 - C. went out with her new friends, walking around campus and attended a party.
2. Sarah: She felt so lonely at the party because _____
 - A. No one paid attention to her.
 - B. She didn't know anyone there .
 - C. The people at the party were busy dancing.
3. Sarah: "I suddenly felt so lonely.
Fighting back tears, I ran back to my room"
 - A. She wanted to cry but she tried to stop.
 - B. Her tears fell down like rain.

C. She wanted to stop the tears but she couldn't.

4. Sarah: "Fighting back tears, I ran back to my room, thinking I would never feel at home at college"

A. She ran home because her house was rather near the college.

B. She considered the college as her home.

C. She thought she would not be relaxed & comfortable at college any more.

5. Ellen: What problems did she have with her roommate?

A. The girl didn't close the window all the time though it's too cold & went to bed late; but she blamed Ellen for her sickness .

B. The girl blamed Ellen typing & lighting on too late while she was trying to sleep, which made her sick.

C. A & B.

6. Brenden: The social calendar of the colleges provides Brenden_____.

A. Plenty of time to make lots of new friends.

B. Plenty of chances to meet engineers & non-engineering students.

C. Plenty of opportunities to use his creativity.