

ONLINE EDUCATION

Task 1

Read the text below. Choose from (A-H) the one that best fits each space (1-6). There are two choices you do not need to use.

ADVANTAGES OF ONLINE LEARNING

1. _____: From traditional four-year universities to completely online career colleges, higher education today offers an array of options for students. This means that no matter what students study, from nursing to neuroscience, they can find the courses or programs they need online. Students can also earn every academic degree online, from a career certificate to a doctorate.
2. _____: Online programs prove a more affordable option than traditional colleges. Though not all online degrees offer less expensive net tuition prices than traditional colleges, associated expenses almost always cost less. For example, there are no commuting costs, and sometimes required course materials, such as textbooks, are available online at no cost.
3. _____: Commercially that feature online students studying in their pajamas only skims the surface of one of the benefits of online education: no physical class sessions. Students listen to lectures and complete assignments sent to them electronically, with no need to fight traffic, leave work early for class, or miss important family time.
4. _____: Online courses give students the opportunity to plan study time around the rest of their day, instead of the other way around. Students can study and work at their convenience. Course material is always accessible online, making special library trips unnecessary. All of these benefits help students balance work and family commitments with their education.
5. _____: Online courses offer shy or more reticent students the opportunity to participate in class discussions more easily than face-to-face class sessions. Some students even report better concentration in online classes due to the lack of classroom activity.
6. _____: Students can take online courses and even complete entire degrees while working, while in-between jobs, or while taking time to raise a family. This academic work will explain any discontinuity or gaps in a resume as well.

- | | |
|---|---|
| A Avoid commuting | E Convenience and flexibility |
| B Lower total costs | F More interaction and greater ability to concentrate |
| C More comfortable learning environment | G Continue in your profession |
| D Variety of programs and courses | H Career advancement |

Task 2

Read the text below. For questions (1-8) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

ONLINE CLASSES

The current challenges facing traditional colleges and universities — (1) _____ higher tuition, budget cuts, and course shortages — cause many students (2) _____ for alternatives. With nearly (3) _____ students currently enrolled in fully online programs and (4) _____ taking at least one online course as part of their degree, online education (5) _____ one of the most popular higher education alternatives. The (6) _____ improving reputation of online learning helped fuel its expansion, as initial skepticism faltered in the face of evidence showing that online learning can be just as (7) _____ as face-to-face education. All of this (8) _____ that students, from working professionals to recent high school graduates, find many reasons to take all or some of their courses online.

	A	B	C	D
1	included	including	was included	includes
2	search	searching	to search	searches
3	three million	three millions	three millionth	three millions'
4	six millionth	six million's	six's million	six million
5	clearly became	has clearly become	had clearly become	clearly becoming
6	continue	continually	continual	continued
7	effective	effectively	effects	more effective
8	mean	meant	means	meaning

Task 3

Read the text below. For questions (1-12) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

SCHOOL OF THE AIR

School of the Air is a generic term for correspondence schools catering (1) _____ the primary and early secondary education of children in remote and outback Australia.

School classes (2) _____ via shortwave radio from 1951 through 2002, after which most schools switched to wireless internet technologies (3) _____ lessons that include live one-way

video feeds and clear two-way audio. Each student has direct contact with a teacher in a major inland town. Each student typically (4) _____ one hour per day receiving group or individual lessons from the teacher, and the rest of the day working (5) _____ the assigned materials with a parent, older sibling or a hired home-stay tutor.

Traditionally the students received their course materials and returned their (6) _____ work and projects to their hub centre using (7) _____ the Royal Flying Doctor Service or infrequent and unreliable post office services. (8) _____ the extension of Internet services into the outback now enables (9) _____ rapid review of each child's homework.

The Alice Springs School of the Air currently (10) _____ 120 primary school students spread over an area of 1,300,000 square kilometres. As the children are in isolated situations, the School of the Air is frequently their (11) _____ attempt at socialization with children outside their immediate family. This (12) _____ by annual gatherings where the children travel to the school to spend one week with their teacher and classmates.

	A	B	C	D
1	of	at	for	on
2	are conducted	were conducted	conducted	has been conducted
3	delivered	have delivered	deliver	to deliver
4	spends	spending	spent	was spending
5	between	through	off	in
6	writings	wrote	written	writes
7	either	both	and	neither
8	Unfortunately	Since	Thus	However
9	much rapid	more	the more	many
10	have	had	has	is having
11	first	one	once	the first
12	supplemented	supplements	is supplemented	has supplemented