FEDERICO GONZALES EDUCATIONAL COMPLEX

Extensive Reading
(Skimming)

Name: Date: Score:

Task 1

OBJECTIVE

1- Assess students' competence in reading comprehension to synthesize information and answer questions in an accurate and informed manner.

Instructions

1-Please read the following text carefully. Once you have finished reading, answer the questions provided below to check your understanding of the material.

Study Looks at How 15-year-olds Learn English

Today's English students have a lot of exposure to the language outside of the classroom. By using the internet, social media, and other digital technologies, they can watch videos, hear music, and play video games in English. But teachers are not so sure that digital exposure results in better English-speaking abilities. That is the finding of a new study on how teenagers learn English. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, or OECD, a group that studies economic activities in large economies, supported the study. The study is called "How 15-Year-Olds Learn English." It provides case studies of teaching teenagers English from five countries: Finland, Greece, Israel, the Netherlands and Portugal. The researchers gathered information by visiting schools and observing English lessons in each country. They also interviewed teachers, students and school administrators. The study findings will be used to support the OECD's 2025 Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), said Catalina Covacevich. She was one of the study's main researchers. PISA studies the school systems of about 90 countries by measuring the performance of 15-year-olds in reading, writing and math.

In 2025, PISA will aim to measure 22 of those countries' English language skills for the first time. "It's an obvious statement that English transcends classroom walls," Christa Rawkins told VOA. She was another one of the researchers for the study. Teens spoke "about the ways they used English with people on those sorts of social networking sites and other media. But it was rarer that they were talking about sitting down to learn English via those platforms."Some students in Greece said it is easier to search for English-language information on the internet because more of it is available. In the Netherlands, 15-year-olds described watching English YouTube videos. In a written opinion study, half of students in the Netherlands reported always using English when using digital tools.Teachers however are unsure whether digital tools are improving students' English knowledge. While teachers said using English platforms might increase students' motivation to learn and help them get used to the language, the platforms "are not necessarily teaching them English," Rawkins said. One teacher in Finland, for example, said students might get the false idea that they do not need to study English because of how often they use English outside of school. "They think they know it better than I do because they use it in computer games and it's present in their lives all the time," the teacher said. "They think they don't have to listen to me in English classes, I feel that is a challenge.

Rawkins said there is a "slight disconnect" between the kind of English students are learning outside of school "and the kind of English they're being asked to learn and study in classrooms." Students might feel that "studying English at school is just about studying grammar whereas outside (of) school they can communicate and interact in the language," the report said. A large part of OECD's work with PISA, the researchers said, is examining inequities in education. Rawkins said there can be large inequities that arise from the kinds of out-of-school exposure kids get to English. Kids from wealthy families are able to travel to English-speaking countries or attend summer camps where they can speak English to international friends, for example. Some students can pay for private lessons. "Kids living in cities were more likely to be using English out and about in their daily lives compared to their counterparts in more rural areas," Rawkins added. There has been a big change in how students are exposed to English outside of school. But within the classroom, things "hadn't really changed." The report noted how digital technologies are used within the classroom, but traditional teaching methods, like textbooks, were still used in every school observed. Teachers in all five countries said their students struggled the most with writing and speaking English rather than in reading and listening. Researchers noted that students might feel a lack of self-confidence when it comes to speaking. They might also be less likely to speak and write English outside of school. "Outside school they're doing a lot of reading and listening to English because that's what the majority of their exposure is, particularly when it comes to digital technologies," Rawkins said. "They're not doing so much speaking or writing."

I'm Dan Novak.

Dan Novak wrote this story for VOA Learning English.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Instructions for the first reading activity.

2- Once you have finished reading the text, answer the following questions by writing them in the appropriate space, making sure you have understood the most important aspects of the reading.

1- Which organization supports the study on how teenagers learn English?

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2- What is the purpose of the mentioned study?

_____

3- In which countries were case studies conducted for the research?

_____

4- What concerns do teachers express regarding the use of digital technologies in learning English?

_____

5- What are the main difficulties students face in learning English according to the study?

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

(Scanning)

Task 2

Instructions:

1- Please read the provided text carefully. Once you have finished reading, answer the following questions to check your understanding of the most important aspects of the content.

TYPES OF FRAUD

Fraud has been increasing around the world because of computer technology. One axample is the Nigerian Bank Fraud. People are contacted by email and asked to help transfer money from Nigeria or other African countries by allowing the money to be placed temporarily in their bank aocounts. The real motive is not to transfer money but to obtain personal banking information. Another type of computer fraud is known as "phishing," ar trying to obtain financial information by impersonating a bank employee , When this kind of fraud takes place, you receive email messages trom someane pretending to represent your bank. You are then asked to provide your account number or other identtying information. Thin kind of deception seems so real that many people respond to it and give away their financial and personal information. The telephone is also used by con men and women who try to impress people with amazing Prizes and offers. Sometimes they will call and ask for your banking information so that they Can Put prize money into your account. If you do not trust a person contacting you by phone, ask far his or her name, business phone number, and company address. You can then contact the company yourself to learn whether or not you have reason to be suspicious. Modern communications technology has made it easier for people to trick you with fake deals and requests for inforation. When you go online, you find many websites offering products and services such as medical treatrent and legal advice. How can you know if something is real? Fortunately, there are many organizations that can help you make sure that companies and individuals are treating you with honesty. If you believe that you are involved in a case of fraud, be sure to report it and ask for help

2- After having read the text passage, proceed to answer the following questions in the corresponding space.

1- What is an example of fraud mentioned in the reading?

_____

2- What is ´´phishing´´ according to the reading?

_____

3- How might scammers attempt to obtain banking information over the phone?

_____

4- What is recommended if you receive a suspicious phone call?

_____

5- How does the reading suggest people can verify the authenticity of online offers and requests?

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LIVEWORKSHEETS