# 5 Student life

## Study, education, research



## Study

**1.1** **Before you read the text, answer these questions.**

1 Do you prefer to study
   A at school or college  B in a library  C at home?

2 Do you study best
   A early in the morning  B during the day  C at night?

3 Do you prefer to work
   A with friends  B with background music  C in silence?

**1.2** **Now complete the text with the correct form of the verbs in the box. There may be more than one possible answer so try to use each verb once only.**

concentrate  do  learn  overcome  organise  study  take  teach  review  revise

Even the most studious among you will probably have difficulty studying at some stage in your academic career. If or when this happens, the only way to (1)..... this problem is to go back to basics. First, make sure you have a comfortable environment to (2)..... in. Some students need to have a quiet space to themselves and can't (3)..... if there are too many distractions. Others need some sort of background noise, such as music or the company of friends. Whatever your personal preference is, you need to (4)..... this first of all. Next, make sure you have all of the equipment or tools that you need. For example, if you are (5)..... a geography course and you have to (6)..... about countries and their capital cities then you will need to have your atlas to hand. If you're (7)..... your maths homework then be sure to find your calculator, ruler, protractor and compass before you start. Perhaps you're not preparing a homework assignment or project, but are trying to (8)..... for an exam. If so, you need to know exactly what is on your curriculum. You should also (9)..... your notes and make sure that you have a clear understanding of what your lecturers have (10)..... you. Of course, people with a learning disorder such as dyslexia may need to work harder than others at their studies as they often struggle to read even relatively simple texts.

**1.3** **Now read the text again and find a word or phrase to match these definitions.**

1 describes someone who studies a lot .....
2 things that stop you from working .....
3 a sound you can hear, but do not actively listen to .....
4 two different types of homework or school task ..... and .....
5 to study for an exam .....
6 another word for *syllabus* .....
7 to check your work .....
8 to do something with great difficulty .....



LIVEWORKSHEETS

**1.4** **Underline the correct words in each sentence.**

1 I would really like to *learn about* / *study about* the ancient Egyptians.
2 We need to *find out* / *know* where to buy the tickets for the concert.
3 I got into trouble at school because I didn't *know* / *find out* my multiplication tables.
4 I did well in the test because I had *known* / *learned* how to spell all of the words on the list.
5 Excuse me, do you *find out* / *know* where the nearest post office is?
6 It was difficult for me to *learn* / *study* at home, because we didn't have a lot of space.
7 I want to *learn how* / *study how* to drive a car.
8 I think you can only really *learn from* / *learn with* experience.

**Error warning**

*Know* = already have the information; *find out* = get the information.
*Study* = learn about a subject through books / a course: *I'm studying law; I'm studying for my exams.* We don't use any other prepositions after *study*. NOT ~~*I am studying about law.*~~
*Learn* = get new knowledge or skills: *I'm learning English; I'm learning to knit.* Note that we say you are *taking a course*, NOT ~~*learning a course*~~.
NB Prepositions after *learn*: *learn about, learn from, learn to: I learned a lot from this course.* NOT ~~*I learned a lot with this course.*~~

## Education



**2.1** 5a **Replace the words in *italics* below with ONE word. Then listen to the recording and check your answers.**

**Teacher** Can you tell me about your early education?
**Student** Well, I went to [1] ~~*a school for very young children*~~ from the age of four and I remember that I didn't enjoy it very much at all. My [2] *from the age of 5 to 11* school was a little better, especially because my mum was a teacher in the school. She taught in the [3] *younger part of the* school and she was actually my teacher in first [4] *level*, but when I went up to the [5] *older part of the* school I didn't see very much of her. After that I was lucky enough to receive a [6] *chance to go to school without paying fees* for a very good [7] *from age 11 to 18* school. My parents couldn't have afforded to send me to a [8] *not free* school so it was a really great opportunity for me. It was a [9] *only for one sex* school, so there were no boys. I'm glad I didn't go to a [10] *for boys and girls* school because I think there are fewer distractions so everyone can just concentrate on their studies.

1 kindergarten
2 .....
3 .....
4 .....
5 .....
6 .....
7 .....
8 .....
9 .....
10 .....

**Vocabulary note**

Words ending in *-ist* are usually used to describe a person who studies a particular subject or who holds a particular set of beliefs: *economist, scientist, feminist, Marxist.*

LIVEWORKSHEETS