

ESSENTIAL WORDS FOR THE IELTS

Word Families

noun	alternative	Some families choose private school as an alternative to public school.
noun	alternate	Because our first choice for the class trip was too expensive, we went with our alternate instead.
adjective	alternative	Some homeschooling families follow an educational program similar to that found in formal schools, whereas others choose alternative methods.
adjective	alternate	We made alternate arrangements for the class trip.
adverb	alternatively	Parents can choose to teach their children themselves; alternatively, they can join homeschooling groups and share teaching responsibilities with other families.

noun	concern	The safety of the school environment is a concern for many modern parents.
verb	concern	The quality of public schools concerns a growing number of families.
adjective	concerned	Parents feel concerned when their children don't do well in school.

noun	instruction	Parents want their children to get the best instruction.
noun	instructor	Some people feel that parents are the best instructors for their children.
verb	instruct	Some homeschooling parents instruct their children for a set number of hours every day, whereas others follow a less structured schedule.
adjective	instructive	Homeschooling parents try to provide their children with a variety of instructive experiences.
adjective	instructional	Homeschooling parents try to provide their children with good instructional materials.
adverb	instructionally	Materials used for homeschooling must be instructionally sound.

noun	obligation	Parents have the obligation to protect their children and provide for their needs.
verb	oblige	A teacher might obligate his students to spend several hours a day doing homework.
adjective	obligatory	School is obligatory for young children in most parts of the world.

noun	period	Children should be given several rest periods during the school day.
adjective	periodic	In some places, homeschooling families are required to receive periodic visits from professional educators.
adverb	periodically	Teachers give their students tests periodically.

Word Family Practice

Choose the correct word family member from the list below to complete each blank.

Many families are interested in 1..... forms of education. Some send their children to private schools that follow certain educational methods, and others choose to 2..... their children themselves at home. Providing children with a thorough education in all subject areas can be a 3..... for homeschooling families. However, there are many places they can turn to for support. There are several homeschooling organizations¹ that can give them guidance with this. Communicating with other homeschooling families 4..... to exchange ideas and discuss problems is an important source of support for many homeschoolers. Whether they choose formal schooling or homeschooling, parents have the 5..... to make sure that their children get a good education.

1. alternative	alternatives	alternatively
2. instructor	instruct	instruction
3. concern	concerns	concerned
4. period	periodic	periodically
5. obligation	oblige	obligatory

¹BrE: organisations