

# Education

## Reading

### Task 1

Read the text below. Match choices (A-H) to (1-5).

### Different Types of Schools and Education Systems

1. \_\_\_\_\_

*Boarding school* students quickly learn how to perform many domestic chores and complete school assignments by themselves. They become experts at managing their time, money and resources. They can focus better on their studies because television, video games, phones and other distractors are limited. These young scholars usually perform better academically because they live in an environment that is conducive to learning. Boarding school students live and attend classes with people from a variety of cultures; therefore, they learn to appreciate and respect the differences in one another and live amicably.

2. \_\_\_\_\_

*Charter schools* have the flexibility to teach students what they might need in the real world, especially those who are in high school. Charter schools can specifically look at trends and offer more targeted coursework on topics such as science, computer engineering or environmental studies that wouldn't be offered at a traditional school. Other more holistic approaches to learning can be implemented as well, such as taking care of the environment and health-based curriculum to foster a child's whole self and not just traditional types of learning.

3. \_\_\_\_\_

*Virtual Schools* removed the limitation of time and location, a common challenge in a traditional classroom. With uplift of these limitations, learners have the freedom to study and finish the coursework anytime, anywhere. Learners also have the freedom to engage with other on classroom topics, do the assignment, absorb class content, or take exams at a time or duration that best fits their schedule. Another virtual classroom advantage that many students find to be very interesting is the sharpening of one's digital skills. While increasing your skills and knowledge in your area of study, you are the same time sharpening your digital skills on some of the most sophisticated online learning solutions.

4. \_\_\_\_\_

The unique quality of a *magnet school* is that they usually have a special curricular focus. Magnet schools give students the chance to attend schools that focus on themes or career areas of special interest to the student. Common themes include STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math), the arts, and vocational or

career paths. Each magnet school offers a unique and challenging curriculum as well as the supports that students need to expand their interests, talents and passions. Magnet schools emphasize an area of study or a method of teaching.

5. \_\_\_\_\_

*Montessori schools'* approach to the education is unique in that it is based on the observation of the child and following his or her abilities and interests. The method is based on the freedom of the child to explore and learn, mostly, through self-direction. The Montessori philosophy recognizes that each child learns in a different way, so every learning style is accommodated. Students proceed through the curriculum in their own time when they are ready. All this learning occurs under the guidance of the teacher who develops an individualized learning plan for every student.

- A Innovative Curriculum
- B Studying and Living at school
- C Specialized education
- D Homeschooling
- E Individual Approach
- F Distant Online education
- G Faith schools
- H Language Immersion schools

## Task 2.

**Read the text below. For questions (6-10) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).**

### E. R. A. S. M. U.S.

Today, many teenagers can't wait for the opportunity to pack their bags and head off on an adventure to a foreign country. Fortunately, a highly successful European education and training programme launched in 1987 has so far enabled over two million university students to spend time studying and working abroad. The scheme is named after the Dutch philosopher Desiderius Erasmus of Rotterdam (1466-1536), who travelled and studied in various European cities including Paris and Cambridge. Called 'Erasmus', it is the EU's flagship education programme. Erasmus is both an appropriate and clever name as the letters stand for European Region Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students.

Its principal aim is to foster understanding and innovation across the continent through student and staff exchange programmes. It not only encourages students to travel abroad and supports them while they are there but it also promotes and funds co-operation between universities and their staff across Europe. Erasmus is one of the most successful programmes ever put in place by the European Community. The vast majority of universities from all the European countries take part in the programme. In all, more than 4,000 third level institutions in 33 countries participate. Current figures show that over 200,000 students and 25,000 staff members make the move each year and this number is constantly growing.

Students who decide to sign up for the scheme either study at a university abroad or do an internship in a foreign company for three months to a year; this time spent away from home is recognised and validated by their own university, provided that certain agreed terms are respected. An important aspect of the programme is that students do not have to pay any fees to the foreign university and there are also a number of grants available for the less financially privileged scholars. Some participants can also benefit from low rent or even free accommodation.

For many young students, the Erasmus experience is their first time living abroad and for some it's their first time away from home. It is undoubtedly an important period in their lives and can have a determining effect on their future. More specifically, it can be especially helpful when you want to get a job. In fact, studies show that time spent abroad not only enriches students' language skills and academic careers but also their intercultural skills, their self-confidence and their self-reliance. Therefore, having an Erasmus exchange on your CV increases a student's chances of employment in the future. What's more, students who have spent time abroad seem to be more open about their future options and more prepared to embrace other cultures. Some respected academics have even suggested that former Erasmus students will be the backbone of a future pan-European identity.

**6. What do the initials ERASMUS stand for?**

- A The Dutch philosopher Desiderius Erasmus of Rotterdam
- B European Region Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students
- C The EU's flagship education programme
- D An appropriate and clever name

**7. What is the main purpose of the Erasmus programme?**

- A To promote students' travelling abroad
- B To finance education in European universities
- C To promote and fund co-operation across the continent
- D To encourage understanding and innovation through exchange programmes

**8. Who can take part in this programme?**

- A Students from any university in the world
- B Students and staff from a European university
- C Students and teachers from any university
- D Staff members of the third level institutions

**9. What is NOT provided for by the programme?**

- A An education at a university abroad
- B Traineeship in a foreign company for a certain period of time
- C Recognition and confirmation of education by the alma mater
- D Provision of a job in the future

**10. What financial help does NOT exist for poorer students?**

- A Reduced tuition fees
- B Low rent prices
- C Available grants
- D Free room

**Task 3**

**Read the text below. Match choices (A-H) to (11-16). There are two choices you do not need to use.**

**Top 6 Universities in the World 2020**

The *Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2020*, released on 11 September 2019, has revealed the world's top universities.

11. The **University of Oxford** is one of the oldest and the most prestigious university in the UK and one of the best known in the world. There are more than 20,000 students at Oxford, with an almost equal number of undergraduates and postgraduates. About 95 per cent of Oxford graduates are either employed or in postgraduate study within six months of completing their studies. The university employs staff from just under 100 different countries and foreign citizens make up about 40 per cent of the student and academic body.

12. One of the most striking features of **California Institute of Technology** is its unusually small size; only around 1,000 undergraduates and 1,250 postgraduates are enrolled there. Caltech aims to foster an interdisciplinary environment in which students learn about and tackle the most challenging and fundamental scientific or technological problems. Among the unusual features of the university are the customary cookie break taken every Thursday by physicists and their students, and the university's status as a distributor of olive oil.

13. The **University of Cambridge** operates a collegiate system, much like the University of Oxford. Almost all of the 18,000 students belong to a college or hall, where they have the option to live, study and sleep on site. There are 31 colleges and 150 academic departments at Cambridge. Every college has unique traditions and all students matriculate in a formal ceremony when arriving at the university. Many famous politicians, cultural figures and scientists spent time in Cambridge, including Isaac Newton and the founder of another of the most prestigious and well-known universities in the whole world.

14. **Stanford University** has generated many start-ups and entrepreneurs and was partly responsible for the development of the surrounding Silicon Valley. Many students go on to achieve great things; 17 Nobel laureates are affiliated with Stanford. The large campus is home to 97 percent of undergraduates and nearly 700 university buildings, alongside museums, gardens and recreational centres. There are just under 7,000 undergraduates and 9,000 graduates at the university, with a 7:1 student-to-staff ratio. Research at Stanford has a \$1.22 billion budget and more than 5,000 of the projects are externally funded.

15. The **Massachusetts Institute of Technology** was founded in the mid-19th century and has always endeavoured to provide financial aid to students on a needs basis. The first female student, Ellen Swallow Richards, was admitted to the chemistry department in 1871. Just two years later, the first international student – from Canada – graduated from MIT. Admission to the university is extremely selective; only 8 percent of applicants won a place in the graduating class of 2019. Graduates are employed by top companies, including Google, Amazon and Apple.

16. **Princeton University** is one of the world's foremost research universities with connections to more than 40 Nobel laureates, 17 winners of the National Medal of Science and five recipients of the National Humanities Medal. Princeton has also educated two US presidents, James Madison and Woodrow Wilson, who was also the university's president prior to entering the White House. Other distinguished graduates include Michelle Obama, actors Jimmy Stewart and Brooke Shields, Amazon founder Jeff Bezos and Apollo astronaut Pete Conrad.

**Which university \_\_\_\_\_?**

- A did the founder of Harvard University study at
- B pays great attention to the development of science
- C is known for its notable alumni
- D has a tradition of weekly informal communication between undergraduates and their lecturers
- E mascot is a beaver, "nature's engineer"
- F is also home to the largest academic library in the world
- G enrollment is highly competitive
- H is extremely popular among international students

#### Task 4

Read the text below. Match choices (A-H) the one which best fits each space (17-22). There are two choices you do not need to use.

### What Is the Difference between Scholarship and Grants?

People often wonder about the difference between scholarships and grants. Both are student financial aid that (17) \_\_\_\_\_ associated with higher education such as tuition, room, board, and textbooks. Though people sometimes confuse the terms or use them interchangeably, each has their (18) \_\_\_\_\_.

Scholarships are usually merit based. This means that they are given to prospective recipients based on desired qualities such as athletic ability, academic achievement or (19) \_\_\_\_\_. They require an application outlining why an applicant feels he or she is deserving of the award. Grants often take financial need into account in determining one's merit for receiving funding aid. Both grants and scholarships usually have some sort of requirements in order to continue to receive funding, such as maintaining a certain *Grade Point Average* (GPA).

Scholarships are awarded by (20) \_\_\_\_\_. These can include businesses, religious groups, individuals, community organizations, college departments or alumni. Grants are different in that they usually come from state or federal financial aid that is given to the college or university itself.

As long as they have applied to or are enrolled in an accredited college, university or other institution of higher education, students can usually be eligible for both grants and scholarships. In order to receive federal or state grants, applicants (21) \_\_\_\_\_. Scholarships usually go to undergraduate students. Once the graduate level is reached, private financial aid comes in the form of what is known as fellowships. These fund advanced studies and research. Grants, however, can be awarded to those pursuing either undergraduate or graduate degrees.

As you can see, there are numerous differences in grants versus scholarships. One similarity (22) \_\_\_\_\_ is that they don't need to be repaid, unlike college loans. There are a variety of scholarships and grants to be had, and most students are eligible for at least partial aid in some form.

- A must be U. S. citizens
- B own eligibility requirements and guidelines
- C take a look at the various characteristics
- D helps to pay for the necessities
- E a number of funding sources
- F involvement in a certain extra-curricular activity
- G ambitions and preferences
- H grants and scholarships have

### Use of English

#### Task 5

Read the text below. For questions (23-32) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

### Desperate to Go to School

Truancy has become a serious problem in many schools in recent years. In an attempt to tackle this problem one school introduced a new scheme to (23) \_\_\_\_\_ students to attend as many classes as

possible. Pupils who (24) \_\_\_\_\_ a 100% attendance record throughout the whole academic year were (25) \_\_\_\_\_ with an all-inclusive weekend school trip to an activity centre where they would be able to have a go at (26) \_\_\_\_\_ activities such as climbing, abseiling and white water rafting.

One student was so (27) \_\_\_\_\_ to qualify for this free weekend away that he even went to school with a broken wrist. He hurt his wrist when he fell off his bike on the way to school but he was so worried about (28) \_\_\_\_\_ his 100% attendance that he didn't (29) \_\_\_\_\_ his teachers or parents until the school day had finished. He (30) \_\_\_\_\_ admitted to his mother what had happened when she (31) \_\_\_\_\_ that he was having difficulty eating his dinner and asked him what was wrong. She took him to hospital that night, where they put his arm in plaster and he was able to go back to school the next day.

Fortunately, he was fully (32) \_\_\_\_\_ from his accident in time to go on the trip.

23	A	suggest	B	force	C	encourage	D	make
24	A	succeeded	B	made	C	achieved	D	realized
25	A	rewarded	B	given	C	won	D	compensated
26	A	outside	B	outdoor	C	internal	D	external
27	A	interested	B	happy	C	excited	D	keen
28	A	filling	B	maintaining	C	guarding	D	succeeding
29	A	tell	B	say	C	admit	D	explain
30	A	lastly	B	actually	C	fortunately	D	eventually
31	A	knew	B	was aware	C	looked	D	noticed
32	A	recovered	B	improved	C	repaired	D	fixed

### Task 6

Read the text below. For questions (33-42) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D).

### Maria Montessori

Maria Montessori was an Italian educator (33) \_\_\_\_\_ has left her mark on education today. Her “Montessori method” of education is (34) \_\_\_\_\_ used all round the world. Many educationalists say it is the best system for child tuition. Montessori was also a doctor, philosopher and philanthropist. She (35) \_\_\_\_\_ for the Nobel Peace Prize three times for her work.

Montessori was the first woman to graduate from the University of Rome Medical School. She trained (36) \_\_\_\_\_ a psychiatrist and was interested in educating the “mentally retarded” and (37) \_\_\_\_\_ with learning difficulties. She had great success when her class of “problematic” (38) \_\_\_\_\_ had above-average scores in state reading and writing tests. This was described as “the first Montessori miracle”.

Hearing about Maria’s achievements, Rome’s government asked her to start her own (39) \_\_\_\_\_ school. In 1907, the Casa dei Bambini opened in a poor neighbourhood of Rome. Montessori experimented with a philosophy she called “spontaneous self-development”, which meant letting children (40) \_\_\_\_\_ and learn at their own pace. Her methods once again met with great success. More schools opened and she gained worldwide fame.

Montessori was exiled from Italy because she refused to allow her schools to turn children into soldiers. She lived in Spain (41) \_\_\_\_\_ the Spanish Civil War broke out in 1936. In 1939 she moved to India and spent ten years (42) \_\_\_\_\_ on training courses, which are still seen as innovative today. She travelled around the world lecturing until her death in 1952.

33	A	who	B	what	C	whom	D	which
34	A	wide	B	wider	C	widely	D	widen
35	A	will be nominated	B	is nominated	C	have been nominated	D	was nominated
36	A	as	B	like	C	that	D	such
37	A	another	B	others	C	other	D	the other
38	A	8-year-olds	B	8-years-old	C	8-year-old	D	8-year's-old
39	A	children'	B	childrens'	C	childrens's	D	children's
40	A	developing	B	to develop	C	develop	D	developed
41	A	before	B	until	C	unless	D	by
42	A	work	B	working	C	worked	D	to work