

LIFE IN LOCKDOWN

1. Read this blog post entitled 'Life in Lockdown' quickly for the main ideas, so don't stop to look up unknown words.

(A) Hi! I'm Susan and I've decided to start this blog to document my Life in Lockdown. We've been in 1) lockdown now for a week in the UK. That means we have to stay at home almost all of the time. We're allowed out once a day to exercise and we can go to the supermarket to buy essentials. You have to try and stay two metres away from other people when you go out. I'm starting to get used to the situation now but it still feels like a dream sometimes. It's pretty 2) surreal when I look outside and there's no one around.

(B) My mum is a nurse, so she is classed as a 3) key worker and is still going to work every day. The company where my dad works has had to close its stores and 4) furlough all of their employees – that means my dad is still employed but he is not allowed to go to work until his company say he can return.

(C) I went to school before and I was studying for exams, so my life has changed quite a lot. I found the situation a bit 5) overwhelming at first. The hardest part has been 6) social distancing. I really miss seeing my friends in person but we chat every day online. I also have to study a lot by myself now and I find that really challenging.

(D) My little brother sometimes 7) distracts me when I'm trying to study because he always wants to play. However, one of the positives of the lockdown has been spending more time with my family. I try to stick to a routine each day that also includes time for exercise, some online socialising and something fun or creative like playing a board game with my family. This is helping me 8) make the best of it! I'd love to know what you are doing to stay positive during the lockdown. Let me know in the comments!

2. Notice how the text is organized, each paragraph related to a different topic. Match the following heading to paragraphs A to D.

- 1) How my life has changed.
- 2) Looking on the bright side.
- 3) Lockdown in the UK
- 4) How my parents' lives have changed.

3. Match the underlined underlined words in the text to the definitions below. The first one has has been done for you.

A) **Lockdown** : a situation in which people are not allowed to leave or enter a building or area freely because of an emergency.

B) _____: a rule put in place to reduce person-to- person contact during the COVID-19 pandemic.

C) _____: someone whose job is necessary to a particular situation.

D) _____: very great or very strong, too much to deal with.

E) _____: makes it difficult for someone to give their full attention to something.

F) _____: to allow or force someone to be temporarily absent from work.

G) _____: strange, not seeming real, like a dream

H) _____: make a difficult situation as pleasant and positive as it can possibly be.