



9.3

READING and VOCABULARY

Homeschooling

I can find specific detail in an article and talk about intelligence.

1 WORD FRIENDS Complete the sentences with *make* or *take*.

- We decided to *make* some improvements to the course, so it's much better now.
- Don't worry if you _____ a mistake in Maths. Just try again and keep trying until you get it right.
- I'm sure you'll _____ progress in English if you keep working hard.
- It's a good idea to _____ notes during History lessons so you've got the important facts written down.
- I don't understand this sentence – it doesn't _____ sense!
- We have to _____ an exam in the summer to check that we understand everything we've learned.
- There are some things we're not happy with at the school, so we'd like to _____ a few changes.
- Come and _____ a look at this photo – it's really funny!

2 Read the article. Match headings a–d with paragraphs 1–4.

- What are the advantages of homeschooling?
- Facts and figures about homeschooling
- Do homeschoolers get good results?
- Are there any disadvantages?

3 Read the text again. Mark the sentences T (true) or F (false).

- ☐ Homeschooling is possible in every country.
- ☐ A study in Britain showed that homeschoolers are more successful than students at school.
- ☐ Fran likes being in control of her studies.
- ☐ Adam thinks he gets more attention now that he is homeschooled.
- ☐ Homeschoolers are always lonely because they don't have a large group of friends.

4 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the highlighted phrases from the text.

- You should *make a real effort* to learn English vocabulary.
- Winning this money will _____ to our lives.
- Sara's very independent and doesn't enjoy _____ from other people.
- It's difficult to _____ between the two films, because they're so different.

Learning at home

1 _____
Would you prefer to stay at home to study? In many countries it is compulsory for children to attend school. In Britain, children have a legal right to an education, but it doesn't have to take place in a school. Parents can choose to teach their children at home. Around 36,000 students are currently homeschooled in Britain, and the number is growing.

2 _____
It's difficult to *make comparisons* between the achievements of homeschooled students and those of students at school. However, studies in the USA, where homeschooling is more popular, have shown that students educated at home often achieve better results in national tests than those in school. In Britain homeschooled students regularly get places at top universities.

3 _____
Most homeschoolers speak very positively of their experiences. Fran, fifteen, enjoys having the freedom to spend more time on subjects she likes. 'At school, there's a set programme of study that all students have to follow. I don't have to *take instructions* from teachers. I can follow my own interests more and explore subjects in more depth.' Adam, fourteen, also sees benefits to homeschooling. 'Teachers in schools have thirty students to think about. I have a tutor just for me. I love the fact that I can ask lots of questions, and he can really help me to understand things. That *makes a big difference* to me.'

4 _____
People often assume that the biggest problem for homeschoolers is loneliness. In fact, this isn't the case. Most parents of homeschoolers *make a real effort*

to create a network of friends for their children, and they often end up having quite interesting social lives. However, psychologists warn that some students who are homeschooled may have difficulties later in life. Dr Rob Alexander says, 'School isn't just about education – it's about learning to fit in. At school, students learn teamwork, and they learn how to deal with a wide range of different personalities. You can't get that at home.'

