

Studying and school life

You are taking part in an English debate club discussion on **learning materials**. You should give a 3 to 5-minute talk in which you present your opinion on the issue. After your talk you will answer three questions and justify your opinion. Study the material provided below (the content and arguments) in order to plan your talk. You have 5 minutes to prepare. You can make notes on the paper. You can start earlier if you wish.

In your talk you should:

- formulate the issue raised in the material,
- compare the information provided in the material,
- state your opinion on the issue,
- support your opinion with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples,
- come to a conclusion.

Source 1:

Choosing between textbooks and online learning for secondary school students can be a tough decision to make. There are several advantages and disadvantages to each method. The main reason is that print books offer readers a better experience encouraging active critical thinking and interaction with the material. For example, students can make notes, and do the exercises in the material writing by hand.

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Source 2:

Teachers reported that students have a better chance of remembering the information when they use books. In addition, researchers found that reading on a screen requires more concentration and is less effective than reading on paper. As a result, some students need help focusing on homework when using a computer. Still, a lot of young learners love it when there's a chance to study online during a lesson.

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1. Read an example speech by a Year 10 student. Complete the text with the missing words from the table. You do not need to change the forms. Also, pay attention to the tips and how the student follows them.

<i>find</i>	<i>sources</i>	<i>remember</i>	<i>important</i>	<i>used</i>	<i>when</i>
<i>access</i>	<i>learning</i>	<i>activities</i>	<i>students</i>	<i>highlights</i>	<i>listen</i>

Formulate the issue raised in the material (explain the issue; you can outline the situation in the present day as well):

The issue raised in both sources is about learning materials in schools, and whether students should use textbooks or online resources. This is ¹ _____ today because technology is everywhere, and many schools try to replace paper books with digital tools. However, some people believe traditional books are still more effective for ² _____.

Compare the information provided in the material (express the contrast between the two sources in your own words; you can do a deeper analysis by linking it with actual real-life examples as well):

Source one is a text and it ³ _____ the benefits of textbooks. It says that print books encourage critical thinking and better interaction with the material. For example, ⁴ _____ can write notes, underline words, or solve exercises by hand, which helps them stay active while studying.

However, source two is another text, and it presents the results of teachers' and researchers' opinions. Teachers notice that students remember more ⁵ _____ they read from books, and research shows that reading on a screen is harder and requires more concentration. At the same time, it mentions that many young learners still enjoy online learning and ⁶ _____ it exciting. This shows there are both positive and negative sides.

State your opinion on the issue and support it with at least two arguments, including reasons and examples (start with an argument, explain your viewpoint and give relatable examples; solutions may be provided, too):

In my opinion, learning materials should combine both methods. My first argument is that textbooks are important because they help students focus and ⁷ _____ information better. For example, when I write something down by hand, I understand it more deeply.

My second argument is that online learning is also useful. It gives quick ⁸ _____ to videos, exercises, and information that can make lessons more interesting. For example, language students can practice with online quizzes or ⁹ _____ to recordings instantly.

I think the best solution for this issue is balance. Textbooks should be ¹⁰ _____ for reading and note-taking, while online tools can be used for practice and motivation.

Come to a conclusion (summarize your speech by paraphrasing your own words; your role or experience concerning the issue can be included as well as some future predictions or suggestions):

To conclude, both ¹¹ _____ show that textbooks and online learning have advantages and disadvantages. I believe the smartest choice for schools is to mix both, so students can focus, remember information, and also enjoy creative ¹² _____ online.