

EXAM ENGLISH IV : FIRST PERIOD

- A Listen to a survey that a school is conducting about student preferences.
Check (✓) the student's answers.

Springfield Center for Continuing Education

New courses survey

- Would you rather study on your own or join a study group?
 - ☐ a. I'd rather study on my own.
 - ☐ b. I'd rather join a study group.
 - ☐ c. I'd rather do both.
- Would you rather take an art course or a professional course?
 - ☐ a. I'd rather take an art course.
 - ☐ b. I'd rather take a professional course.
 - ☐ c. I'd rather not take either. I'd rather take a language course.
- Would you prefer to take an online course or a traditional course?
 - ☐ a. I'd prefer to take an online course.
 - ☐ b. I'd prefer to take a traditional course.
 - ☐ c. I'd prefer not to take either. I'd prefer to hire a private tutor.

- What is a MOOC?
- Why do so few students complete a MOOC?
- Do professors who teach MOOCs think that they are as difficult as courses taken in a classroom?
- What are critics of MOOCs afraid of?

FREE COLLEGE FOR EVERYONE?

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A revolution in education is going to happen. Massive Online Open Courses (MOOCs for short) are designed for students who cannot afford, cannot get to, or simply don't want to attend classes in a university classroom. MOOCs are going to be of great importance to economically disadvantaged people, as well as people who live far from a university campus. The only requirement to attend a MOOC is access to a computer with an Internet connection, which is becoming more common each day.

Many MOOCs are created by top professors in their fields who teach at prestigious universities in the U.S., like Princeton, Harvard, and Stanford. These professors may teach online courses at their universities, but with a MOOC they can reach students all over the world. At the moment, not all universities accept academic credit for a MOOC. However, almost half of the professors who have taught a MOOC believe that the coursework is as demanding as the work done in a traditional university class. Many of these professors are not paid for teaching MOOCs by their universities; they do it because they want to

make education available to everyone, they love teaching, and they enjoy being able to communicate with so many students online.



MOOC students do not pay tuition, which is perhaps the greatest appeal of these courses. Most professors do not even require students to buy textbooks, which can be very expensive as well. This further reduces the cost of education. On the other hand, despite the affordability of MOOCs, MOOC students do not receive diplomas, which may lessen their appeal. Students may receive certification if they

pass the course, but of the 33,000 students enrolled in MOOCs today, the completion rate is strikingly low, at only 10%. Because a MOOC doesn't cost anything, students don't have to worry about losing money if they decide to drop the class. And many of them ultimately do.

So while there are upsides to MOOCs, they are not without their critics. Some professors fear that in the future there may be two kinds of university courses: expensive and superior courses at a traditional university where small groups of students meet in classes with their professors, and inexpensive and inferior massive online courses where students will never meet their professors nor even their fellow students. These critics also point out that students must be disciplined self-starters to be successful in a MOOC and that students often develop the skills of perseverance, time-management, and self-discipline by learning together with other students in a traditional university classroom.



- **Complete the sentences. Use: either, or, neither, nor**
- 1. Neither the UK nor Spain is in Asia.
- 2. Let's meet on either Monday or Tuesday.
- 3. They weren't at _____ of the stores.
- 4. Neither Maria _____ Eduardo was at home.
- 5. _____ of the answers is correct. Try again.
- 6. Either it will rain tomorrow, _____ it won't rain.
- 7. The hat was _____ too large, _____ too small. I was the right size.
- 8. _____ of the movies were interesting. They were both boring.
- 9. _____ of my classmates could come to the party. They were both sick.
- 10. I don't like _____ of those two coffee shops.
- 11. _____ cats _____ dogs are allowed in the restaurant.
- 12. We can take a flight at _____ one o'clock _____ three-thirty.
- 13. _____ Vancouver nor Toronto is the capital city of Canada.
- 14. Either tomorrow _____ the day after tomorrow is a good day to meet.
- 15. I can't find _____ of my pencils.

Teacher Vero V.

- 1 car
- 2 book
- 3 food
- 4 cat
- 5 truck
- 6 shoes
- 7 girl
- 8 cake
- 9 oranges
- 10 guitar

Teacher Vero V.