

Unit 4: Life in the Past

Reading

1. Read the text and do the tasks

A. Nowadays, teenagers have changed considerably in comparison to the teens in the past in how they spend their free time.

B. This is a “technology” generation. For teens in today’s world, mobile phones, the Internet, and TV are essential parts of their everyday life. Most teenagers prefer watching TV and surfing the Internet to reading books. They don’t like reading because watching TV is easier and they don’t have to use their own imagination. Teenagers prefer to spend free time in front of a computer rather than to do physical activities such as playing football, riding bikes or going swimming. According to a recent study, teenagers growing up in the 1970s and 1980s enjoyed more than two hours of outside play each weekday, and a further nine hours at weekends, whatever the weather. However, today's teens play outside for just over an hour each weekday, and fewer than five hours on Saturdays and Sundays.

C. Teens now often communicate to their friends by instant messages instead of talking face-to-face. When they want to share their feelings or some private thoughts, they will post them on Facebook. This makes it easier to get comments or receive encouragement from friends. Keeping a diary is out of date now.

D. Teens now spend more time meeting friends in places like fast food restaurants or cafes. They like to eat fast food, greasy food and sugary drinks more than home-cooked meals. This leads to obesity.

E. In conclusion, the lifestyle of teenagers has changed a lot compared to the past. Parents should encourage their children to play outdoors more. This helps them not only stay active and healthy but also socialize with friends as well as create treasured childhood memories.

1. What is NOT mentioned as the differences among teens now and then?
A. Entertainment B. Behavior C. Eating habits
2. Why do today’s teens prefer watching TV to reading books?
A. Because they don’t have to imagine.
B. Because they are lazy.
C. Because they hate going to the library.
3. The underlined word “**this**” refers to.....
A. eating at home B. eating out habit C. going on a diet
4. According to the passage, teens now use computers
A. to shop for clothes online B. to book tables at a restaurant C. to communicate
5. This passage is about.....
A. the technology teenagers use
B. the generation gap
C. the differences between teenagers today and in the past