

C. Reading & Writing

Exercise 1. Match the sentence halves.

1 I use	●	maths when I was at school.
2 I have to write	●	two new languages this year!
3 My brother wants to learn	●	a job in a bank.
4 I have to take	●	to people on my course.
5 My sister has just got	●	a lot of my time studying.
6 I enjoy talking	●	a computer to do my homework.
7 I spend	●	a lot of essays this week.
8 I was good at doing	●	a test before I start college.

Exercise 2. Read the blog posts by people with different jobs. Choose the correct words to complete the blog posts.

James, 23. The best part of my job is the children. They say so many busy/ clever/ easy things and know so much already. I often feel like I can see them learning. It is important to be very boring/ difficult/ kind to do this job and not to get angry. And, of course, you need to be able to talk in a way that young people can understand. I work very clever/ easy/ hard and I often have to take work home at the weekends and in the holidays. But it is worth it at the end of the school term when the children tell me how much they enjoyed being in my class.

Isabelle, 34. The part of my job that I enjoy the most is meeting new people and finding out about their health. Speaking to people is very awful/ busy/ important in my job, because I need to be able to explain things clearly to sick people and their families. This can be a clever/ difficult/ friendly job. When I first started working in the hospital, I was worried that I wouldn't be able to take care of everyone, especially when the hospital was very busy/ interesting/ kind, but the other staffs were very helpful, and I really enjoy working there now.

Gary, 28. The best part of my job is that I can spend so much time doing a sport I enjoy and get paid for it. I also have the chance to travel around the world and it's great that I can get to meet so many easy/ favorite/ interesting people. I love talking to fans and taking photographs with them. Of course, the job is not always fun. It makes me very tired and it can be very difficult, especially on the days when I don't play well. I have to play the best I can at all times and that isn't always easy/ kind/ popular.

Sarah, 19. My favorite part of the job is talking to people and helping them to decide what to buy. I prefer my job when the shop is busy and there are a lot of people to help. It can be a bit boring/ busy/ interesting when the shop is really quiet. I like making the clothes look nice so that customers will want to buy them. I also enjoy seeing the new clothes before anyone else and wearing the latest fashions. Of course, there are some difficult people, but most of them are really nice and awful/ favorite/ friendly.

Exercise 3. Read the blog posts in Exercise 2 again and choose the correct answers

	James	Isabelle	Gary	Sarah
1 Who is happiest when busy?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2 Who needs to be kind to do the job?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3 Who doesn't always do the job well?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4 Who had help from other people when starting the job?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5 Who often does work at home?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6 Who often talks to families?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7 Who is the person that sees new things?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8 Who travels to different countries?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Exercise 4. Read about subjects that are taught in schools

Most students learn subjects like English, Maths, Science, and Geography at school. However, some people don't think that these subjects are so useful for students. They think that these subjects will not help students to get a job later after they leave school. So, some schools have started to teach new subjects to their students, which they think will be more useful to them in the future.

Some schools want their students to study subjects which they think will be more helpful for them to get a job in the future. One school in the United States has decided to teach their students how to do different things using computers. Their students are learning how to write computer programs and how to design mobile phone apps. Their students enjoy these new subjects and would like to have more lessons to improve their computer skills.

Other schools want their students to learn more daily life skills. A school in the UK is teaching their students about what they should eat to stay healthy and how to cook healthy meals. In the past, most children learnt how to cook at school, but today, many schools have stopped teaching cooking, so that they can spend more time on subjects like Science and Maths. However, this UK school teaches cooking as well as other skills such as how to save money.

Finally, learning how to speak and write well is very important for both work and family life. Some people think that children do not learn these skills properly in school, because they spend so much time studying for tests. Therefore, a school in Singapore has started teaching

their students how to speak and write well, and how to speak in a good way to young people and adults.

Complete the summary with words from the box. Read about subjects that are taught in schools again to help you.

future	job	money	practice
skills	subjects	work	

Some schools are now teaching new things to their students which will be more useful to them in the _____. Some of the new _____, such as Computer Programming, can help students get a _____ when they leave school. Others help them to learn important _____ in the home, for example, how to cook healthy meals and how to save _____. Finally, more _____ in speaking and writing can also help young people get on well with other people when they leave school, both at _____ and at home.

Exercise 5. Read the essay about tests in school. Label the paragraphs with the correct phrases from the box.

Agree with the title	Disagree with the title
Introduction of the topic	Summary of the main points

These days, children do too many tests at school

Every year, many students do tests at school. These tests are important because they show that children understand their school subjects, but some people think that it is not good for children to take too many tests. I think there are advantages and disadvantages to taking tests.

Some people think that children do too many tests at school. They think that children spend too much time studying for tests and this makes children bored with the subject. For example, if students spend a lot of time studying for English tests, this might make them think that learning

English is boring. Children may also feel worried about taking tests. If they fail the test they might think that they are not good at learning.

However, other people think that it is important for children to take a lot of tests. They think that tests can help teachers see if children understand the subjects. They also think that teachers can make tests fun for their students by playing games to help them prepare. These people think that if children have a test they will pay more attention to their lessons and they will do more work at home and at school.

It is important for children to do tests in school because teachers need to know that their students understand the subject. Doing tests also helps children to pay attention in class and spend their time well. However, schools should not give too many tests to their students, because this will make children feel bored.

Exercise 6. Put the words in the correct order to complete the sentences.

1 Taking to there are advantages and tests disadvantages

2 Think some people that do many too tests
students .

3 For spend firstly, students a lot of time studying
tests .

4 Worried secondly, taking feel students about may
tests .

5 For won't other have time activities students
also, .

6 However, think it's good other people that tests
to take .

7 For	work	hard	students	to	important	it's	.
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8 Much	give	too	work	shouldn't	schools	students	.
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Exercise 7. Put the sentences in the correct order to complete the paragraph.

However, others say that school does not help many young people to get a job in the future.

Also, they can learn other important life skills, such as how to make friends and get on well with other people.

They think that children need to learn more practical skills for work.

Secondly, they can learn useful skills in school, like how to learn another language and write essays.

Many people think that school is very important for young people.

For example, how to write computer programs or make things with their hands.

Firstly, they can learn about many different subjects from Maths to Music.

Exercise 8. Complete the paragraph. Use the words and phrases from the box. One word or phrase is used twice.

Firstly	For example	However	I think	Many students	Secondly
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_____ use computers to help them with their school work. _____ there are advantages and disadvantages with using computers at school. _____, using computers can be helpful for finding information about different school subjects. _____, students can find websites and games to help them learn a different language.

_____ , young people enjoy using new technology and they often work better when they use computers. _____ , using computers can also stop young people from studying because there are so many other things they can do. _____ , they might check their mail, play games or watch videos instead of working.

Exercise 9. Read the sentences from the paragraph. Then match the sentences with the information.

- A. Many students use computers to help them with their schoolwork.
- B. I think there are advantages and disadvantages with using computer at school.
- C. Firstly, using computers can be helpful for finding information about different school subjects.
- D. For example, students can find websites and games to help them learn a different language.
- E. Secondly, young people enjoy using new technology and they often work better when they use computers.
- F. However, using computers can also stop young people from studying because there are so many other things they can do.
- G. For example, they might check their email, play games or watch videos instead of working.

1 A	●	●	Another advantage
2 B	●	●	Introduction of the topic
3 C	●	●	The writer's opinion
4 D	●	●	First advantage
5 E	●	●	A disadvantage
6 F	●	●	An example of a disadvantage
7 G	●	●	An example of an advantage

Exercise 10. Write a paragraph on the following topic:

What are the advantages and disadvantages of doing homework?

Use the notes to help you.

Notes

In your paragraph, remember to include:

- 1 an introduction to the topic.
- 2 your opinion.
- 3 some information that agrees with the topic.
- 4 some information that disagrees with the topic.
- 5 examples of advantages and disadvantages.

Exercise 11. Read the paragraph. Choose which ways man is destroying the Earth.

- a. Eating too much meat.
- b. Having too many holidays.
- c. Using too much energy.
- d. Driving too much.
- e. Working too much.

Today, people are destroying the Earth by using resources too quickly and causing pollution. The situation needs to change quickly. We need to do two things to stop this situation. First, we need to reduce the amount of energy people use. Finally, we can help to protect our world.

Exercise 12. Put the functions in the correct order.

a. Why the problem exists	1-
b. Conclusion	2-
c. Three ways to solve the problem	3-
d. The problem	4-

Exercise 13. Put the sentences in the correct order.

- 1 Firstly, we need to produce less meat and more crops. Secondly, we need to eat more local and seasonal food. Finally, better farming methods are needed.
- 2 More and more land is becoming poor quality and in danger of becoming a desert.
- 3 Making these changes will help people to protect the land.
- 4 This is happening because humans are farming the land too much. To solve this problem we need to take three steps.