1.4 READING

Classroom psychology • verbs & nouns • verb + preposition

1 Read the text quickly and choose the best title.

1 Where you sit is how you feel ☐
2 Where you sit is where you are ☐
3 Where you sit is how you fit ☐

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Today's hot article

[1]___ For more than 70 years, psychologists and teachers have studied the link between the place where students choose to sit in class and what they are like as people and learners. Where do you usually decide to sit? Have you ever really thought about the reasons for your decision?

I At the back

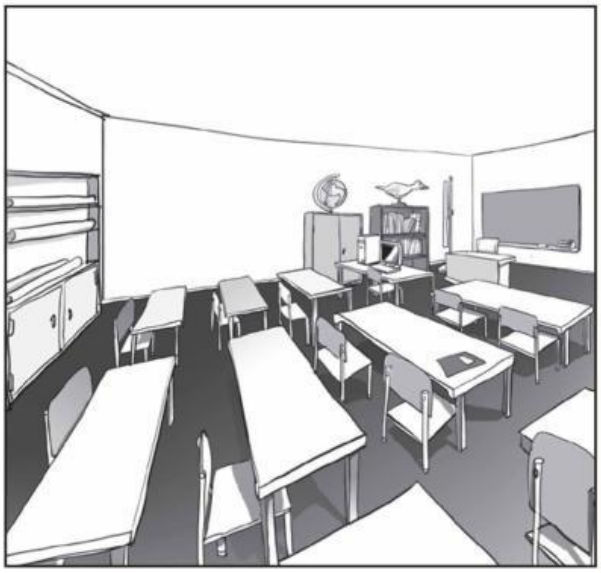
People often think that students who sit at the back are lazy. But is this really true? Well, some researchers say it is not. In fact, shy students often choose the back row because it is far away from the teacher and they don't want to answer questions or be involved* in discussions. At the back, students probably won't speak much, but in big classrooms, it can be hard to see the whiteboard and hear what the teacher is saying. [2]___ . For students with poor sight or hearing, a seat at the back of the classroom is definitely not a good choice.

II On one side

Students who sit on one side of the class, are normally interested in lessons, but they like watching and listening rather than joining in. These students are usually also very good at taking notes. [3]___ . On the sides of the classroom, you will generally find modest* and thoughtful people. These people usually get good marks at school and are keen* on learning.

III In the middle

Do you sit in the middle of the classroom? Yes? Then the statistics say you probably like your teacher. [4]___ Caring, outgoing and cheerful people usually sit in the middle. They are normally serious about learning and feel disappointed* with low marks in tests and exams.



IV At the front

Are you passionate about knowledge? Do you like being in control? Are you worried about missing important information in lessons? Yes? Then you probably sit right at the front of the class. Students at the front usually want to discuss things with the teacher and are often very enthusiastic about school. They want to be in the best place to see and hear everything the teacher does and says. The only problem with sitting at the front is that it can be difficult to see and hear what other students do and say in class. [5]___

We need YOUR opinion. Tell us what you think of this article. Add your comments below.

GLOSSARY

involved *(adj)* – someone who is involved in an activity or event gives it a lot of time, attention
modest *(adj)* – someone who is modest doesn't like talking about their abilities, skills, success, talents, etc.
keen *(adj)* – someone who is keen on something is very interested in it or enjoys doing it very much
disappointed *(adj)* – unhappy because something you hoped for did not happen, or because someone or something was not as good as you expected

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2 Read the text. Match sentences A–F with gaps 1–5. There is one extra sentence.

A You probably also have a good relationship with your classmates.
B This could be the reason why students who sit here often get lower marks in tests and exams.
C So, if you really want to hear what everyone says in class, choose a different place to sit.
D Research suggests that the chair you choose in the classroom says a lot about you and your personality.
E This means it's a good idea to sit in a different place every day.
F Next time you miss a lesson, borrow notes from someone who sits here.

3 Read the text again. Match questions 1–6 with the correct part of the text I–IV.

In which part of the text do you learn …

1 where in the classroom you can find students who prefer thinking about what they see and hear during the lesson to discussing things? ☐
2 why those who would rather not respond to questions usually look for a place far from the whiteboard? ☐
3 where to find students who are positive about the person they learn mostly from? ☐
4 where in the classroom you should look for someone who has detailed written information on what the lesson was about? ☐
5 where in the classroom it could be hard to hear what the classmates say during the lesson? ☐
6 where you can find students who don't always have good results when the teacher checks what they learnt in the lessons? ☐

4 Complete the table with underlined nouns and verbs from the text.

Verb	Noun
choose	choice
1 know	_____
2 _____	discussion
3 see	_____
4 hear	_____
5 decide	_____

5 Complete the sentences with words from Exercise 4. Change the form of the verbs if necessary.

Sorry? What did you say? Could you repeat that please? My *hearing* is terrible these days.
1 When Ollie takes Helen out for dinner, she always _____ the most expensive thing on the menu.
2 Stevie Wonder, the famous soul singer, is blind. He lost his _____ when he was a baby.
3 Peter is very wise. He really _____ a lot of things.
4 Today in class we had an interesting _____ about politics.
5 We can't _____ if we like Kevin's new haircut or not. It is certainly very ... different.

REMEMBER BETTER

When you learn a new word, e.g. a verb, look in a dictionary and see if you can also learn another form of the word, e.g. a noun or an adjective. They often look similar and because of that are easy to remember, e.g *feel – feelings*.

A Check the noun forms of the adjectives in a dictionary.

popular = *popularity*
1 polite = _____
2 sensitive = _____
3 honest = _____
4 lazy = _____

B Complete the sentences with words from Exercise A. The first three letters are given.

Everyone likes Mrs Jackson. She's a very **pop***ular* teacher.
1 **Pol**_____ is very important when you meet new people.
2 Be careful what you say to Rachel. She's very **sen**_____ about her appearance.
3 What makes a good friend? Well, **hon**_____ is very important.
4 I think **laz**_____ is a very bad thing. Everybody should work hard.

WORD STORE 1D | Verb + preposition

6 Choose the correct prepositions.



1 Lazy people do not believe *in / on / about* working hard.
2 I'm trying to focus *at / with / on* my homework. Please be quiet.
3 It's a good idea not to worry *on / about / in* your exam. Study hard and you will be fine.
4 How do you deal *in / at / with* your work and study at the same time?
5 Janice doesn't like to depend *on / from / with* anybody. She's very independent.
6 I prefer to connect *on / at / with* friends by meeting them, not through social media.
7 Pauline listens *at / on / to* music on her way to school every morning.
8 Oliver really cares *on / about / with* his friends. He's always kind and generous to them.
9 Are you still thinking *at / on / about* the dress in the shop window?

LIVEWORKSHEETS