READING TEST - TOPIC: EDUCATION

Reading 1

Questions 7 – 13

For each question, choose the correct answer.

		Vivian	Maya	Naomi
7	Who wrote a newspaper article about the headteacher?	A	B	C
8	Who gets ideas for the newspaper from classmates?	A	B	C
9	Who wants the newspaper to be available on the internet?	A	B	C
10	Who got students to take pictures for the newspaper?	A	B	C
11	Who started the school newspaper?	A	B	C
12	Who would like to have a career as a journalist?	A	B	C
13	Who thinks working on the newspaper has helped her with her school work?	A	B	C

LIVEWORKSHEETS

School newspaper

Three teenagers talk about working on their school newspaper

Vivian

I thought students at my school would enjoy reading a monthly newspaper about school life, so I spoke to the headteacher. I was very pleased when he agreed that it was an excellent idea. Now one of my jobs for the newspaper is to write interesting articles about things that happen at school. Because I'm always looking for stories, I'm always glad when students tell me about news that I can include in future articles.

Maya

I enjoy working on the school newspaper because I like planning where the photos and articles go in the newspaper. I also like writing about interesting people and can't wait for my article about the headteacher to be in next month's paper! Before working on the newspaper, I didn't like writing very much, but I do now, and I'm getting higher grades in English class. In my opinion, many students would prefer reading the newspaper online, so I really hope that can happen soon.

Naomi

As soon as I learned about the new school newspaper, I offered to help. I wanted this brilliant experience because I hope to write for magazines some day. At first, I was finding it difficult taking enough good photos, so I started a monthly competition. Now lots of students give me photos for the paper to try and win prizes. For example, one of this month's winners took an excellent photo of the headteacher. It's going beside a really good article about the headteacher that was written by another student.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Reading 2

Questions 11–15

For each question, choose the correct answer.

Paul Harris talks about how he studied by distance learning before going to university

I didn't follow the normal route to university. Most of my teenage friends stayed on at school, passed their exams, chose their favourite university and continued their education. I couldn't wait to get to work and left without any qualifications, feeling that having a salary was more important. I spent a few years doing different jobs but always wondered what might have happened if I had followed my friends' example.

It was ten years later, in my late twenties, and after I discovered a love of history, that I finally decided I wanted to go to university. I thought about giving up my job and spending a year at college getting the exams I needed for university, but I couldn't afford to do this. So I decided to study on a distance-learning course and keep my job. This was long before the internet and online learning. My course consisted of a parcel brought by the postman with all the books I needed for the year, a study plan and the contact details of my tutors. No telephone number, just an address of a business where I had to post my work.

I would spend a week or two studying the next unit, write an essay and post it to the tutor. I would then wait, usually for at least two weeks, for the tutor's reply. It was always a very exciting moment when the postman arrived and I opened the envelope to see how well I had done. My tutor's comments were always very helpful, though I often wished I could phone him for the chance to discuss some of the things he had written.

I passed the exams and did indeed go to university. And the distance-learning course taught me the importance of hard work and the need to focus. It wasn't easy studying like this without the technology available today. I wasn't able to ask the questions I had and get the quick response that communication tools now make possible. But I also think it was much easier to concentrate then. There was no mobile phone to turn to every five minutes or social media to follow. I'm glad I did it my way.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

11 How did Paul feel about going to university when he left school?

A He wanted to be like his friends.

B He didn't think he could get the qualifications he needed.

C He wanted to earn money.

D He regretted not going.

12 Paul chose a distance-learning course

A because he loved his job.

B so he could continue working.

C because he couldn't find a history course at college.

D because it was too late to go to college.

13 What does Paul say about the course?

A He would have liked more contact with his tutor.

B He didn't understand his tutor's comments.

C His tutor's handwriting was difficult to read.

D The post service was very poor.

14 Paul thinks that

A he would have done even better if the internet had existed.

B it was difficult to focus during his studies.

C online learning is more effective.

D the internet can make studying difficult.

15 What would be a good introduction to this article?

A Paul Harris warns against choosing distance learning after his negative experiences.

B Forget college: distance learning is the best way to get that university place, says Paul Harris.

C Paul Harris describes his experiences of studying at a distance without the use of modern technology.

D Distance learning should be avoided if you are not serious about your goal, writes Paul Harris.

LIVEWORKSHEETS