

PRACTICE 1

We interviewed six teenagers about what online learning means to them. Read the texts below and answer the questions that follow.

Teens on Online Learning**A – Bakri, 15 years old**

It's convenient! I enjoy learning in the comforts of my own home. Furthermore, there is no travelling involved. No waking up at 5.00 a.m., boarding the bus at six just so that I can arrive at school by seven. Attending lessons online lets me go for my morning jog and still make it in time for class. I feel like I can accomplish more with the extra time.

B – Wei Yuen, 17 years old

It's efficient! I appreciate my teachers for putting in effort to make their lessons creative and engaging. Instead of the traditional textbooks, my teachers use online resources, videos and other learning tools which make learning so much more interesting.

C – Kavitha, 16 years old

It's daunting! There is no level playing field because some students do not have stable Internet connection while others enjoy seamless connection. I often get disconnected from class and miss out on lessons when my computer lags. This leaves me frustrated.

D – Fasha, 16 years old

It's distressing! I prefer the traditional learning method. Online learning lacks the human touch. I'm an only child, being with my friends is essential for my well-being. Sadly, my friends do not turn on their cameras during lessons. I miss the lively discussions we used to enjoy in physical classes. I yearn to go back to school.

E – Tobias, 15 years old

I'm sharing a device with my two younger siblings. There is no way my family can afford to give us one device each. We have to take turns to attend lessons. Thankfully, our teachers are aware of our situation. They have made recordings of the lessons available for us so that we can catch up.

F – Yves, 14 years old

I get distracted easily. I struggle to stay focused. I hate to admit this, but most of the time, I zone out after 30 minutes of the lesson. I may be staring at the screen but my mind has wandered off somewhere.

Questions 1 to 4

Which paragraph (A – F) describes the teenagers' experiences of online learning?

Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Statements	Paragraph
1 The online learning experience is more enriching.	_____
2 I appreciate my teachers for their caring concern towards my family's predicament.	_____
3 The lack of interaction is affecting me mentally.	_____
4 In my opinion, online learning doesn't give everyone equal opportunities.	_____

Questions 5 to 8

Complete the notes below using information from the text. Choose no more than one word from the passage for each answer. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

There's No Easy Way Out

- It seems like a (5) _____ task to implement online learning in rural areas.
- The government is (6) _____ of the challenges that teachers face in trying to ensure that no student is left behind.
- Self-discipline is the key to help students to (7) _____ their tasks successfully.
- You can find plenty of valuable learning (8) _____ online.