READING

1 Read the title of the newspaper article. Tick (✓) the information you think it will include. Read the article quickly and check.

1 not much choice in courses ☐
2 the number of students who dislike school ☐
3 reasons students are unhappy at school ☐
4 the most boring subjects at school ☐
5 the best types of jobs ☐
6 a solution to the problem ☐

EDUCATION IS BORING AND DOESN'T PREPARE THEM FOR THE FUTURE, SAY STUDENTS

Do you find your school lessons boring? Many teenagers say they don't enjoy their classes and think the education system needs to change to make it more interesting and useful.

Around 80% of students said they were unhappy with their school life, and almost 50% said there were not enough courses to choose from.

When asked how they felt about their education, students said they often didn't find it very interesting. 'It does only a tiny bit to help us find employment,' says Naomi, 16, from Cardiff. 'This really needs to change so our education makes sure we are helped to become successful later in life.'

Nicholas, 13, from London says when he is studying in class, he is often exhausted because he is always doing tests, which makes him lose interest. 'It's always about getting good results in tests, not about giving you more knowledge to help you when you leave school to get a job.'

The other thing students say is a problem is that often the lessons don't include anything connected to their interests. 'They don't seem to know who we are as young people in the 21st century. There isn't much technology used in the classroom, whereas in our personal lives, we – and everyone else – use technology in lots of different and exciting ways,' says Jessie, 16, from Winchester.

Education experts agree: 'Today's system is too focused on helping students pass exams and it doesn't help them prepare themselves for real life and work,' says Nigel Jones from EducateUK, an organisation that wants to make changes to the education system.

But what can be done to change this? 'We need to focus education on helping young people to develop the skills and knowledge they need in the modern world,' says Jones. 'We think that there should be a new, more relaxed course system that gives teachers more choices to make lessons more fun, interesting and practical.'

The idea is popular with students too. 'I'd love to have new, more useful classes at my school,' says Mark, 14. 'I'd like to learn computer programming so that I can become a video-games developer when I'm older.'

2 Read the newspaper article and answer the questions.

1 Most students say that they think their education is
  a good enough.
  b not good enough.
2 Naomi thinks that the education system
  a isn't very good at helping students find a job.
  b helps students be successful in life.
3 Nicholas says he feels tired because he
  a has a job after school.
  b does lots of exams.
4 Jessie thinks that teachers
  a don't use technology enough in the classroom.
  b use technology too much in the classroom.
5 Nigel Jones thinks education
  a needs to change.
  b should prepare students for exams.
6 Nigel thinks that lessons should be
  a more relaxing.
  b more useful.

3 Match the highlighted words in the article to their meanings.

1 _____ giving most attention to
2 _____ facts and information
3 _____ things you can do well
4 _____ work
5 _____ useful in real situations

4 Complete the sentences with a word from Exercise 3.

1 It can be difficult to find _____ after leaving school.
2 I want to get a really good job where I can use my _____.
3 This book has some really _____ tips on how to pass English exams.
4 My uncle has a very good _____ of trains.
5 My sister is in her last year of high school and is really _____ getting into a good university.



LIVEWORKSHEETS