

5.4

READING

Alternative education • word families
• phrasal verbs • collocations



ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

Technology is changing our lives and many people believe that school pupils should all have laptops, look at interactive whiteboards and do all their homework online. Los Altos, California, is a city in an area **known as** 'Silicon Valley' because **it is home to** many technology companies **such as** Google, Apple, Yahoo and Hewlett-Packard. So the Waldorf School of the Peninsula is a **bit of a surprise**.

The staff and parents here believe that there shouldn't be any technology in our schools. There are no computers in the classrooms. No screens at all. The teachers write on blackboards and the classrooms are full of books, posters and magazines. There are wooden desks and pupils write on paper with pens and pencils. This doesn't mean that the teachers just stand at the front of the class and the students quietly do exercises. They get up and do fun activities and play games that help them to learn and remember.

1 Read the text quickly and decide which classroom, A or B, looks like a classroom in the Waldorf School.

A ☐ B ☐

2 Read the text again. Are sentences 1–6 true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 The writer gives four examples of how students and teachers can use technology. ☐
- 2 The staff and parents agree about not using technology at school. ☐
- 3 Students mustn't leave their desks during lessons. ☐
- 4 The writer doesn't say that students do better without technology. ☐
- 5 The lessons at the school are interesting for the students. ☐
- 6 The writer says that 160 students go to the Waldorf School of the Peninsula. ☐



Are the methods successful? It's difficult to **say for sure**. Most of the students succeed in their exams but is this success because of the school or because they have parents who think education is important? People who like the school say that the students use their imagination more. The teachers certainly work hard to create imaginative lessons and the students enjoy them. Parents also say that learning without computers helps the children to develop better problem solving skills and this actually helps them to use computers later in life.

However, others disagree. They say that students who study at the school are unprepared for our technological world when they leave. One thing is for sure. The schools are very popular. There are 160 Waldorf schools in the USA now and parents pay about \$20,000 a year to educate their children at them. What do you think? Do you agree with the parents or do you think students should use technology at school?

GLOSSARY

develop (v) – to grow or change into something bigger, stronger, or more advanced

unprepared (adj) – not ready to deal with something

REMEMBER BETTER

When you learn related parts of speech, you can talk about the same subject using different words.

Our school basketball team is usually very **successful**.
We don't always **succeed** in competitions but we have more **successes** than failures.

- A Complete the table with the underlined words in the text. Two of the words are not in the text. Use a dictionary, if necessary, to find them.**

	Adjective	Noun	Verb
1	<u>successful</u>	a _____	b _____
2	a _____	b _____	imagine
3	educated / a _____ a1	b _____	c _____
4	-	agreement / a _____	b _____ / c _____

- B Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in capitals.**

1 SUCCESS

Our school basketball team are very successful.
They win all their matches.

- A Our students' _____ in their exams is because of our great teachers.
B Alex is very ambitious and he wants to _____ in everything he does.

2 EDUCATE

- A _____ should be free for all students at university.
B They don't go to school. Their parents _____ them at home.
C There are many _____ videos on YouTube. You can learn about anything!
D My mum likes my new boyfriend. He's polite, smart and well- _____.

3 IMAGINE

- A You've got a great _____. You should write children's books.
B This is a very _____ piece of writing. Well done, Katy!

4 AGREE

- A I _____ with you about school sports. I can't see why all students should do some kind of exercise.
B I don't think young pupils should get homework. Do you _____?
C My parents and I often have a _____ about going out with my friends.

- 3 Look at the sentences from the text and choose the correct meaning (A or B) of the underlined expressions**

- Los Altos, California, is a city in an area known as 'Silicon Valley'.
A Some people call the area 'Silicon Valley'.
B The area is officially named 'Silicon Valley'.
- ... it is home to many technology companies such as Google, Apple, Yahoo and Hewlett-Packard.
A ... there are a number of technology companies in the area. Four of these are Google, Apple, Yahoo and Hewlett-Packard.
B ... there are four technology companies in the area: Google, Apple, Yahoo and Hewlett-Packard.
- The Waldorf School of the Peninsula is a bit of a surprise.
A The school is different to how people expect it to be.
B The school is similar to the local companies.
- It's difficult to say for sure.
A The writer doesn't want to say.
B The writer doesn't really know.

- 4 Complete the sentences with one of the phrases from Exercise 3 in each gap.**

I'm known as Spiderman at school because I'm very good at climbing in the gym.

- I want to go to the party but I can't _____ that I'm going. I have to ask my parents first.
- The end of this film is _____ but I can't tell you what happens. Go and see it!
- We do a lot of different sports at school, _____ football, cricket, volleyball and running.

VOCABULARY PRACTICE | Phrasal verbs

- 5 Look at the vocabulary in lesson 5.4 in the Students' Book. Complete the phrasal verbs in the sentences.**

You can find out lots of interesting things online for your school project.

- My friends know how to put _____ a tent because they go camping a lot.
- Jack's family has to move _____ a lot because of his dad's job.
- Turn off the television so that you can focus _____ your homework.

WORD STORE SE | Collocations

- 6 Choose the correct option.**

DO YOU HAVE ANY PLANS FOR THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS?



Why don't you ¹do / make a course?

It's a great way to ²increase / improve your skills. And it isn't boring! You can ³have / take part in interesting activities and ⁴make / get friends. Sometimes, you can ⁵win / take prizes too!