

READING COMPREHENSION

Task 1: Read the text carefully. Complete the task on the next page.

HOMESCHOOLING – MYTHS AND FACTS

The Debate

I've heard it a hundred times. If you're thinking about homeschooling, it probably troubles you. "What about socialization?" is the major homeschooling question people have about a homeschooling lifestyle. Professional educators, who don't fully understand the many styles of homeschooling, often raise this issue. They believe school is the only place children learn socialization skills. But it's just not true!

The socialization myth was born out of a misconception of what it's like to homeschool. Many educators and critics of homeschooling still believe homeschoolers hit the books at 9 a.m., work all day at their kitchen table till 3:00 p.m. or later, and spend their day isolated and alone. This, of course, is ridiculous! The homeschoolers I know are out and about every day, enjoying museums, beaches, parks, and shows without the crowds. They travel often. The kids participate in Girl and Boy Scouts, and sports. They take art, dance, drama, language, and music classes, to name a few.

Dr Raymond Moore, author of over 60 books and articles on human development, has done extensive research on homeschooling and socialization. His book, *The Hurried Child*, should be in every homeschooler's library. "The idea that children need to be around many other youngsters in order to socialize is perhaps the most dangerous and extravagant myth in education and child rearing today." Children often do not respond well to large groups. They become nervous and overexcited by noise and too many people. Learning becomes difficult. Behavioural problems develop. After analysing over 8,000 early childhood studies, Dr Moore concluded that, contrary to popular belief, children are best socialized by parents – not other children.

What kind of socialization occurs when 20 or 30 kids of the same age are placed in a classroom together day after day? Peer pressure is enormous. Kids feel like they need to look and sound and be like everyone else, at the risk of forgetting or never discovering who they really are. The results are rivalry, ridicule, and competition – hardly the environment for healthy socialization. A homeschooler who interacts with parents and siblings more than with peers displays self-confidence, self-respect, and self-worth. She knows she is a part of a family unit that needs, wants, and depends on her. The result is an independent thinker who isn't influenced by peers and is self-directed in her actions and thoughts.

The Research

In July 2000, the Discovery Institute, a Seattle-based think tank, published an extensive report on homeschooling written by senior Fellow Dr Patricia Lines. She describes several controlled studies comparing the social skills of homeschoolers and non-homeschoolers. The homeschoolers scored as "well adjusted". In one study, trained counsellors viewed videotapes of mixed groups of homeschooled and schooled children at play. The counsellors didn't know the school status of each child. And the results? The homeschooled kids demonstrated fewer behavioural problems. Dr Lines' conclusion? "There is no basis to question the social development of homeschooled children."

Homeschooling parents know kids need blocks of quiet time alone. The time to dream and grow and find out what it is they love to do. This is something few children enjoy today. They are never alone at school, and their after-school lives are packed full of activities as well. Socialization, like learning and life, takes place every day. How you interact with your kids – and how they watch you interact with the outside world – teaches them all the social skills they'll need to know. Stop worrying about the socialization. It's a "problem" that never existed.

READING COMPREHENSION
(continued)

Task: Based on what you have read in the article, decide whether the statements below are true (T) or false (F). Circle one of the two letters. Be careful, sentences do not follow in the same order as the information in the article.

1. **T / F** The Discovery Institute report concluded that homeschoolers had less significant behavioural issues than non-homeschoolers.
2. **T / F** In the author's view, children in a classroom environment develop their individual personalities more intensely.
3. **T / F** Dr Moore claims that homeschoolers need their peers around in order to socialize.
4. **T / F** We can imply from the article that the school environment does not give children individual quiet time to identify their choices and preferences.
5. **T / F** Professional educators doubt whether homeschooling involves sufficient socialization for children.
6. **T / F** The most significant way to teach children socialization is by letting them experience the daily patterns of their parents' social skills.
7. **T / F** According to the author, self-esteem is acquired more naturally in a homeschooling environment than in a school setting.
8. **T / F** Dr Moore believes that classmates are the most suitable social partners for children.
9. **T / F** Independent thinkers are encouraged more in a competitive school setting.
10. **T / F** In the author's view, homeschoolers are engaged in a variety of outdoor activities.

_____ / 10 pts

V O C A B U L A R Y

Task 1: Complete each sentence with a verb from the box. Be careful, there are five extra verbs. Use the appropriate verb in its correct form.

<i>abandon</i>	<i>neglect</i>	<i>complain</i>	<i>humiliate</i>	<i>offend</i>
<i>deny</i>	<i>respect</i>	<i>scold</i>	<i>retire</i>	<i>fall out</i>
<i>separate</i>	<i>adore</i>	<i>make up</i>	<i>betray</i>	<i>look up</i>

1. My boss entirely me in front of my customers.
2. Paul's parents him when he was a few months old.
3. Alec's parents his upbringing when he was a teenager.
4. The President us by raising taxes though he promised not to do so.
5. She her son for being out until late.
6. Our teacher is an honest and fair person so I to him.
7. After a noisy argument they quickly
8. At the age of 65 he decided to
9. Jane asked me how long my parents had been married before they
10. They are business partners who have over some dirty deal.

_____ / 5pts

V O C A B U L A R Y
(continued)

Task 2: Fill each blank space in the article below with the correct form of the word in capital letters.

DRUGS, THEIR CLASSIFICATION AND EFFECTS

The term ‘drugs’ covers many kinds of chemical (11) **SUBSTANTIAL**
 which are absorbed by the body and designed to cure illnesses. In recent years it
 has become possible to (12) many drugs previously **SYNTHETIC**
 obtained from plants and animal products. A small number of drugs can become
 addictive if taken (13) Drugs intended as **EXCESS**
 (14) and drugs with a (15) **PAIN, HYPNOSIS**
 effect used as sleeping pills can both become addictive if abused. It is important
 to (16) the fact that it is the abuse of drugs which has **EMPHASIS**
 become a (17) social problem in many societies, and **WIDE**
 that the drug itself may have many beneficial effects when used medically. This
 is why many drugs are (18) through prescription from **OBTAIN**
 a doctor. Some people would argue that those who become addicts may do
 so in order to find some relief from personal and social (19) **ADEQUATE**
 This argument implies that any temporary effects of well-being soon wear off,
 leading to severe physical (20) **COMFORT**

_____ / 5 pts

Total: _____ / 10 pts

LISTENING

You will hear a radio programme about travelling. You will hear 10 tips from an expert on how best to experience wildlife safaris in India. Below, you can read ten statements which summarise the ten pieces of advice. In the gaps provided, write the number 1 – 10 next to the statement which refers to a particular piece of advice. There are five extra statements – write X in the gaps provided. You will hear the programme twice.

WILDLIFE SAFARIS IN INDIA – TIPS FROM AN EXPERT

1. Plan a convenient way to observe the game.
2. Follow the local rules.
3. Act in accordance with these guidelines.
4. Choose a suitable means of transport.
5. Don't plan a trip entirely by yourself.
6. Wear items of appropriate quality.
7. Keep nature untouched.
8. Adopt a responsible approach to safari surroundings.
9. Be aware that a water-based safari is not available everywhere.
10. Don't rush to see wildlife.
11. Bring equipment suitable for observation.
12. Avoid dangerous animals - such an encounter can be fatal.
13. Prepare yourself to take pictures.
14. Behave in a way that is not disturbing.
15. Be aware that hiking is not recommended.

_____ /5 pts
(half a point per each correctly placed number)

G R A M M A R

Task 1: Fill each of the numbered blanks in the passage with one suitable word.

GHOST ROCKETS

EXAMPLE: (0) of

The first reports (0) ghost rockets (1)..... made on 26 February 1946, (2) Finnish observers. About 2,000 sightings were logged (3) May and December 1946, with peaks (4) 9 and 11 August 1946. Two hundred sightings were verified (5) radar returns, and authorities recovered physical fragments (6) were attributed (7) ghost rockets. Investigations concluded (8) many ghost rocket sightings were probably caused by meteors. For example, the peaks of the sightings, on 9 and 11 August 1946, also fall (9) the peak of the annual Perseid meteor shower. However, most ghost rocket sightings did not occur (10)..... meteor shower activity, and furthermore, displayed characteristics inconsistent (11) meteors, such (12) reported manoeuvrability. Debate continues as (13) the origins of the unidentified ghost rockets. In 1946, however, it (14) likely thought that they originated (15) the former German rocket facility (16) Peenemünde.

_____ / 8 pt

Task 2: Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given.

17. The facts of the accident were familiar to the lawyer.

ACQUAINTED

The lawyer the facts of the accident.

18. The deaths of over sixty people were caused by the earthquake.

RESULTED

The earthquake killed.

Olympiáda v anglickom jazyku, 27.ročník, celoštátne kolo 2016/17, kategória 2B – úlohy

19. I'm sure Joan won't mind looking after the baby.

CARE

I'm sure Joan won't object the baby.

20. Translating articles from Spanish into English gives me a lot of pleasure.

DERIVE

I translating articles from Spanish into English.

21. It's just our luck that the wedding is at the same time as our holiday in Indonesia.

COINCIDES

It's just our luck that in Indonesia.

22. You haven't really explained exactly how the project failed.

ACCOUNT

Your explanation of the project.

23. When he has to face a public performance, Charles panics.

FACED

Charles panics a public performance.

_____ / 7pts

Total: _____ / 15 pts