

Homeschooling Unit — Reading, Writing & Speaking

1. Reading Section

Text A: A Different Kind of School Day

Liam is a fifteen-year-old homeschooled student who enjoys the freedom to design his own learning schedule. Instead of waking up early for a school bus, he starts his day at 8:30 a.m. with a cup of tea and a short reading session. His mother, who is his main teacher, prepares weekly learning goals but allows him to choose the order of his subjects.

One thing Liam loves about homeschooling is the ability to learn through real-life experiences. For science, he often conducts experiments in the kitchen, such as testing how temperature affects yeast. For geography, he and his father go hiking to observe different landforms. Liam believes these hands-on activities help him understand concepts better than simply reading a textbook.

In the afternoons, Liam focuses on his favourite hobby: photography. He uses his camera to document his learning journey — from experiments to nature walks. He also edits his photos and uploads them to a blog he created to share his homeschool life with other students. Liam says that homeschooling has taught him to be independent, curious, and responsible for his own learning.

Reading Comprehension Questions

1. What is one advantage Liam enjoys about homeschooling?
2. How does Liam learn science in a practical way?
3. Why does Liam go hiking with his father?
4. How does Liam use photography in his learning?
5. What personal qualities has homeschooling helped Liam develop?
6. In your own words, explain why Liam prefers hands-on learning.

Model Answers

1. He enjoys the freedom to design his own learning schedule.
2. He conducts experiments in the kitchen, such as testing how temperature affects yeast.
3. To observe different landforms for geography.
4. He takes photos of his learning activities and uploads them to his blog.
5. Independence, curiosity, and responsibility.
6. Because practical activities help him understand concepts better than reading alone.

2. Writing Section

Short Writing Task

Describe a typical day in your homeschooling routine. Include one subject you enjoy and explain why.

Model Answer

I usually start my homeschooling day at 8:30 a.m. with English reading. After that, I work on maths and science. My favourite subject is science because I can do simple experiments at home, such as testing how plants grow under different light conditions. In the afternoon, I finish my homework and spend some time on my hobby, which is drawing. I enjoy homeschooling because I can learn at my own pace and choose the order of my subjects.

Long Writing Task

Your friend is considering switching to homeschooling but is unsure whether it is suitable. Write an email explaining three advantages of homeschooling and give examples from your own experience or imagination.

Model Answer

Dear friend,

I heard that you are thinking about homeschooling, and I'd like to share why it might be a good choice. First, homeschooling gives you a flexible schedule. You can study at your own pace and spend more time on subjects you enjoy. Second, you can learn through real-life experiences. For example, I often do science experiments in the kitchen or learn geography by going on nature walks. Finally, homeschooling helps you become more independent because you must plan your time and take responsibility for your learning. I hope these ideas help you make your decision.

Best wishes,

(Your name)

3. Speaking Section

Section A: Personal Topics

- Describe your homeschooling environment.
- What do you enjoy most about learning at home?
- How do you stay motivated when studying alone?

Model Responses

My homeschooling environment is quiet and comfortable. I study at a desk near a window, and I keep all my books and materials organised.

I enjoy the flexibility the most. I can choose the order of my subjects and take breaks when I need them.

To stay motivated, I set small goals for each day and reward myself when I finish them.

Section B: Picture-Based Prompts

Theme: A homeschooled student studying at a desk with a laptop, books, and a camera nearby.

1. Describe what the student is doing.
2. How is learning at home different from learning in a traditional school?
3. What challenges do homeschooled students face, and how can they overcome them?

Model Responses

The student is studying at a desk with a laptop and books. It looks like they are working independently at home.

Learning at home is more flexible, while traditional school has fixed schedules and larger classes.

Homeschooled students may feel lonely or distracted, but they can overcome this by joining study groups or following a daily routine.

Section C: Discussion Questions

- Should homeschooled students have more outdoor learning opportunities?
- How can technology improve the homeschooling experience?
- Do you think homeschooling encourages independence? Why or why not?

Model Responses

Yes, outdoor learning is important because it gives students real-life experiences and helps them stay active.

Technology improves homeschooling by providing online lessons, virtual labs, and educational videos.

Homeschooling encourages independence because students must manage their own time and take responsibility for their learning.