

## Is homeschooling better than studying at school?

What is most important and valuable about the home as a base for children's growth into the world is not that it is a better school than the schools, but that it isn't a school at all. ~ **John Holt**

I suppose it is because nearly all children go to school nowadays and have things arranged for them that they seem so forlornly unable to produce their own ideas. ~ **Agatha Christie**



### VIDEO:

#### Exercise 1 Watch the video and answer the following questions:

1. Why is homeschooling good?
2. Why is it bad?
3. What does the homeschool schedule look like?
4. Are the kids lonely?
5. Are they smarter than kids from public or private school?
6. Why do people homeschool?

#### Some interesting words and expressions from the video. Translate them:

cadaver -

a prayer -

a field trip -

to dissect -

martial arts -

#### Exercise 2 Complete the sentences using these words:

1. The parents and the kids always said a \_\_\_\_\_ before each meal.
2. There is a \_\_\_\_\_ in the **morgue** that is missing a liver.
3. You want to fight me, the master of \_\_\_\_\_?
4. Cutting into it with a knife, the biologist began to \_\_\_\_\_ the animal to look for disease.
5. The teacher took the children on a \_\_\_\_\_ to the zoo.

READING:

**Exercise 3 Read and complete the text using the words given in CAPITALS to form a word that fits into each gap.**

Have you ever heard of home schooling or home education? These days this form of educating one's children is gaining in 1) \_\_\_\_\_ (**POPULAR**) for instance in The United States of America or Australia. Some parents decide on taking their children out of public schools due to various reasons. The majority of them maintain that they are 2) \_\_\_\_\_ (**SATISFY**) with academic standards of teaching and they concern about the school environment. Safety and **versatile** development of their kids seem to be the most crucial things.

Either parents or private tutors pay their attention to individual needs of pupils and try to 3) \_\_\_\_\_ (**STRONG**) **innate abilities**. All the activities organized at full capacity are to maximize the best results during the final exams.

According to 4) \_\_\_\_\_ (**PSYCHOLOGY**), there are lots of advantages of home schooling. First of all, there is more space for individuality and unconventional methods of teaching. Parents themselves are more in control of the content their children need to **acquire**. Home guidance they receive can 5) \_\_\_\_\_ (**SUCCESS**) protect them from drugs, smoking, peer bullying and at the same time **enhance family bonds**.

On the other hand, opponents of home schooling claim that children do not have an opportunity to make friends with other pupils and frequently have their cooperation skills poorly developed. Moreover, education they can get at home may depend on their own parents' educational background. Some psychologists also **point out** that children may have difficulty fitting in society when they grow up. Because of insufficient teaching aids, normally available in public schools, children have limited access to diverse classes.

6) \_\_\_\_\_ (**INTEREST**), research done by Fraser Institute in Vancouver showed that pupils educated at home are more easy-going and **eager** to socialize. In fact, they pass exams better than their peers who study at public schools (in the range of 75 – 85%). One thing is for sure, home schooling requires a great deal of **ingenuity** and 7) \_\_\_\_\_ (**DEVOTE**). Whether it is a smart decision to teach children at home or not, it will always be in the centre of public attention.

(Source: <https://www.gettinenglish.com/home-schooling/>)

**Exercise 4** Read the text once again and find the advantages and disadvantages of homeschooling. Discuss them with the partner or with the teacher. Do you agree with them?

**VOCABULARY:**

**Exercise 5** Find the correct words in the text to the definitions:

- a) wanting very much to do or have something -
- b) to gain something by your own efforts, ability or behaviour -
- c) (of a person) able to do many different things -
- d) the ability to invent things or solve problems in clever new ways -
- e) to mention something in order to give somebody information about it or make them notice it -
- f) to increase or further improve the good quality, value or status of somebody/something -
- g) (of a quality, feeling, etc.) that you have when you are born -

**Exercise 6** Now use the words in an appropriate form to fill in the sentences below.

1. He's a \_\_\_\_\_ actor who has played a wide variety of parts.
2. While I am naturally shy, my sister has the \_\_\_\_\_ ability to charm everyone she meets.
3. How long will it take to \_\_\_\_\_ the necessary skills?
4. It didn't take much \_\_\_\_\_ to transform the door into a table.
5. I should \_\_\_\_\_ that not one of these paintings is original.
6. Everyone in the class seemed \_\_\_\_\_ to learn.
7. One of the best ways to \_\_\_\_\_ your vocabulary is by reading and discovering new words.

**Exercise 7** Replace the underlined words with words or phrases from the previous exercise:

1. The images have been digitally improved.  
\_\_\_\_\_.
2. He was a good boy, very friendly and always ready to help.  
\_\_\_\_\_.
3. Values are not inborn or inherited; they must be taught.  
\_\_\_\_\_.

**HOMEWORK:**

***Some people believe that teaching children at home is best for a child's development while others think that it is important for children to go to school.***

Write about the advantages and disadvantages of homeschooling and give your own opinion.

**These expressions can help:** *Firstly, Secondly, Thirdly..*

*Moreover, Furthermore, In addition, What's more..*

*However, On the contrary, On the other hand...*

*In conclusion, To summarise...*