

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

1123/22

Paper 2 Reading

May/June 2023

INSERT

1 hour 45 minutes

INFORMATION

- This insert contains the reading passages.
- You may annotate this insert and use the blank spaces for planning. **Do not write your answers** on the insert.

Passage 1*Online learning and classroom learning*

- 1 Recent advances in technology have made it possible for students to learn at home, using devices like laptops, tablets and smartphones, instead of going to school or university every day. It would be wise to consider carefully the advantages of both types of learning.
- 2 One advantage of online learning is that students can study in a place that is convenient for them; this might be at the kitchen table or in the living room or, for the lucky ones, their own room or study. Students can work at a time that suits them and are not confined to the set times of the school day. This is useful for students who work better in the early evening or even late at night. Travel time is eliminated too; walking, taking public transport or being driven to school takes time which can be used by students for pastimes or hobbies instead. Students really ought to be encouraged to unwind after their studies. And they can do this by playing sport, for example, or even by going to bed earlier to be fresh for the next day's learning! 5 10
- 3 Students can learn at their own pace as they progress through online work; there is no need to stop work because a bell has rung, and there is no pressure to keep up with others. The removal of time constraints is beneficial for many students who then have the chance to revisit, at a later point, aspects of learning which they have not completely understood. With online learning, they can do this as often as they like and in their own time. 15
- 4 Online learning provides opportunities for individual feedback at a time which is mutually suitable for both student and teacher, and this feedback can be tailored to the needs of the individual student. Good teachers always give feedback and opportunities for students to ask questions in a classroom setting, but large classes can sometimes make this difficult. Students who are shy about speaking out in class might feel empowered to engage in dialogue with their teacher in the more private setting online. Furthermore, in science, for instance, some experiments considered too dangerous for the school laboratory – such as those involving noxious fumes or dangerous elements like phosphorus or mercury – can be demonstrated more safely online. This shows the broader range of learning content which is available in the online classroom. 20 25
- 5 Classroom learning also has many advantages. Because teachers are physically present, they can identify immediately any problems students are facing. Classroom students can work more easily in groups so that they help each other in their learning. This ability to cooperate with others is a life skill that will have a beneficial impact on other aspects of the students' lives, for example in personal relationships and, later, in the world of work. Teachers should never underestimate the advantages of group work. Valuable feedback from other students, and not just the teacher, is easier to achieve in a classroom setting, and this feedback from someone their own age may have greater impact. 30 35
- 6 Classroom learning provides an important opportunity for students to socialise, whether during breaks or on the journey to and from school. No one can survive without friends, and there are many instances of lifelong friendships being formed in school. Schools also offer chances for extra-curricular activities, ranging from drama groups and debating societies to various sports clubs, all of which enhance the overall experience of school life. 40
- 7 The classroom environment comes with its own rules which are separate from those of the home, and obeying school rules encourages personal discipline which builds character and is useful in later life. After all, when they leave school, students will continue to encounter rules throughout their lives. Moreover, classroom students gain access to facilities which cannot be provided online, such as gyms and dance or yoga studios, and, of course, the joy of 'real' books in a school library. The learning environment of the classroom is generally more educationally stimulating than the kitchen, living room or study at home, with things like wall displays of students' work and study-related pictures and photographs. 45

Passage 2

Laurent

When Laurent left university, a life devoted to reading was his plan, but it had not worked out that way.

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he thought.

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