

1.

1 Read the interview. Choose the best title.

- a How to get good marks
- b International studies
- c Online learning

Amy is a student at an online school called InterHigh. We asked her about her school and studies.

Why do you go to InterHigh?

I didn't get good marks at my first secondary school. The teachers said I was lazy, but I wasn't. I was shy and I didn't like school.

When did you start InterHigh?

I started when I was 12, and now I'm 14. The teachers are kind and everyone is friendly. My marks are good and now I feel clever. It's a fantastic school.

How do you learn?

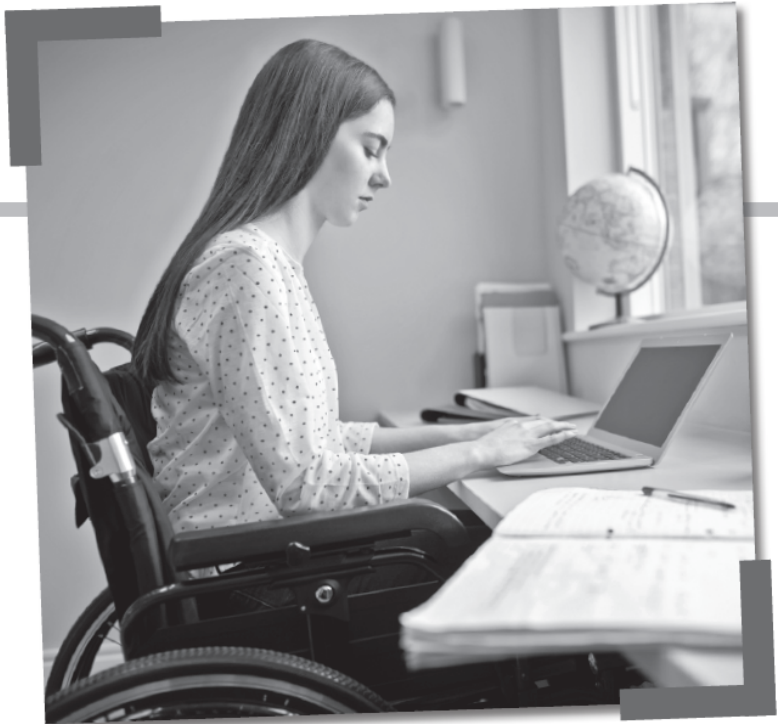
Classes are Mondays to Fridays. The teachers stream the lessons and I follow them on my laptop. It's like a normal lesson, but I'm at home. In the afternoon, I download my homework, look up any necessary information and upload it for the teacher.

Can you communicate?

Yes. I can ask the teacher questions and we discuss things in the lesson. I can chat with my friends and message them. We can even share our work online.

Do you meet your classmates?

There are 18 students in my class and they live all over the world, so it's difficult. I went to an InterHigh weekend last year in Ireland and met the teachers. It was awesome!



2 Read the interview again. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

Amy is a student at InterHigh. T


- 1 She was lazy at her first secondary school. ___
- 2 She likes her school now. ___
- 3 She never gets homework. ___
- 4 Amy can talk to her classmates during the class. ___
- 5 Amy can read other students' work. ___
- 6 She meets her friends from school at the weekend. ___
- 7 The students in Amy's class live in different parts of the world. ___

3 Match the definitions with words from the interview.

a number or letter to show how good someone's work is: mark

- 1 very good, cool: _____ and _____
- 2 a small computer that you can carry: _____
- 3 put information on another computer or on the internet: _____
- 4 talk about something with someone: _____
- 5 a student who is in the same class as you: _____

2.



SAVE THE ORANGUTANS!

Orangutans live in the forests of two islands in Asia – Borneo and Sumatra. They are at home in trees, they even sleep there. In fact, every night, they spend around ten minutes making a bed in a tree. Did you know they are the heaviest tree animal on our planet?

Today, there aren't as many orangutans as before because people are taking their **habitat**. They are **cutting down** trees for farmland. In 1900, there were about 230,000 wild orangutans. Today, there are only about 40,000. But a few organizations are helping them.

One of these is the Borneo Orangutan Rescue Centre. There are about 80 animals there. They have some adults, and a lot of babies with no parents. Most animals can go back to the forest in a different part of Borneo. But a few spend their life here.

Why are there babies without their parents? **Hunters** take young orangutans from their parents. They can sell them for a lot of money. This is a big problem. Luckily, people **rescue** the babies and take them to the centre.

What can we do to help the centre? You can **donate** money. A little can help these amazing animals. And if you have a lot of free time, you can work as a **volunteer** there in your holiday!

1 Read the blog post about an animal centre. What does the centre do?

2 Read the blog post again. Complete the sentences with a number or one or two words from the text.

Orangutans spend their lives in

trees.

1 It takes orangutans about _____ to get ready for bed.

2 In 1900, there were _____ wild orangutans. Today there are _____.

3 _____ animals stay at the centre all their life.

4 People take young orangutans from their families to _____ them.

5 People can help the centre by giving _____ or by working for free during their _____.

3 Complete the advertisement with the words in bold from the blog post.

Help our elephant nature park!

The Asian elephant's natural habitat is the tropical rainforest. However, their forest is disappearing because we're ¹ _____ trees. Every year ² _____ catch wild elephants and sell them. In our nature park we ³ _____ these animals and try to give them a better life.

How can you help? Of course, you can come here and work as a ⁴ _____ for a few days. Or please, ⁵ _____ some money – every little bit helps!

3.

- 1 Read the text. What type of text is it?
- a a personal blog
 - b a holiday brochure
 - c an article about extreme sports

Adventure breaks for teenagers

in the Black Mountains in Wales!

You're looking for adventure and excitement and you love taking **risks**, so come to the Black Mountains! Try going rafting, rock climbing, mountain biking, kayaking and caving. There isn't a boring moment at our centre.



I was really worried before we started caving. We climbed down a **hole** into a small cave. We were wearing **helmets** with **torches** and warm clothes. Then we turned off our torches. I was very pleased with myself. I'm usually afraid of the dark, but I loved it! I'm already excited about the next trip!' – Sofia



I can't believe I tried the gorge adventure! I'm delighted! Our instructor took us from Llangorse Lake up to the gorge, a deep narrow valley between the mountains. We climbed up to Loonies Leap and **suddenly** our instructor shouted, "Jump!". There was a river five metres below us. I was scared at first, but then I followed the others into the water. It was awesome! – Max



White water rafting was my favourite activity. Five people and an instructor were sitting in the raft with me. I didn't know them. We rafted 15 kilometres down the river. We fell into the water three times! It was really cold, but our **wetsuits** kept us warm. It was amazing! – Ezra



- 2 Read the text again. Choose the correct answers.

The centre offers holidays for ...

a young people.

b adventurous adults.

c excited children.

- 1 ... is not on the programme at the centre.

a Caving

b Surfing

c Rafting

- 2 The cave was ...

a wet.

b warm.

c dark.

- 3 Sofia was pleased because ...

a the cave was small.

b her torch was off.

c she's often scared in places like that.

- 4 Max and his group jumped into a ...

a waterfall.

b river.

c lake.

- 5 Ezra thought rafting was the ... activity.

a most boring

b coldest

c best

- 6 Ezra went rafting with ...

a six other people.

b some friends.

c just an instructor.

- 3 Match the definitions with the words in bold in the text.

a small electric lamp that you can carry in your hand torch _____

- 1 something that you wear over your body to keep you warm when you do water sports

- 2 means quickly and unexpectedly _____

- 3 something you wear on your head to protect it

- 4 an empty space in something solid _____

- 5 something dangerous _____

4.

1. Read the text and answer the questions below.

Google asks its workers to spend 20% of their time on a project they like. They call this *20% time*. The workers think of an idea and try to make it work. Amazing ideas such as Gmail, AdSense and Google News started from 20% time projects. So we know it works for Google, but what about schools? Is 20% time a good idea for school students, too?

Many schools in the USA use Google's idea of 20% time. The students choose a project, find the information they need and make or write something to show the class. They don't usually spend 20% of their time on the project, but teachers give them about an hour a week. They call this *Genius Hour*.

There are no textbooks for Genius Hour, and students can choose any idea for their project. It can relate to science, geography, maths or any other subject. The students love Genius Hour and they produce fantastic projects.

1. Why is 20% time good for Google?
2. Who chooses the projects in 20% time and Genius Hour?
3. What three steps do students do before they present their project to the class?
4. How often do students work on their projects?
5. What do most students think of Genius Hour?

2 Read the statements below and find sentences in the text to show they are true.

1. Workers at Google don't always work on official projects.
2. The idea for Genius Hour comes from 20% time.
3. There's more time to work on a 20% time project than a Genius Hour project.
4. Students can do a project on any subject they want.
5. The writer thinks that Genius Hour is a great idea.

5.

1. Read the text. Then complete the sentences with words from the text.

When teenagers feel bored, they usually chat with friends. But not Jacob Barnett. Jacob takes a whiteboard marker and does maths problems on the living room window. This unusual teenager is only 15, and he's already studying maths and physics at the prestigious Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics in Waterloo, Canada. That's extraordinary for any young teenager, but it's even more amazing for Jacob because he's autistic. Jacob's IQ is 170. That's higher than Einstein's!

Like most boys his age, Jacob also likes playing video games, watching TV and science fiction films. So in many ways he's like a typical teenager. But he's hard-working and does very unusual activities for his age. He enjoys playing classical music on the piano and he does this without any music notes. He especially loves maths and physics, but his favourite subject is astrophysics. According to Jacob, Einstein's Theory of Relativity isn't correct and he's working on a new theory to take its place. That's not bad for a 15 year old!

1. According to the article, bored teenagers
2. At home, Jacob writes maths problems on
3. At the Perimeter Institute, Jacob studies
4. Jacob enjoys watching films.
5. Jacob's favourite subject is

2. Answer the questions.

1. How old is Jacob?
2. What problem has he got?
3. Which genius with a lower IQ than Jacob does the text mention?
4. What musical instrument does Jacob play?
5. What is Jacob working on now?

6.

1. Read the text. Then find the information below in the text.

Everyone knows animals enjoy listening to music. But do you know some animals play music, too? At the Thai Elephant Conservation Center in Thailand, there's an orchestra with elephant musicians!

The Thai Elephant Orchestra started in 1997. Neuroscientist and musician Dave Soldier was one of the creators of the group. He saw that when the elephants heard music, they came close to listen. They also liked it when their trainers sang to them. So, he decided to design special instruments for the elephants to play. Originally, there were five elephant musicians, but now there are 14. They play marimbas, drums and xylophones. These instruments sound like traditional Thai instruments and the orchestra's music is very similar to Thai classical music. Sometimes, a conductor tells the elephants when to stop or start and sometimes they improvise, but all their music is original.

The orchestra made three albums of their music. They don't tour around the country because it isn't easy to transport 14 elephants. But you can hear their unusual live music at the Thai Elephant Conservation Center in Lampang, Thailand.

1. The creator of the orchestra:
2. The number of elephants in the orchestra today: ...
3. The instruments in the orchestra:
4. The type of music:
5. The place the elephants perform:

2. Answer the questions.

1. What did the trainers do to make the elephants happy?
2. What did Dave Soldier design?
3. How many elephants were in the orchestra in 1997?
4. What instructions does the musical director give the elephants?
5. Why does the orchestra stay at the Conservation Center?

KEY

1.

1

c

2

1 F 2 T 3 F 4 T 5 T 6 F 7 T

3

1 fantastic, awesome 2 laptop 3 upload 4 discuss
5 classmate

2.

1

The centre rescues orangutans.

2

1 ten minutes 2 230,000, 40,000 3 A few 4 sell
5 money, holiday

3

1 cutting down 2 hunters 3 rescue 4 volunteer
5 donate

3.

1

b

2

1 b 2 c 3 c 4 b 5 c 6 a

3

1 wetsuit 2 suddenly 3 helmet 4 hole 5 risk

4.

1

1. Because workers think of amazing ideas during this time.
2. Workers at Google choose the projects in *20% time* and students choose the projects in *Genius Hour*.
3. They choose a project, find information and then make or write something.
4. They work on their projects once a week.
5. They love it.

2

1. Google asks its workers to spend 20% of their time on a project they like.
2. Many schools in the USA use Google's idea of *20% time*.
3. Teachers give them about an hour a week.
4. Students can choose any idea for their project. / It can relate to science, geography, maths or any other subject.
5. They produce fantastic projects.

5.

1

1. usually chat with friends
2. the living room window
3. maths and physics
4. science fiction
5. astrophysics

2

1. 15
2. He's autistic.
3. Einstein
4. the piano
5. a new Theory of Relativity

6.

1

1. Dave Soldier
2. 14
3. marimbas, drums, xylophones
4. similar to Thai classical music
5. at the Thai Elephant Conservation Center in Lampang, Thailand

2

1. They sang to them.
2. the instruments for the elephants
3. five
4. when to stop or start
5. It isn't easy to transport 14 elephants.