

Lycée 1600 logements. Eucalyptus
Wilaya: Alger
Stream: Literature and Philosophy

PART ONE : READING (15 points)

Read the text then do the activities.

All children in the United States have to receive an education, but the law does not say they have to be educated at school. A number of parents prefer not to send their children to school. Children who are educated at home are known as “home-schoolers”. There are about 300,000 home-schooled children in the United States today.

David Guterson and his wife teach their three children at home. Guterson says that his children learn very differently from children in school. Learning starts with the children’s interests and questions. For example when there is heavy snowfall on a winter day, it may start a discussion or reading about climate, snow removal-equipment, Alaska polar bears, and winter tourism. Or a spring evening when the family is out watching the stars is a good time to ask questions about satellites and the space program. If the Brazilian rain forests are on the TV news, it could be a perfect time to talk about how rain forests influence the climate, how deserts are formed, and how the polar ice caps affect ocean levels.

Home-schooling is often more interesting than regular schools, but critics say that home-schoolers might find it difficult to mix with other people in adult life. Critics also say that most parents are not well qualified to teach their children. However, most parents don’t have time or the desire to teach their children at home, so schools will continue to be where most children get their formal education.

A/ Comprehension (7 pts)

1. Circle the letter that corresponds to the right answer..
 - The reading passage is about children who
 - a. refuse to go to school
 - b. are educated at home
 - c. go to public schools
2. Match each main idea with its corresponding paragraph.

MAIN IDEAS	PARAGRAPHS
a. Disagreement about the advantages of home-schooling .	1
b. Parents’ choice concerning their children’s education.	2
c. Learning at home closely related to daily life, events or to particular situations.	3

3. Are the following sentences True or False? Write “T” for true or “F” next to the sentence letter .
 - a. Education in the US is not compulsory.
 - b. In the US, children can be educated at home by their parents instead of going to school.
 - c. Parents teach their children in the same way as teachers do in school. .
 - d. According to critics children taught at home might become unsociable in adult life.
4. Answer the following questions according to the text .
 - a. What are American parents free to do in the field of education ?
 - c. Critics mention two negative aspects of home-schooling . What are they ?
5. Choose a title to the text. Circle the letter corresponding to the right option.
 - a. Education in the US
 - b. Private schools
 - c. Home-schooling

B/ Text exploration. (8 pts)

1. Find in the text words corresponding to the following definitions .
 - a. more than usual in amount (§2)
 - b. electronic devices that are sent into space and move around the earth or another planet. (§2)
 - c. the regular pattern of weather conditions. (§2)
 - d. people who express disapproval of something and talk about their bad qualities publicly (§3)
2. Give opposites to the following words keeping the same root.
 - a. educated b. qualified c. formal d. advantage
3. Put the verbs between brackets into their correct form;
 - a. Parents (have to/select) interesting topics going ahead with the school curriculum.
 - b. If you teach your child at home, he (not/get) on easily with others.
 - c. Few years ago, it (not be) difficult for parents to teach their children at home and do their work at the same time.
4. Complete the following conversation.

A:

B: In my opinion home-schooling is an inadequate way of teaching.

A:

B: Because of the absence of competition and reward, the child isn't always motivated .
5. Underline the silent letters.
 - a. could b. highly c. desert d. knowledge

PART TWO : WRITING (5 points)

Choose one of the following topics.

Topic one.

Your school English –language magazine is running a series entitled *Education Today*. You have been asked to write a 150- word article about home-schooling. The editor has asked you to :

- give your article an interesting title
- briefly summarize the way children learn
- comment on the positive and negative aspects of home schooling
- conclude by saying if home-schooling is more interesting than regular schools and what the prospects of home-schooling are .

Topic two.

John is David's friend. He heard that David is teaching his children at home. Mike wants to do the same with his children . He has sent a letter to David asking him a number of questions .

a. This is the letter he sent him. Read it carefully.

Aren't you teaching your children at home? My wife and I are thinking of doing the same with our son, Peter. Is it a successful experience? Do you conciliate between teaching your children and doing your work? Do your children respond to the lessons positively? Do they learn as many interesting things as those learnt at regular schools? Is it easy for them to mix with other children when on holiday? We have to decide as soon as possible Please help us to make a wise decision by telling us about your experience.
John.

b. Answer John's letter. Sign David.