B2 First for Schools

Optimise Academy B2

Workbook

with Digital Workbook

macmillan education

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Also includes App

1 Forever learning

READING Multiple matching | An article

▶ Student's Book, pages 10–11

1 **Read the article quickly. Match questions (1–4) with the paragraph (A–D) which gives the answer. Then answer the questions.**

1 How did learning from home become easier and more popular?

_____

2 Whose schools changed the way we teach young children? In what ways? _____

3 Why did this person's family oppose them? _____

4 Who worked to make school an obligation and why? _____

2 Exam **Read the article again. For questions 1–10, choose from the people (A–D). The people may be chosen more than once.**

Which person ...

1 did not start their own educational company to make money? ____

2 focused on the techniques used by teachers inside the classroom? ____

3 was unable to attend school at all when they were a child? ____

4 believed that children could acquire knowledge and skills independently? ____

5 expressed the belief that education also involved encouraging good behaviour? ____

6 was abandoned by relatives because of their actions and values? ____

7 wanted free education for all which was paid for by the government? ____

8 came up with a way of teaching in schools which is still widely in use today? ____

9 established something in direct response to a problem within their family? ____

10 shared the opinion with someone close to them that everyone was entitled to education? ____

3 **Find highlighted words and phrases in the article which match these definitions.**

1 a system where students learn from their teacher over the internet _____

2 set up a company or institution _____

3 bring someone up and educate them _____

4 thinking or behaving in a new or modern way _____

5 the practice of making people obey rules and behave properly _____

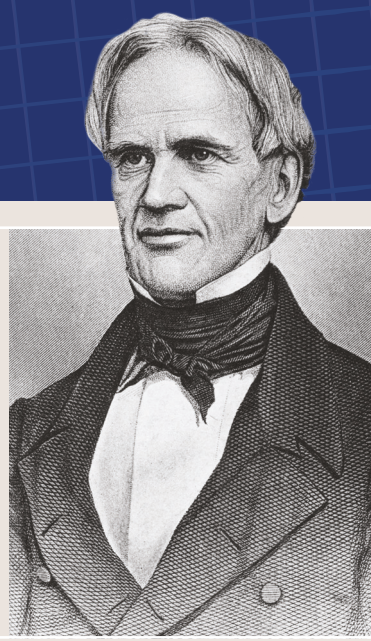
6 the way you do something or deal with it _____

7 a doctor who treats people with mental illnesses _____

8 a great change in conditions, ways of working, thinking, etc. _____

PIONEERS IN Education

Don't take your education for granted! Thanks to these four people, many of us now have access to free education both in the classroom and also online.



A **Horace Mann** Horace Mann, an American politician in the 19th century, believed that the best way to raise decent citizens was through a proper education. School should not only teach reading, writing and basic maths, but also moral values. Mann did not attend school regularly, so he taught himself at the town library. Remarkably, he went on to become the secretary of the Board of Education. Mann felt that everyone deserved the right to free education and expert teachers. He hoped to increase the school leaving age to 16, widen the range of school subjects and improve teachers' pay, although men went on to earn more than women. As for discipline, Mann worked on making school compulsory, achieving regular attendance and introducing the school bell in the US to make students arrive on time. Without Mann, imagine what school life would be like today!

B **Savitribai Phule** Savitribai Phule's fight for women's rights in the 19th century means that women in India now enjoy greater access to education. When Savitribai got married, she was still a child. Her progressive husband taught her to read and write because women were not allowed to go to school at that time. However, they both believed that schooling was a basic right, whatever the gender or social class. After qualifying as a teacher at 17, she established India's first school for girls in 1848 where girls could take subjects such as maths and science. Both Savitribai and her husband faced criticism because their views on educating girls were unpopular. People would throw mud, stones or rubbish at Savitribai when she went out, and they were even rejected by their own family and ordered to leave the family home. Despite everything, the couple ran 18 schools successfully and Savitribai's contribution to gender equality in India is celebrated today.

C **Maria Montessori** Maria Montessori felt that young children should be active in their lessons. Not originally interested in education, Montessori applied to study medicine, but she was turned down because she was a woman. Eventually, she managed to get a place and became one of Italy's first female doctors in 1896. She began working as a psychiatrist, but later became interested in education. She opened her first school in Rome and developed her own method, which she described as 'auto-learning'. Maria believed that children were naturally curious and with this in mind, she designed her own learning materials. She found that, if left alone, the children would choose one of the resources, play with it and learn for themselves. The Montessori approach is now used in thousands of schools all around the world. More than 100 years after Maria Montessori opened her first school, educators are still weighing up her ideas today and probably will do so for many years to come.

D **Salman Khan** This century, Salman Khan's Academy has had a huge impact on remote learning. It began in 2004, when Khan began helping his cousin Nadia who was struggling with maths. As they lived so far apart, Khan would teach her using a phone and a simple computer tool. It was a success and more relatives asked for this help. Khan started posting videos online so people outside the family could also benefit. These videos were the start of the Khan Academy which teaches subjects such as maths, science and history. This has brought about a revolution in education, where learners of all ages can take charge of their own learning rather than being told by a teacher, and all for free. Currently, more than 165 million people, based in 190 different countries and using 56 languages, are registered on this not-for-profit organisation; and these numbers are expected to grow.

1 GRAMMAR 1 Tenses (1): present / past simple, *used to, would, be / get used to*

▶ Student's Book, page 12 ▶ Grammar reference, Unit 1, Student's Book, page 139

Grammar video

1 **Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.**

1 I thought I _____ (**know**) the answer, but I'm not so sure now.
2 He lost marks because he _____ (**not complete**) all of the test.
3 I always _____ (**aim**) to get a good night's sleep before an exam.
4 Water is an unusual liquid because it expands when you _____ (**freeze**) it.
5 You're late! The bus for the museum _____ (**leave**) 10 minutes ago.
6 Where were you this morning? _____ (**you** / **forget**) about your lesson?
7 Carmen _____ (**look**) upset. I wonder if anything is wrong.
8 _____ (**you** / **recognise**) that man? I'm sure he's our old maths teacher.

2 **Complete the second sentence so it has a similar meaning to the first. Do not change the word given. Use two to five words, including the word given.**

1 When I was at school, we usually did chemistry experiments on Friday morning. **WOULD**
When I was at school, we _____ chemistry experiments on Friday morning.
2 They didn't like it at first, but now the new students don't mind wearing a school uniform. **GOT**
Eventually, the new students all _____ a school uniform.
3 The school that I go to teaches Japanese now. **DID**
The school that I go to _____ Japanese, but it does now.
4 He looks unhappy and I don't think he's adapting to his new school. **GETTING**
He looks unhappy and I don't think _____ his new school.
5 I think I know you. Were you a student at Huntingford High? **BE**
I think I know you. _____ a student at Huntingford High?
6 The older students work hard, but it doesn't bother them now. **ARE**
The older students _____ hard now.

1 VOCABULARY Working with words

▶ Student's Book, page 13 ▶ Vocabulary reference, Unit 1, Student's Book, page 152

1 **Choose the correct word. If both words are correct, choose the sentence.**

1 Guess what! I passed my driving test. I've got my **certificate** / **licence**! ☐
2 My grandfather left school at the age of 15 with no **degrees** / **qualifications**. ☐
3 How long did you **practise** / **revise** for your geography exam, Jack? ☐
4 It's hard to **pass** / **take** an exam when you're exhausted from studying all night. ☐
5 My economics **instructor** / **lecturer** has been at this university for over 20 years. ☐
6 I was late for training, so the **coach** / **instructor** told me to run around the track 10 times. ☐
7 When I was a science **graduate** / **undergraduate**, I spent a lot of time in the college lab. ☐
8 Of all the **pupils** / **students** in his art class, Mr Smith believed that Karen was the most talented. ☐

2 Complete the short texts with the correct form of the phrasal verbs below.

catch up with | come up with | creep up behind | dig up | end up | hurry up | look up | set up | speak up | use up

For my technology project, I needed to find out who first (**1**) _____ the idea for television. It wasn't easy to (**2**) _____ the answer online, because apparently a few different people had the same idea at the same time.

I couldn't hear the museum guide very well because she spoke so quietly. I was a bit shy and didn't want to ask her to (**3**) _____, so I (**4**) _____ leaving her tour and joining another one.

Paolo and I saw Sam in the library, and he and I decided to do something funny. 'Let's (**5**) _____ him and scare him!' Paolo suggested. 'OK, but we need to (**6**) _____ – I think he's about to leave,' I replied.

Harry did a lot of research and managed to (**7**) _____ a lot of information about the ancient Minoan civilisation of Crete. He wanted to print it and take it to school, but printing the first 20 pages (**8**) _____ all of the ink.

Ellie didn't go to school for a month after she broke her leg. But she (**9**) _____ the rest of the class without any problems. That's because her friends (**10**) _____ a study group, and each day two of them went to her house and helped her to study.

3 Match to make sentences. Use the words in italics to help you.

1 They're *bored* ____
2 He was *interested* ____
3 She *criticised* Tim ____
4 We *decided* ____
5 They're *experienced* ____
6 They can't *concentrate* ____
7 He didn't *pay attention* ____
8 We both *qualified* ____
9 She *succeeded* ____
10 There's nothing *wrong* ____

a) *to* the teacher and didn't know about the test.
b) *against* voting for Grace as class president and chose Luke.
c) *on* their homework if they're looking at their phones.
d) *in* chess and joined the local club.
e) *as* personal trainers and we are already working at a gym.
f) *with* working part time while you're a student.
g) *with* that song – let's listen to something else.
h) *in* preparing students for important language exams.
i) *in* passing all her exams; she was very pleased.
j) *for* not working hard on his part of the project.

1 GRAMMAR 2 Tenses (2): present perfect simple, past perfect simple

▶ Student's Book, page 15 ▶ Grammar reference, Unit 1, Student's Book, page 140

1 Complete the sentences with the present perfect simple or past perfect simple form of the verbs in brackets.

1 By the end of the day, Lucy _____ (**have**) seven different classes at college.
2 We _____ (**not meet**) the new chemistry teacher yet. I hope she's nice!
3 When I woke up this morning, my sister _____ (**already** / **leave**) for college.
4 I got to school and then I realised that I _____ (**not bring**) my gym gear with me!
5 I'm so excited! This is the first time I _____ (**speak**) to such a famous scientist!
6 I couldn't read the book because someone _____ (**draw**) funny pictures in it.
7 You're studying hard again. You _____ (**study**) until late every night this week!
8 '_____ (**they** / **prepare**) for the test?' 'Of course not. That's why they failed.'

2 Choose the correct word or phrase.

1 My uncle has had the same car **for** / **since** 20 years.
2 **When** / **By the time** the physics lecture ended, Harry had fallen asleep.
3 Sonia has **already** / **yet** competed in three maths competitions for her school.
4 My cousin hadn't **ever** / **never** done an experiment in a laboratory before.
5 He has applied to numerous universities but hasn't been successful **since** / **yet**.
6 **Once** / **Until** they had finished the exam, they were free to leave the classroom.
7 It's the third time I've called you. Where have you **been** / **gone** all day?
8 She left for university in 2024. **So far** / **Up to that point**, she had only lived at home.

▶ Student's Book, page 14

1 **Complete the table with the phrases below. One phrase can show agreement or disagreement depending on its use.**

I can't see why not. I know! I wouldn't go that far. Me neither! Mine too. No doubt about that.
Oh, I wouldn't say that. Oh, yes, totally! Sounds good to me. Yes, to some extent, I support.

Agreement	Disagreement	Partial agreement

2 **Complete the dialogue with the phrases below.**

me neither mine too not at all you can't be serious

A: That Zumba class was tough! I'm not as fit as I used to be.
B: (**1**) _____ ! I haven't got the energy to go swimming now. Would you mind if we just go home?
A: (**2**) _____ . I'll ask Win to pick us up outside the gym. Unless you'd prefer to walk ...
B: (**3**) _____ ! I can't even stand up!
A: No, I was joking. My feet are killing me!
B: (**4**) _____ !

3 1.01 **Listen and check your answers.**

4 1.02 Exam **You will hear people talking in eight different situations. For each question (1–8), choose the best answer (A, B or C).**

1 You hear two friends talking after a Zumba class. What do they agree to do?
- **A** go swimming after the class
- **B** walk home from the gym
- **C** leave the gym immediately

2 You overhear a boy talking on the phone about a judo club. Why is he talking to his friend?
- **A** to convince him to join the club
- **B** to remind him that he likes judo
- **C** to encourage him to get a black belt

3 You hear two girls talking about a driving lesson. What do they disagree about?
- **A** whether the driving lesson was boring
- **B** why she shouldn't drive on public roads
- **C** that she needs to be more confident

4 You hear part of an interview with a life coach. The man's involvement in the film was as
- **A** a trainer.
- **B** an adviser.
- **C** a life coach.

5 You hear a girl talking about a pet. What was the dog taught to do?
- **A** scare away other dogs
- **B** wait for his food quietly
- **C** carry things into the house

6 You hear two friends talking about a job. What do they agree about?
- **A** He will be the boss one day.
- **B** It takes time to be successful.
- **C** He should join the police force.

7 You hear a teacher talking about graffiti. Why will the students remove the graffiti?
- **A** They refused to reveal certain information.
- **B** They would rather do it than stay at home.
- **C** They have the necessary equipment.

8 You hear two boys talking about a survival weekend. What do they agree to do?
- **A** change their plans
- **B** make a decision later
- **C** go camping anyway

1 SPEAKING Collaborative task

▶ Student's Book, page 16 ▶ Speaking reference, Unit 1, Student's Book, page 165

1 **Choose the correct word or phrase.**

1 **A:** I think there's a lot to learn about history at an art museum.
B: Oh, **absolutely** / **really**!

2 **A:** I doubt students can learn much at a theme park.
B: **So** / **Neither** do I. It's just a place to have fun.

3 **A:** An adventure activity centre is a great place to learn new skills.
B: You've got **a point** / **right**, but not all students enjoy physical activity.

4 **A:** I think you can learn a lot about planets at a space museum.
B: Me **also** / **too**! It's the best place for that.

2 Exam **Complete the words in the dialogue. The first letter is there to help you.**

I'd say the internet is the best place to do research for your homework.

I'm sorry, but I (**1**) **d**_____ . There's too much wrong information online.

You're (**2**) **r**_____ about that, but (**3**) **d**_____ you think that if you're careful, you can find good information?

I (**4**) **s**_____ so, but I think it's better to use books from a library.

Well, I prefer using my computer and doing my research at home.

1 USE OF ENGLISH Key word transformation

▶ Student's Book, page 17 ▶ Vocabulary reference, Unit 1, Student's Book, page 152

1 **Complete the second sentence so it has a similar meaning to the first. Choose one word from below and any other words you need. Use two to five words and *-ing* forms where possible.**

1 | concentrate wrong |

a) I don't mind long lectures at university.
There _____ long lectures at university.

b) Graduates need to think closely about how to find good jobs.
Graduates _____ good jobs.

2 | experienced succeeded |

a) She has taught adult learners for many years.
She _____ adult learners.

b) I finally managed to pass my driving test!
I finally _____ my driving test!

3 | criticised interested |

a) He received criticism because he didn't encourage the students.
He _____ the students.

b) How many people want to learn a second language?
How many people _____ _____ a second language?

2 Exam **Complete the second sentence so it has a similar meaning to the first. Do not change the word given. Use two to five words, including the word given.**

1 First I read the book and then I saw the film. **HAD**
I _____ I saw the film.

2 My brother doesn't want to go to university. **AGAINST**
My brother _____ to university.

3 The new history teacher hasn't taught large classes before. **USED**
The new history teacher _____ _____ large classes.

4 Are you listening to what I'm saying? **ATTENTION**
Are you _____ what I'm saying?

5 This building is a hotel now, but before that, it was a library. **BE**
This building _____ a library, but it's a hotel now.

1 WRITING An essay

▶ Student's Book, pages 18–19 ▶ Writing reference, Student's Book, page 164

1 **Complete the table with the words and phrases below.**

as because for example
I would argue that In my opinion,
In my view, It seems to me since such as
that is This is why

Introduce an opinion
Introduce a reason or an example

'Online learning should replace traditional classroom learning.'
Do you agree?

While some people believe that online learning is the future of education, I would argue that traditional classroom learning is better for several reasons and should not be replaced completely.

In the traditional classroom, the teacher is there and available. It seems to me that this has many advantages. For instance, since the teacher can see their students' faces, they know immediately who needs help. I also think students are more likely to ask questions if there is a teacher in the room. Finally, the teacher can check that everyone is focused on the task.

In my view, the traditional classroom also has benefits for the students. For example, it creates a community, and students feel like they belong there. Being together in person encourages groupwork. This is why students become better at working together – a vital life skill. This type of learning also allows students to do things physically.

To conclude, I disagree with the idea that online learning should be used instead of traditional classroom learning. In my opinion, there are too many benefits, such as stimulating natural conversation, for this type of learning to be replaced.

2 **Read the essay. Does the writer agree or disagree with the statement?** _____

3 **Read the statement below. Then rewrite the sentences using the words and phrases in capitals to form the second paragraph of an essay.**

'Apprenticeships are a good idea for young people and for employers.' Do you agree?

1 Apprenticeships are a good thing for young people. They can learn practical skills. **BECAUSE**

_____

2 They also earn money. They can be more independent. **SINCE**

_____

3 Some young people want to start working or prefer to learn skills in a different way. Apprenticeships are a great solution. **THIS IS WHY**

_____

4 Doing an apprenticeship is a good idea. You get the qualifications you know employers want. **I WOULD ARGUE THAT ... AS**

_____

5 Apprenticeships help you get into employment more quickly. There is more opportunity to progress in your career. **IN MY OPINION**

_____

4 Exam **Write a third paragraph with some or all of the ideas below, or your own ideas. Include reasons and/or examples to justify them. Try to use the words and phrases from Exercise 1.**

- Apprenticeships can be adapted to specific roles in the company – great flexibility.
- Apprenticeships are an excellent way to recruit new staff – you get the skilled workers you need for the future.
- Employers can get funding and apprenticeships are a great way to attract people with new ideas to the company.
- Learning can be done in the workplace – no disruptions or interruptions, you can fit it in when it suits you.

_____

_____

_____

_____

1 Choose the correct word or phrase.

1 I **haven't seen** / **had never seen** a dinosaur before I went to the museum.
2 When Billy was younger, he **used to** / **would** live near his school.
3 Martha **didn't drive** / **hasn't driven** her car since the accident.
4 **Have you bought** / **Do you buy** the books for your course yet?
5 I didn't **use to take** / **used to taking** the bus to go to college.
6 In primary school, I had to wear a school uniform and I **have hated** / **hated it**!
7 Jeremy **has been** / **has gone** to the exhibition and he said it was great.
8 Did it take you long to **be used to** / **get used to** driving on the left?
9 It was the second time we **have spoken** / **had spoken** with the principal.
10 I turned off the lights, locked the door and then **had left** / **left** the lab.

2 Complete the short texts with the correct form of the words and phrases below.

certificate degree dig it up end up graduate interested in
lecturer licence pass succeed in undergraduate wrong with

1 A police officer stopped Frazer because he was driving too fast. He asked to see Frazer's _____, but Frazer didn't have one because he had never _____ his driving test. So Frazer _____ going to prison!
2 Max was _____ studying science, so he went to university and got a _____ in physics. Now he is one of the _____ at his old university and he teaches the _____ there.
3 To get a new passport, Grandpa needed his birth _____. He looked for it everywhere, but couldn't _____. Luckily for Grandpa, my father _____ finding it for him. It was hidden in an old book!
4 There's nothing _____ getting a job and not going to university. I mean, a lot of _____ can't find jobs anyway when they finish their studies.

Learning to Learn

Developing self-awareness

1 Choose the sentences that are true for you.

1 I find it difficult to express my thoughts and feelings. ☐
2 I sometimes feel stressed and anxious. ☐
3 I get frustrated and upset when things don't go well. ☐
4 I focus on the negative things about myself, not the positive. ☐
5 I often compare myself to other people. ☐
6 I enjoy spending quiet time alone. ☐
7 I know my strengths and weaknesses. ☐

2 Complete the sentences about developing self-awareness. Consider the answers you gave in Exercise 1.

Other people tell me that I am _____.

Three things I am grateful for today are:

1 _____
2 _____
3 _____

Two things that I'm going to do to help develop my self-awareness are:

1 _____
2 _____