Remote learning

Task 1

Which adjectives do you associate with each picture? Why?

productive	*fun*	*lonely*	*relaxed*	*collaborative*	*frustrating*
efficient	*enjoyable*	*easy*	*hard work*	*independent*	*reliable*

Write three positive and three negative things about each way of learning, e.g.

Remote learning is more relaxed because you can do it from your sofa.

Remote learning can be frustrating if the technology you are using doesn't work well.

Task 2: Class survey

Remote learning class survey

Read the questions and tick the best answer. Please give as much detail as possible.

1. **What type of learning did you do during lockdown?**

    Online classes with my teacher every day
    Online classes with my teachers every week
    Teachers sent me work every day which I had to complete at home
    Teachers sent me work every week which I had to complete at home
    Nothing
    Other (please give details)

2. **Over lockdown, do you think you learned:**

    more than usual?
    the same as usual?
    less than usual?
    Other (please give details)

3. **What were the best things about studying from home?**

4. **What didn't you like about learning from home?**

5. **What did you miss about face-to-face classes?**

Task 3: Listening

You are going to watch a video of Augustina, a 17-year-old student from Argentina, talking about her experiences of online learning. As you watch, make notes on these questions.

- Are there any similarities/differences between Augustina's experience of online learning and your own experience?
- What positive and negative things does she mention?

Task 4: Reading

Now you are going to read about remote learning in another country. As you read your text, tick which things it mentions.

1. Students doing final exams under different conditions from usual

2. Someone having to go into school to pick up worksheets

3. Having connection problems with online video lessons

4. Having to travel a long way to be able to receive lessons

5. Watching lessons on local TV

6. Schools not opening until September

7. Students already having the required technology

8. A lack of investment in schools means it is difficult for teachers to give support to students

9. The role of men and women in supporting home education

10. Not having to get up early

11. Students being able to get extra individual help when necessary

12. Going back to school part-time

13. Finding it harder to focus

14. Watching videos made by the teacher

15. Parents teaching children at home

Task 5: Discussion

After reading, tell your group:

- Which country was your text about?
- What type of remote learning took place?
- How similar to/different from your own experience was it? Why?
- Was there anything surprising in your text?
- Would you like to be at school in this country? Why (not)?

Task 6: Write a report

A report is a text which explains a situation, gives factual information and gives recommendations. Imagine that your school has asked you to write a report about your experiences of remote learning. In your report you should include:

introduction: Explain what the report is about.

your experience of remote learning: Did you do online lessons? Did you work on your own from home? Did you learn through TV or radio? Were you able to keep up with classes?

advantages: What was good or what did you enjoy about remote learning?

disadvantages: What did you miss about learning at school? What didn't work well?

recommendations: What would improve the situation if you had to return to remote learning in the future?

Part	Useful language
Introduction	*This report will outline/explain/evaluate …* *The purpose of this report is to evaluate/make recommendations/ reflect on …*
Experience of remote learning at …. (name of school) **Advantages** **Disadvantages**	*In general,* *Classes were …* *Students were able to …* *One advantage was …* *… was an improvement on regular classes because …* *On the other hand, …* *A major disadvantage was …* *Generally speaking, students felt/were …*
Recommendations	*In order to improve remote learning in the future, I would recommend …* (+ verb(ing) / noun) *The following changes would improve the situation …* *The best solutions would be …* *I'd strongly recommend …* (+ verb(ing) / noun)

Task 7: Register

Remember that a report should be a formal text. Look at the sentences below. Which is better for a report, a or b?

Introduction:

a. This report is about remote learning. I'll talk about what happened at my school and what was good and bad. Then I'll give some recommendations.

b. This report will outline the remote learning at St Paul's school, assess the positive and negative aspects of this remote learning and go on to give recommendations about how remote learning could be improved in the future.

Main section:

a. In general, the online classes provided by the school were effective. One major advantage was that students learned to organise their time more effectively, deciding when they wanted to study and when to take breaks. Many students commented that they appreciated this way of working as it made them more independent. Time management is also an important skill for the future.

b. The online classes were generally good. One good thing was that we could learn more independently and organise our own time. We were more independent, and this is important for the future.

Main section:

a. On the other hand, students reported that they missed face-to-face interaction with their classmates and teachers and sometimes felt isolated.

b. On the other hand, I missed seeing my classmates and teachers every day.

Recommendations:

a. It would be good to do more face-to-face classes online so that students can feel more connected and also so that they can ask their teachers questions if they have doubts.

b. In order to improve remote learning in the future, I would recommend offering more online classes so that students can feel more connected and are able to resolve doubts with their teachers more quickly.