

## Read the text and answer the questions

The defining feature of distance learning is that you do not need to attend the awarding university institution in person. This style of study is not new. The University of London established its external programme in 1858 to make the degree accessible to students who, for one reason or another, could not come to London to study, and it now offers a range of undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications to almost 24.500 students in over 157 countries around the world. Now, a growing number of other UK institutions are developing distance learning programmes to offer students the chance of studying without leaving home. Distance learning suits people for many different reasons. For Petrakis, “Family and financial circumstances prevent me from studying abroad for extended periods, but I could manage a couple of short visits”. For Teresa, “I now have two small children, it is impossible for me to attend University. I would, therefore, like to study at home”.

Finding the finance to study may be difficult, “Due to financial constraints; I could not further my education in any conventional way, and so I joined the bank, my present employer. My ambition is to improve my career prospects by obtaining a university degree”, said, George Morgan.

For some people whose job requires regular travel or irregular working hours, distance learning may be the only way to improve their qualifications and seek promotion. In most cases, students have choice of when to study and how quickly they progress through the programme.

Academic support given to a distance learning student varies from programme to programme and from institution to institution, however, the focus is on self-study. Students may receive basic academic guidance through specially written study guides. Many programmes provide an extensive range of materials including videos, computer disks and audio tapes. Some institutions have introduced programmes of study which can be delivered to a student’s home by internet.

Academic support is not the only support required. Without the support of family, colleagues and friends, studying for a qualification as an external student would be a great deal harder. John Chetcuti says “My wife’s support throughout all these years has been precious. Had it not been for her support when I was down in the dumps I probably would not have persevered to the end”.

**LANGUAGE ( 15 pts)**

**I- Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Use the Past simple, the Past perfect simple or the Past perfect continuous. (3 pts)**

1. When Jack .....(finish) his lunch, he ..... (sit) down to watch a film.
2. Sandra .....(go) to bed after she .....(phone) the office to say she was ill.
3. After I .....(work) for an hour, I .....(decide) to have a rest.

**II- Make passive sentences. Use the verbs and tenses in brackets at the end of each sentence. (3 pts)**

1. The Taj Mahal ..... around 1640. ( build ; simple past)
2. You .....by Dr Capel. (examine; future simple)
3. A Roman pavement .....under Oxford Street. (find; present perfect)

**III- Complete the sentences with the correct form of the phrasal verbs from the box. (3 pts)**

go for – go on – knock down – run away – live up to

1. The concert didn't .....my expectations.
2. I asked the children to stop shouting, but they ..... and on until I got cross.
3. The car .....her ..... and she broke her arm.

**IV- Circle the correct words. (3 pts)**

1. I'm a little *confusing* / *confused*. I thought your birthday was next month.
2. Have you heard the *surprising* / *surprised* news about Alice and Ted?
3. My exam results were a little *disappointed* / *disappointing*.
4. She's *boring* / *bored* of her job. She's looking for another.
5. The book I am reading is *interesting* / *interested*.
6. Satoru was *shocked* / *shocking* to hear about the earthquake.

**V- Use the words in capitals at the end of each sentence to make words which fit in the spaces. (3 pts)**

1. .... rains caused a series of landslips, carrying away houses and breaking up the hill railway. **TORRENT**
2. Baseball players wore ..... helmets for the first time in June of 1938. **PROTECT**
3. He says it is not ..... for a woman to travel alone. **SAVE**

**COMPREHENSION ( 15 pts)**

**I- Are these sentences True or False? Justify. (3 pts)**

1. The University of London started developing distance learning programmes in the 19th century.  
.....

2. The internet is used to mail distance learning materials to students.  
.....

3. Distant learners need only the academic support.  
.....

**II- Answer these questions. (4 points)**

1. Why was it more convenient for Teresa to take a distance learning programme?  
.....

2. Why does Morgan wish to get a university diploma?  
.....

3. What type of teaching materials do distance learning programmes prepare for their students?  
.....

4. Whose help was essential to John Chetcuti?  
.....

**III- Find in the text words or expressions that mean the same as: (4 points)**

1. degrees or diplomas ( paragraph 1): .....

2. demands (paragraph 3): .....

3. assistance ( paragraph 5): .....

4. of great value ( paragraph 5): .....

**IV- Pick out from the text sentences or expressions which show that : (2 points)**

1. Petrakis is unable to go to university abroad.  
.....

2. Programmes of distance learning give a variety of learning materials.  
.....

**V- What do the underlined words in the text refer to? (2 points)**

1. It ( paragraph 1): .....

2. They ( paragraph 3): .....

