

Inter... the
you
with your language
learning? If so what
do you use it for?

B. Read the text quickly and choose which title *a*, *b* or *c* is the most appropriate for the text.

a English is all around us!

**b No more pencils, no more books,
no more teachers' dirty looks!**

c Learning English with new technology!



Today, many computer experts claim that traditional language learning methods used in classrooms will gradually be replaced by newer methods. Some of these new methods include e-learning, attending virtual classrooms, using tandem e-mail and using interactive CDs.

E-learning is short for electronic learning and, as the name suggests, it means any kind of learning environment which is electronic. On the Internet there are countless sites dedicated to language learning. These include worksheets you can download, interactive games, puzzles, quizzes and so on.

It is also claimed that a day may come when we will no longer have to go to class. Instead, we will sit in front of the computer, log on from home, and 'meet' our teacher and other learners in a 'virtual' classroom. Although this type of learning environment is quite similar to the traditional classroom, it makes the learner far more independent and flexible. The teacher, or moderator, encourages the language learner to analyse what and how he or she wants to learn and then helps him or her to achieve those ends. Virtual classrooms can use all the online resources available and usually use a type of chat room to practise oral communication.

Another new method of language learning is tandem e-mail. Tandem learning means learning with a partner who is a native speaker of the language you are learning, but who is also learning your native language. In tandem e-mail, you and your partner exchange e-mails written half in the one language and half in the other. In this way, both you and your partner are reading and writing in the 'foreign' language. Tandem e-mail exchanges provide a very fast, immediate way of communicating. It is 'real' communication with a partner who is about the same age and may have the same interests.

Finally, there are interactive language learning CDs which offer a range of benefits. Learners can work at their own speed and can repeat vocabulary and phrases as often as they wish. Conversations are spoken by native speakers, which helps with pronunciation. CDs use a range of media; short film clips of typical scenes and situations, music, interactive quizzes and much more.

So are the days of the traditional classroom numbered? Will the teacher be unnecessary? It is unlikely. However, the new media will play an increasingly important part in all learning and will complement traditional English teaching rather than replace it entirely.

C. Read the text again and decide if the following statements are true, false or not mentioned.
Write T, F or NM in the boxes.

- At the moment, there are not many sites on the Internet for language learning.
- A teacher will still be needed in virtual classrooms.
- In the virtual classroom, the students decide which areas of language learning they want to focus on.
- In tandem e-mail, both students are learning the same language.
- Of all the methods mentioned in the text, interactive CDs are the most effective way of learning.
- The writer believes that teachers will not be necessary in the future.

Real World

Fill in one word in each space to complete the text.

The media tends to promote stars who are already successful. However, the Internet does a great job of promoting new singers that we otherwise might not even have heard (1) at all. This is very positive as it gives hope to young people with talent and encourages them not to (2) up on their dreams.

The media is also responsible (3) creating an image of celebrities as role models, even if they are not so talented or behave badly. They may (4) millions of dollars, but surely that is not a good enough reason for writing stories about their private lives. Websites and magazines (5) particular tend to focus on these types of stories, although they do appear (6) TV shows, on the Internet and even (7) newspapers. In my view, this is negative as it leads (8) the promotion of celebrities who are not good role models at all.



2 Choose the correct word to complete the sentence.

- 1 There was traffic today than yesterday.
- 2 What is the government doing to help ?
- 3 Thanks a lot. You've been helpful.
- 4 She talked to me
- 5 My little sister is the same age yours.
- 6 The teacher shouted at the boy.
- 7 Do you need any information?
- 8 She has spoken to him since the argument.
- 9 It's cold to go to the beach today.
- 10 'Do they go away at weekends?' 'Yes, they'
- 11 Is your brother than you?
- 12 Their new song sounds
- 13 This new game isn't as as we thought it would be.
- 14 Peter is very careful and mistakes.

1 a less

2 a the unemployed

3 a more

4 a friendly

5 a as

6 a loud

7 a farther

8 a hard

9 a much too

10 a do usually

11 a elder

12 a wonderful

13 a good

14 a makes rarely

b least

b the unemployed people

b most

b in a friendly way

b with

b loudly

b further

b hardly

b too much

b usually do

b older

b wonderfully

b better

b rarely makes

3 Fill in the correct form of the word in capitals.

- 1 A new generation of have become famous through the Internet.
- 2 People are quite interested in the lifestyles of well-known
- 3 *The Beatles* are probably the most band of all time.
- 4 Jake is always playing new hip hop songs.

ART

CELEBRITY

SUCCESS

TREND

4 Put the words in the correct order.

1 gold / ancient / beautiful / ring

a(n)

2 new / impressive / red / car

4 blue / pretty / Italian / dress

a(n)

5 American / horror / exciting / film