

Interpreting and analysing information



Sometimes, the words or phrases given in a question are expressed differently in the text. When we come upon these type of questions, we need to:

- Read the question. Look for words or phrases that hint at what the answers are.
- Look for words and phrases in the text with similar meanings as the hints in the question.

Let's look closer!

(i) *promoted as a healthier alternative* = soft drink companies said that they would not damage people's health

In recent years, there has been a shift in people's drinking habits. Sugar-free soft drinks, which are sweetened using artificial sweeteners rather than sugar, were first promoted as a healthier alternative to regular soft drinks. This encouraged people to consume more soft drinks, as they thought the sugar-free version would not do them any harm. Today we know that people who drink excessive amounts of sugar-free drinks run the risk of becoming overweight and developing diseases such as Type II diabetes.

DSE 2022 Part A Q7 Gap filling

(iii) **overweight** = gained too much weight

(ii) *excessive* (adj.): more than is good for you

e.g.

When sugar-free soft drinks first arrived in the market, soft drink companies said that they would not damage people's (i) health. Some people believed this and felt it was safe to drink (ii) more than they should. As a result, they gained too much (iii) weight and became ill.

(ii) **no more than 20 minutes** = not over 20 minutes

(i) *spend time outdoors* = take the child outdoors

There has been a significant increase in the number of Hong Kong children diagnosed with myopia, a condition in which people cannot see far objects. To reverse this trend, doctors suggest that children spend time outdoors as natural light has been found to help prevent myopia. Besides, experts suggest that children use phones for no more than 20 minutes at a time. Lastly, when children are doing homework or reading, the room should be lit properly. These ensure that their eyes are not strained.

(iii) Make sure the room is lit so that the child does not read in the dark.

DSE 2020 Part B1 Q27 Table completion

e.g.

Guide to preventing myopia	
Problem	Solution
The child stays at home all the time.	Take the child (i) <u>outdoors</u> .
The child plays with his or her phone for hours at a time.	Ensure that the child does not spend (ii) <u>over</u> 20 minutes on the phone at a time.
The child reads in a (iii) <u>dark</u> room.	Switch on the lights.

Let's practise!

In recent years, some employers have complained about young workers' problem-solving skills and their inability to complete work independently. Parenting experts mentioned that many of these young people's parents have never taught them to do housework on their own when they were still children. Instead, everything was done by helpers. When these young people have grown up, they lack the ability and knowledge to work independently. When they encounter difficulties at work, they often give up and complain about their troubles, rather than thinking of solutions.

DSE 2022 Part A Q7 Gap filling

- 1 Complete the summary based on the information in the text by writing ONE word taken from the text in each blank below. Your answers must be grammatically correct.

Young workers have been blamed for not being able to (i) _____ problems and not being (ii) _____ at work. People knowledgeable in the matter believed that others (iii) _____ them to do everything during their childhood. As a result, when they have become adults, they do not (iv) _____ how to complete tasks. When they faced problems at work, they would (v) _____ about their experiences rather than trying to find solutions.

Exam Booster

It is important to maintain good study habits, so that we can study effectively.

Do not study for lengthy periods of time. Doing so will reduce your ability to focus. Study sessions should be two hours at most. When switching to studying another subject, it is best to rest for five to fifteen minutes first. This can help your brain reset and improve your effectiveness.

Have you ever found studying so boring that you do not want to continue? Set a study goal. When you have reached that goal, you can reward yourself. This can be eating your snack or watching a few minutes of TV. Research has shown that rewarding yourself can be great motivation for you to keep studying.

DSE 2020 Part B1 Q27 Table completion

- 1 Using the information in the text, complete the following table. For each gap, use ONE word taken from the text. Your answers must be grammatically correct.

Issue	Cause	Solution
Unable to focus	Revising for too (i) _____	Having a (ii) _____
Feeling unmotivated	Feeling too (iii) _____ to keep studying	Giving yourself a (iv) _____