

ACADEMIC PRACTICE TEST 1

Listening Section 1

Questions 1-10

Questions 1-5

Complete the notes below

Write NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER for each answer.

<i>Example</i>	<i>Answer</i>
<i>Accommodation:</i>	<i>Red River Lodge</i>

Arrival date: **1.** September _____

Accommodation type: **2.** _____

Train departure time: **3.** _____ pm

Ticket cost: **4.** \$ _____

Train departs from: **5.** _____
Station

Questions 6–10

Complete the table below

Write NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER for each answer.

Cardholder's name: Barbara G.

6. _____

Visa card number: **7.** _____

Expiry date: March 2025

Train arrival time: **8.** _____ pm

Fishing equipment and **9.** _____ provided.

Lake tour cost: **10.** \$ _____

Listening Section 2

Questions 11-15

Complete the sentences below.

Write NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS for each answer.

Lee's Summit is located in a city in the **11.** _____ of the United States.

The suburb is keen on maintaining its link to **12.** _____.

The central downtown part of Lee's Summit was originally called **13.** _____.

Lee's Summit marks the **14.** _____ on the train journey between Kansas City and St Louis.

After the American Civil War, large numbers of people migrated to the area from the **15.** _____.

Questions 16-20

Chose the correct letter, A,B, C or D.

16. Why is Lee's Summit special?

- A. It has changed so much
- B. It appreciates its past
- C. It is a small town
- D. It is very old

17. Who established the town that became Lee's Summit?

- A. Robert E. Lee
- B. Pleasant Lea
- C. Cole Younger
- D. William B. Howard

18. St. Louis is well known for its...

- A. food
- B. monument
- C. music
- D. rail line

19. Cole Younger was a popular...

- A. criminal
- B. soldier
- C. policeman
- D. businessman

20. Who helped Harry S. Truman become an American President?

- A. Pat Metheny
- B. Tom Pendergast
- C. R.A. Long
- D. J.J. Pryor

Listening Section 3

Complete the sentences below.

Write NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS AND/OR A NUMBER for each answer.

Questions 21-30

21. Meaning of social media: anything on the internet that lets us perform a _____.

22. Businesses and organizations utilize social media to handle tasks such as _____ and _____.

23. Businesses have focused their marketing efforts away from _____ toward social media.

24. _____ regarding social media is better than older search techniques.

25. Companies and organizations spend many millions on social media _____.

Choose the correct letter, A, B or C.

26. What is Holly confused about?

- A . The relationship between social media and marketing.
- B. How to ensure that her assignment data is up-to-date.
- C . Ways that she can profit from her social media footprint.

27. How does Jessica feel about studying social media marketing?

- A. confused
- B. disappointed
- C. bored

28. Why is it possible for some essays to be handed in after the deadline?

- A. The personal circumstances of a student might justify an exemption.
- B. A one-week extension has been granted to some advantaged students.
- C. The assignment due date that was originally announced was incorrect

29. How does Dr. Ross summarise the advantages of social media marketing over search methods?

- A. It is more reliable and not as costly.
- B. It is more expensive but yields better results.
- C. It is sometimes unreliable but is much cheaper.

30. What proportion of companies have a social media marketing presence?

- A. 85%
- B. 70%
- C. 80%



Listening Section 4

Questions 31-40

Complete the table as you listen. WRITE NO MORE THAN TWO WORDS FOR each answer.

Time Period	Development	Impact
1971	Project Gutenberg publishes first digital document	Receives little attention. Internet use restricted mainly to university 31. _____
1980's	Some newspapers and magazines 32. _____ CD ROMs	Limited readership. Used for storage of archival material and old editions
Early 1990's	Number of internet users soars. First electronic books (e-books) obstacle to appear	Commercially unsuccessful 33. _____ are on sale
Late 1990's	E-bookstores. First 34. _____ released	Little demand. Many people find them difficult to use.
2006	Japanese company brings out an e-reader with a screen that resembles paper.	Sales do not reach anticipated levels. E-reader and online bookstore are not user-friendly
2007 and after	American online book retailer releases its own e-reader	Sales of e-books begin to grow. Publishing books becomes cheaper
Modern day	Device 35. _____ the features of the Japanese companies e-reader but is easier to use and more appealing to readers.	Easier, attracting interest from writers.

Choose the correct letter, A, B or C.

36. Why did the speaker turn to self-publishing?

- A) It offered a financially fairer deal for him than traditional publishing.
- B) He wanted to increase sales of his books and reach a wider audience.
- C) Too many traditional publishers had turned down his books.

37. What kind of assistance does the speaker get from interacting with his readers?

- A) Advice on possible directions his stories could take.
- B) Encouragement to pursue writing his stories to completion.
- C) Opinions/Feedback on the editorial changes made to his stories.

38. What does the speaker believe is the main reason why people plagiarize other writers' work?

- A) They see an opportunity to make money easily.
- B) They have a desire to gain the admiration of others.
- C) They understand the difficulties of proving plot or text ownership.

39. Which can be a problem with bringing legal proceedings against those suspected of copying or stealing the work of others?

- A) The copied or stolen work is not published under the plagiarist's real name.
- B) The copied or stolen work is released in a country different to that of the plagiarized author.
- C) The copied or stolen work is cleverly disguised by the plagiarizing writer using different techniques.

40. According to the speaker, why do traditionally published authors lack respect for the self-publishing industry?

- A) Self-published books need to be publicized by their authors to achieve sales.
- B) Self-published books were usually rejected by traditional publishing companies.
- C) Self-published books are rarely reviewed and their authors don't win any literary awards.

Reading Passage 1

You should spend about 20 minutes on questions 1-13 which are based on The Reading Passage 1 below.

LONDON'S SUCCESSFUL SUBTERRANEAN SUBWAY SYSTEM

In London, the best way to get from point to point is to take the tube, boasting 11 lines and carrying approximately 1.34 billion passengers per year. It is the world's eleventh busiest metro system and was ground-breaking both in concept and construction at the time of its first proposal and development, becoming the world's very first underground railway. From humble beginnings back in the 19th century, the system now runs 402km of lines (55% over-ground interestingly) serving 270 stations. The idea of an underground railway system was first proposed in the 1830s, with the very first line opening in January 1863, and more recently London Underground celebrated 150 years of operations in 2013.

One of the standout positives of this form of rapid transport is that it is much faster than taking the public bus, and much cheaper than taking the iconic but costly black cabs. Possibly the most famous transport system in the world is the London Underground system, with its miles of lines, distinct sounding station names and the characteristic tube map. The schematic Tube map, designed by Harry Beck in 1931, was voted a national design icon in 2006.

The system's first tunnels were built just below the surface using the cut and cover method, which is a relatively simple process of construction for more shallow tunnels where a trench is excavated and roofed over with an overhead support system strong enough to carry the load of what is to be built above the tunnel. Whilst being comparatively cheap and straightforward, a major disadvantage of cut-and-cover is the widespread disruption generated at the surface level during construction.



This, and the availability of electric traction, brought about London Underground's switch to bored tunnels at a level much lower towards the end of the 19th century. These circular tunnels – which give rise to its nickname 'the Tube' – were dug through the London Clay at a deeper level.

There are numerous hidden lines, strange uses and disused stations down there under London. It is a labyrinth down there of lines – both in use and not in use. For example, the postal system uses special lines that are not well known about, but are in fact a very efficient way of moving both parcels and letters around.

One of the reasons for the success of this modern day metro is in the simplicity of its ticketing system, which is a ticketing system that is thankfully straightforward to use in London. Locked in with the London Oyster Card system whereby one can top up their Oyster travel cards, it is very much a user-friendly concept, widely praised by commuting Londoners and travelling tourists. A day pass or a week pass is the most affordable, efficient, and practical way for tourists to get around London. Simply handover your payment for your travel card and you can get from The British Museum to Hyde Park to Wembley Stadium even if you don't know the city's layout.

Unfortunately, the system is not perfect as it does suffer from some unpleasant socio-economic aspects that offset the obvious benefits. Primarily there is the issue of strikes, which are highly frustrating and annoying to those affected at the time. Many travellers have been in London and suffered from this before trying to attend a football game or a theatre show when a city wide strike was in operation. It is at these times, that London really struggles, and folks of all walks of life struggle to get to their destination using other modes of transport on those days.

Getting lost on these subway systems is another secondary imperfection on the lines as they can be hard to navigate for those unaccustomed to using them, which tends to affect the tourists much more than the local citizens. There are maps, of course, but they can often look like a plate of spaghetti for those not familiar with using them.

Being a very well used system – one of the fundamental problems is over-crowding on the trains and platforms – in particular during rush-hour. So how can we ease congestion and make it train travel a less stressful experience for commuters? This may be achieved through extending the hours of usage (which at times is limited), or alternatively increasing the frequency of the trains themselves, and of course in the construction of brand new lines. In addition, phone signal and WIFI access are next in line to drag the system screaming and kicking in to the modern techno-focused world. Substantial fund investment has been committed and numerous research projects commissioned by major telecommunications companies to accomplish this latter issue.

Questions 1-7

Do the following statements agree with the information given in the reading passage?

In boxes 1–7 on your answer sheet write:
TRUE if the statement agrees with the information
FALSE if the statement contradicts the information
NOT GIVEN if there is no information on this

1. The design of London’s metro system was based on other busy metros.
2. The system is mostly underground.
3. In the original tunnel construction process, ditches were dug and then covered with load-supporting structures.
4. UK government departments readily provide citizens with information about all the unusual uses of the Tube.
5. Tube strikes sometimes happen when metro workers stop work to demand more free time.
6. London Underground maps are difficult for non-residents to use.
7. Today, the London Underground is attractive to fans of communication technology.

Questions 8-13

Complete the notes below.

Choose **ONE WORD** from the passage for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes 8-13 on your answer sheet.

The Tube is arguably the most **8.** _____ commuting scheme on Earth.

The **9.** _____ of the underground system won a national award more than 70 years after was created.

The Tube plays an effective, if very low profile role as a part of the **10.** _____ service.

Purchasing a **11.** _____ for a short, fixed period is the best subway option for holiday visitors to the U.K.’s capital.

An immediate priority for London’s subway is to reduce **12.** _____, thereby making city journeys more pleasant.

There has been major **13.** _____ in the modernisation of electronic communication facilitation due to the involvement of key corporations in this field.

Reading Passage 2

You should spend about 20 minutes on Questions 14-26 which are based on The Reading Passage 2 below.

THE BOOM IN THE BIKE-SHARING BUSINESS

A

The boom in smartphones and associated development in apps has seen an added boost for the bike sharing business. Bike sharing itself as a usable concept has been around since the mid-60s in Europe, but the relatively recent information technology explosion from the middle of the 2000s has made it a genuinely viable format that is more practical nowadays across the board.

B

The practicality of these bikes now provides the last piece of the jigsaw puzzle for many commuters, being cited as the way to solve 'the last mile' problem when connecting people from the public transport network to both home and the workplace. In addition, these programs appeal to tourists as well as local citizens. As one of China's larger cities and a very popular tourist destination, Hangzhou was pro-active in creating what was at one time the largest bicycle sharing system in the world.

C

Community bike programs and smart bike programs alike can be seen, with the former being organised by locally community groups and/or non-profit groups, and the latter being implemented by government agencies often in partnership with private enterprises. The fundamental aim of these systems is to provide affordable access to bicycles for short-distance trips in cities and towns as an alternative option to vehicle public transport or



private cars, thus easing traffic jams and congestion, noise pollution, and nasty emissions.

D

Theft of one's own personal bike is a primary concern for most users who have switched over from riding their own bike to the shared bikes on offer. In addition, vandalism and damage, concerns regarding upkeep, safe storage and safe parking are contributing worrying factors for the common cyclist. Other driving factors are of course primarily economic, time-saving, health / fitness, and the ever looming environmental reasons.

E

Government funding, charitable sources and advertising are the three commonly used methods to support community bike sharing projects as they are mostly unable to fund and support themselves using the available revenues of membership subscription and other user. There are various ways to implement these schemes based on one or more options. These include being unregulated whereby bikes are released into a given area for use by anyone. That given area could be a city or more typically an enclosed organisation such as a large company site or a university campus. The massive disadvantage here is that the bikes are often simply not available and the loss rate of the bicycles is very high owing to a lack of locks, security and user identification. A deposit-based system releases the bikes from a designated terminal and that deposit can only be retrieved by returning the bike to another official terminal. Again, loss of bikes is a serious issue as the deposit to cost of bike ration is unbalanced and so does not deter bike theft.

F

The membership structured approach has shown to be more effective, and the key within the system here is the member must register their authorised identity and a valid credit card to be allowed to have access to the bikes. If the bike is not returned within the subscription period, or returned with significant damage, the bike sharing operator withdraws money from the user's credit card account. A system has been developed whereby a member need not return the bike to a kiosk; rather, the next user can find it by GPS.

G

Bike-sharing systems have undergone a plethora of changes which can be categorised into three key phases, or generations. These include the first generation, called white bikes (or free bikes); the second generation of coin-deposit systems; and the third generation, or information technology (IT) based systems. The technological and operational improvements of recent years are also paving the way for a probable fourth generation, known as the demand-responsive, multimodal system. E-bikes are the proposed next benefactor of a potential fifth generation as both software and hardware technologies continue to advance.

H

The popularity of these schemes comes with a price. In March 2017, for example, Beijing saw well over 200,000 bikes entering service. The bikes are accessible via an app, and cost 1 RMB per hour plus a refundable damage deposit of a few hundred RMB. In April 2017, the government in Beijing is requesting a temporary ban on the introduction of new shared bikes as serious issues with the sheer volume of bikes on the streets, bikes in parking stations and bikes left scattered around the city is becoming an issue to resolve in itself.

Questions 14-19

Reading Passage 2 has eight paragraphs, **A-H**

Which paragraph contains the following information?

Write the correct letter, **A-H** in boxes 14-19 on your answer sheet.

NB You may use any letter more than once.

- 14** Sources of finance for schemes that do not directly charge users.
- 15** An instance where unrestrained introduction of schemes led to serious problems.
- 16** The provision of the long-awaited missing link in the typical commuting chain.
- 17** The catalyst for this seemingly simple transport option to become more practical.
- 18** The inadequacy of requiring riders to pay a small refundable fee before use.
- 19** The differences marking the development of the underlying technology.

Questions 20-23

Look at the following statements (Questions 20-23) and the list of different bike-sharing schemes below.

Match each finding with the correct bike-sharing scheme, A-E.

- 20** Proved effective half a century ago without the use of modern technology.
- 21** Requires payment but still suffers from a high rate of bicycles being stolen.

- 22** Became so popular that tight controls had to be established.
- 23** Are sometimes unregulated as long the riding area is restricted.

Letter	Types of bike-sharing schemes
A	Deposit reliant
B	Approved by Beijing municipality
C	Community based
D	Provided by the city of Hangzhou
E	European

Questions 24-26

Complete the summary below.

Choose **ONE WORD ONLY** from the passage for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes 24-26 on your answer sheet.

THE TWO-WHEELED RIDE-SHARING REVOLUTION

Recent technological advances mean urban bike-sharing schemes, once limited and somewhat unrealistic, are now without a doubt **24** _____ appealing for both commuters and tourists.



Cyclists who opt for public bikes say goodbye to worries about **25** _____, storage or unintended damage. Free and deposit-based systems

have given way to third generation IT-based schemes, while demand responsive, multimodal systems are just over the horizon. Without controls, however, these schemes could be victims of their own success as large cities are only just beginning to grapple with the problems that **26** _____ brings.

Reading Passage 3

You should spend about 20 minutes on questions 27-40 which are based on The Reading Passage 3 below.

A PIPE DREAM

A.
“Water, water everywhere, but not a drop to drink.” is the most famous line from Samuel T.



Coleridge’s 18th century poem, Rime of the Ancient Mariner, and these words could not be truer today. It is said that in the future, wars will not be fought over oil and gas, but water, that vital substance that makes up 70% of our bodies.

B.
According to the Woodrow Wilson Center for Scholars, 97% of the world’s water is saltwater or ‘brackish’ water. Of the 3% remaining, 99% is “in inaccessible polar ice caps, glaciers or deep aquifers”, leaving only 0.03% of all the water on earth accessible and fresh. Water is such an important base for all Earth’s ecosystems that when we look for life on other planets, the main indicator we look for is water. We cannot imagine a life form that exists without it, yet there are millions of people today suffering from a severe lack of fresh water.

C.
Professor Rod Tennyson of the University of Toronto in Canada has a proposal that may change the fate of millions in the heart of one of the world’s driest areas: the Sahel region of Africa.

D.
The idea is literally a pipe dream. A dream of constructing a water pipeline called the Trans African Pipeline (TAP), which would run 8,800km (5,500 miles) across the northern part of the Sahel desert, running east to west across the entire African continent to provide water for more than 28 million people. Linking 12 countries together, there would be two large desalination stations set up on each coast, one in Djibouti and the other in

Mauritania that would pump desalinated water across the dry continent. Along the way, the pipeline would serve Somalia, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Sudan, Chad, Cameroon, Nigeria, Niger, Burkina Faso and Mali.

E.
Along the pipeline would run solar panels to create renewable energy and sustainable power to drive the desalination plants, pumping stations and irrigation systems. The water would be a vital source of life for the communities along the way, with more than half of the water to be used in creating local farming oases.

F.
The entire project is estimated to cost US\$20.1 billion, which seems like a lot until you consider how many people could be saved, how many lives could be changed and how much could grow in the future. For example, it is estimated that in the Sahel region, more than 18 million people –including 1 million children — are directly at risk for food and water shortages this year. Eight million already require emergency assistance, according to Oxfam.

G.
Tennyson, along with his wife, journalist Daphne Lavers, first came up with the TAP project while watching BBC coverage of the G8 summit and the rallies and concerts that were taking place to push the leaders to fund projects in Africa. Many of these projects funded the building of wells and distribution of food packages. At the time, Tennyson was involved in developing safety monitoring technologies for large-scale pipelines. “We developed and manufactured fiber optic sensing systems, and with the accumulated knowledge I had gathered about pipelines, it occurred to us that a water pipeline across Africa could solve the water problem for good, not these band-aid solutions,” Tennyson said.



H.

Thus, the TAP project was born. Tennyson and his wife wrote their first feasibility study report and presented their paper at the international Water for Africa conference held in Hull, Quebec, to the large number of African attendees, many of whom were engineers and government officials. Happily, he “found that the TAP concept was very well-received. There were the standard questions about how difficult it would be to carry this off in many of the African countries, but one African member came to see me with tears in his eyes, and said this was the best idea he had heard of, and as far as he was concerned, this was the most important concept to emerge from this conference. I was hooked on making TAP a reality!”

I.

The project is starting to gather a following. It has officially been incorporated as a not-for-profit in Canada and is made up of a team of professors of engineering and geography, lawyers, economists and agronomists from Canada, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and China. The project is now moving quickly with a major benefactor on board to help promote awareness of the project and to initiate a formal study. TAP is working on raising \$1 million in start-up funds from a private investor and will be applying to the G8 countries to cover the costs as part of their money pledged toward aid.

Questions 27-35

Reading Passage 2 has nine paragraphs, A-I

Label each paragraph with a title from below.

Write the correct letter, **A-I** in boxes 27-35 on your answer sheet.

27. Original concepts for such projects were formed.
28. Conflicts in coming decades will be attributed to a lack of a certain valuable resource.
29. Altering the lives of many in the centre of one of Earth's regions with the least precipitation.
30. A dozen countries will be joined from one side of the continent to the other.
31. Gaining a strong following of backers and the pace is picking up on the project.
32. The astronomical cost of the project can be balanced against the great benefits it may provide.
33. Only a very tiny proportion of the water available on the planet is deemed as obtainable and clean enough to use.
34. A research study was prepared to look in to the possibility of going ahead with this project, and was shown to at a gathering of professionals in Canada.
35. Providing power to the pipeline to run the required equipment that would assist farmers.

Questions 36-40

Do the following statements agree with the information given in the reading passage?

In boxes 36–40 on your answer sheet write:
TRUE if the statement agrees with the information
FALSE if the statement contradicts the information
NOT GIVEN if there is no information on this

36. Conflicts in the coming years will be fought over oil and gas.
37. The fresh water available to us on Earth is only available in the larger lakes and rivers.
38. The pipeline will flow in one direction only.
39. According to a leading charity, eight million children are in need of urgent aid immediately.
40. The distribution of food parcels are considered to be only short terms solutions.

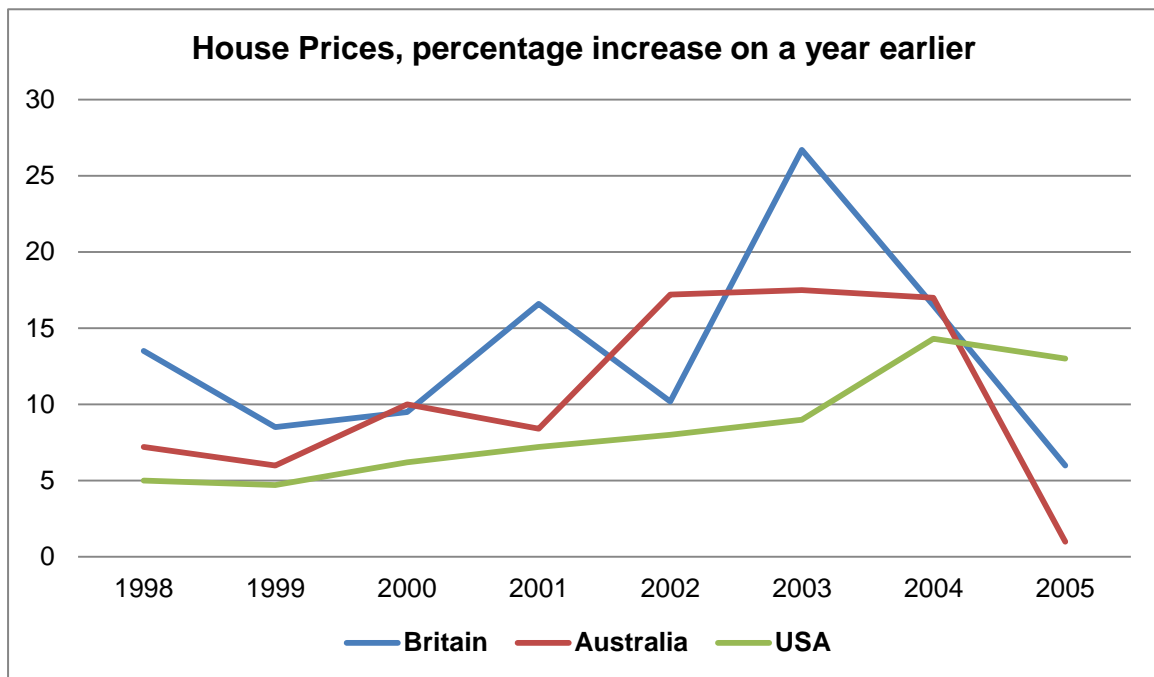


Writing Task 1

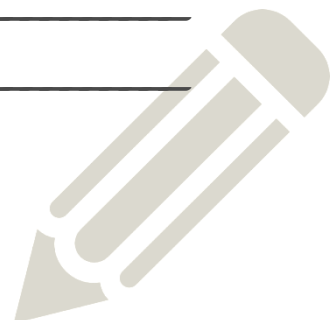
You should spend about 20 minutes on this task

The chart below compares housing prices in three different countries and shows the percentage increases in each country from 1998-2005.

Summarise the information by selecting and reporting the main features and make comparisons where relevant.



Write at least 150 words.



Speaking PART 1

Initial questions about name, where you live, work or study and other personal topics.

RUNNING

- Have you ever run a long distance? (Why?/ Why not?)
- Where is a good place to go running in your city/ town? (Why?/ Why not?)
- Why do you think some people enjoy running in races? (Why?)
- Do you think running for exercise will be more popular in the future? (Why?/ Why not?)

PAYING FOR THINGS (USING CASH, CREDIT CARDS OR MOBILE PHONE)

- How do you usually pay for small items in shops? (Why?)
- Is it common in your country to pay for things without using cash? (Why?/ Why not?)
- Why do some people still prefer to use cash to buy things?? (Why?)
- Do you think people will still be using cash 50 years from now? (Why/ Why not?)

Speaking PART 2

Describe something interesting you learned from another person (not a school/college teacher)

You should talk about:

- Who instructed you
- Where you were
- What you learned

and explain why you think it was interesting

You will be expected to talk about the topic for one to two minutes. You will have one minute to think about what you are going to say before you stop talking. You can make some notes to help if you wish,

Speaking PART 3

TUTORS

- Why do some students have their own personal tutors/ private teachers?
- Is a good idea for a child to have a personal tutor?
- What can parents do if they can't afford a tutor for their child?

MENTORS

- What might be the advantages of learning from someone who is not a parent or a teacher?
- Why might it be helpful to have a mentor at work?
- Could there be any disadvantages of having a mentor for a long time?

LEARNING FROM OTHER COUNTRIES

- What kinds of international assistance (other than financial) might an undeveloped country seek?
- Why might a country not want assistance from a particular country?
- Why disadvantages are there for countries in continuing to learn from other countries for a long period?
-

