



Scuola Secondaria di Primo Grado - III anno

BACK TO SCHOOL

MAKING THE BEST OF IT: YOUNG PEOPLE'S EXPERIENCES

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Making the best of it: Young people's experiences

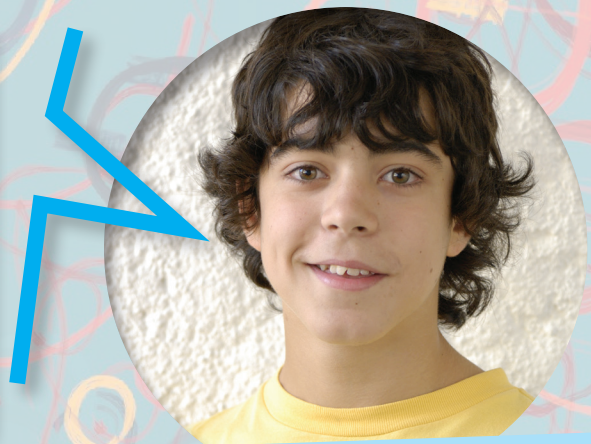
Read about three young people's experiences during lockdown.
Then do the tasks.



Alexandra, 14 year old, Bristol, UK.

My lockdown experience wasn't so bad. Not meeting my friends in person made me sad and I also missed my hockey training, but I had more time for simple activities like reading on the sofa, listening to music and spending time with my family. And I kept fit by doing exercises in the garden. During the lockdown my parents were at home and we watched films and played games together. We all like cooking, so we had time to try out some new recipes: my lemon cupcakes were delicious!!! My dad and I made a small kitchen garden. It was fun! My parents also helped me with my online learning. Maths was especially difficult for me.

I enjoyed lockdown. I hate getting up early in the morning to get the school bus, so I liked the idea of having a virtual classroom in my bedroom! We had four hours of online lessons every day. Our teachers were very supportive and did a great job! If we had problems, we could chat with them. I think this experience showed us how important technology is today. I learned a lot of new things and... school tests were easier! I spent a lot of time with my friends, playing online games and helping each other with our homework.



Thomas, 14 years old, Dublin, Ireland.

When we went back to our normal life I was really happy! During lockdown I couldn't go out, see my friends, or go swimming. I have a big family and the house was always noisy! I was never on my own! I didn't like online learning: it's boring and at home it's easier to be distracted. Now I really enjoy being at school with my schoolmates and teachers. We must respect social distancing and personal hygiene, but nothing can substitute our everyday experiences at school.



Cathy: 14 year old, Auckland, New Zealand.

1 Answer the questions with the name of one of the three young people.

- 1 Who thinks teachers were very helpful?
- 2 Who prefers school to online learning?
- 3 Who spent a lot of time with family?
- 4 Who likes getting up late?
- 5 Who missed doing sport?

2 Decide if the following sentences are True or False. Correct the false ones.

- 1 Cathy enjoyed having extra time with family. (T) (F)
.....
- 2 Thomas tried a new hobby. (T) (F)
.....
- 3 Alexandra had problems with one subject. (T) (F)
.....
- 4 Thomas thinks online learning is difficult. (T) (F)
.....
- 5 Thomas did schoolwork with his friends. (T) (F)
.....

3 Are you similar to or different from these young people? Write some sentences following the examples.

- I am similar to Alexandra because I like cooking.*
I am different from Thomas because I don't really like technology.

4 Answer these questions about your experiences during lockdown.

- 1 What did you do at home during lockdown?
- 2 Who did you spend time with?
- 3 Did you start any new hobbies?
- 4 Did you do physical exercise?
- 5 Do you think online learning was a positive or a negative experience? Why do you think so?
- 6 Did you miss your friends? How did you keep in touch with them?

5 Write a short report about the anti-Covid rules at school. Explain what you have to, can or can't do. You can use the following expressions:

- use disinfectants, use tissues
- keep your distance from...
- sit in groups / sit at my desk
- shake hands / take five / touch elbows
- have break in the hall / in the classroom / in the school yard
- sneeze into your elbows / sneeze on your hands

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