

1 Education

Answer key

1 1 Suggested answers

- The school curriculum has no effect on the success of a person; other factors (such as parenting and environment) have a greater effect.
- The school curriculum does affect a person's success in life, in particular in terms of the work ethic that it helps to foster.
- The school curriculum is one of the factors that helps to decide the success of a person's life.

3 See Exercise 2.

2 These are useful questions to begin with, because they address the wider topic area and consider other crucial factors that will inevitably affect a person's life and their perceived success.

3 Suggested answers

Summarizing is when you identify the main points of a text and put them into your own words.

Note-taking is often the product of reading and listening. If it is done actively, the writer picks out the key points, puts them into their own words and identifies how the ideas relate to their own argument.

Paraphrasing is when you put somebody else's idea in your own words whilst keeping the meaning the same.

4 Summary (a) is not good because it is too general and fails to mention that the assumption that girls did not perform as well in maths and science was untrue. Summary (b) is the best summary, because it describes the main idea of the paragraph in the writer's own words.

Summary (c) is not good because it is too long and it follows the vocabulary and structure of the original text too closely.

5 Suggested answer

Although discussions are now focused on whether males are disadvantaged by the continued success that their female peers have in their school, college and later lives, research does not show this to be the case. The AAUW (2008) reveals that, in fact, male students' results have not decreased as a result of female students' increasingly high grades; however, it acknowledges that race and family income can indeed affect school success.

6 Suggested answers

- colloquial vocabulary: *kids* (= children)
- the passive voice: *It has been found that ...* ✓
- tag questions: *You agree, don't you?*
- contractions: *It hasn't been proven that ...*
- personal pronouns: *I believe this is the case.*
- the active voice: *Researchers have found that ...* ✓ (Whilst the passive voice is common in academic writing, the active voice is still frequently used. See Unit 8.)
- modal verbs and hedging: *It seems to be true that ...* ✓
- assertive language: *This is unquestionably true.*
- noun phrases: *A large proportion of female respondents answered that ...* ✓
- relative clauses: *This is a question which needs to be answered.* ✓

7 Suggested answers

- 1 It is clear that children are strongly affected by the school curriculum.
- 2 Students from lower-income families are not encouraged to go to university.
- 3 It is commonly acknowledged that getting a job should depend on a person's ability, rather than on who they know.