

TEFL Essentials – example of Reading Skills exercises

Gap-filler and Synonyms activity

(A) Read this paragraph and try to fill in the gaps using the most suitable words from the box below the text:

Education began in prehistory, as adults trained the young in the knowledge and skills deemed necessary in their society. In pre-literate societies this was (1)_____ orally and through imitation. Story-telling passed (2)_____, values, and skills from one generation to the next. As (3)_____ began to extend their knowledge beyond skills that could be readily learned through imitation, formal education developed. Schools (4)_____ in Egypt at the time of the Middle Kingdom. Plato founded the Academy in Athens, the first institution of higher learning in Europe. The city of Alexandria in Egypt, (5)_____ in 330 BCE, became the successor to Athens as the (6)_____ cradle of Ancient Greece. There, the great Library of Alexandria was built in the 3rd century BCE. European (7)_____ suffered a collapse of (8)_____ and organization following the fall of Rome in CE 476.

Used	achieved	existed	energetic	intellectual	literacy
Knowledge	happened	cultures	established	books	civilizations

(B) Read this paragraph and try to find words in the text which means the same as the list following this paragraph.

Open education is a collective term to describe institutional practices and programmatic initiatives that broaden access to the learning and training traditionally offered through formal education systems. In fact, it is quickly becoming the dominant form of education, for many reasons such as its efficiency and results compared to traditional methods. However, online courses often can be more expensive than face-to-face classes. Out of 182 colleges surveyed in 2009 nearly half said tuition for online courses was higher than for campus based ones. Many large university institutions are now starting to offer free or almost free full courses such as Harvard, MIT and Berkeley. Other universities offering open education are Stanford, Princeton, Duke, Johns Hopkins, Edinburgh, U. Penn, U. Michigan, U. Virginia, U. Washington, and Caltech. It has been called the biggest change in the way we learn since the printing press. Despite favourable studies on effectiveness, many people may still desire to choose traditional campus education for social and cultural reasons.

- Shared
- Usually
- Productivity
- University grounds
- Organisations
- Suggesting
- Usefulness