

1.4 Reading

Gapped text

I can understand the structure of a text.

1 In pairs, discuss how you use technology to help you learn. Think about in school and out of school.

2 Read the article and answer the questions.

- 1 What two experiments did Dr Sugata Mitra set up in India? Why?
- 2 How did technology help Indian children learn?

EXAM FOCUS Gapped text

3 Read the article again. Choose from the sentences (A–E) the one which fits each gap. There is one extra sentence.

- A 'The children are forming relationships with them and the teachers, many of whom were upset at the thought of having finished their careers, have realised they're more important than ever,' he says.
- B For many years he has been interested in a form of learning in which children are unsupervised and involved in self-learning and peer-teaching.
- C Traditional education models assume that children are empty vessels who need to be filled with content, but Dr Mitra's experiments prove that wrong.
- D 'Computers cannot replace good teachers, but they can get a high standard of education into the schools where they are needed most,' he says.
- E He then left them to use it unsupervised and found that after only a month, the children had taught themselves how to use the computer and go online.

4 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in capitals. Then check your answers in the article.

- 1 Dr Sugata Mitra thinks the current education system is outdated and not fit for purpose. **DATE**
- 2 Using a child's natural _____ is at the heart of Mitra's ideas. **CURIOUS**
- 3 He put a computer in a hole in the wall between his work premises and an _____ slum. **JOIN**
- 4 The experiment became the _____ for a very successful film. **INSPIRE**
- 5 In 2010 Mitra _____ a new project for Indian children involving Skype. **INITIAL**
- 6 _____, the children wanted to listen to British grandmothers reading them fairy tales. **SURPRISE**
- 7 There are now 200 _____ reading to Indian children via Skype. **VOLUNTARY**
- 8 Mitra has won a prize for the project he calls '_____ Invasive Education'. **MINIMUM**

Education

Lighting the

CD•1.19 MP3•19

Dr Sugata Mitra, Professor of Educational Technology at Newcastle University, England, thinks it's time for a radical shake-up of education. He believes that the present education system is outdated because it doesn't prepare children for the jobs of the future, which have changed, thanks to technology. ¹ _____ Dr Mitra calls this methodology 'Minimally Invasive Education' and explains that it is based on the idea of using children's natural curiosity and then providing an environment where they can learn on their own.



Dr Sugata Mitra

In 1999 he decided to test his ideas and set up an experiment, now known as the Hole-in-the-Wall Experiment, with children living in slums who didn't have access to good teachers. At the time he was working in New Delhi and his place of work shared a wall with a slum. He cut a hole in the wall between his work premises and the adjoining slum and placed a computer with Internet access in a kiosk where children could use it freely. ² _____ He then repeated the Hole-in-the-Wall experiment in a village with no Internet access. This time he left the computer in a kiosk with just a few CDs in English and when he went back after

5 Do you think these things will be more, less or equally important in the schools of 2025? Discuss with a partner.

books blackboards computer rooms desks
exams and tests group-work homework
hand-held computers language laboratories
paper teachers whiteboards wi-fi

WORD STORE 1F

6 CD•1.20 MP3•20 Complete WORD STORE 1F. Replace the underlined word with a word in the box to make another collocation with a similar meaning. Then listen, check and repeat.