

Third Class

Reading Passages

Practice

Elements of the Lecture

**Reading Strategies:**

Getting Meaning from Context

Identifying the main idea

Understanding Pronoun Reference

Understanding Words in Phrases

Previewing Vocabulary

**Campus Life is Changing. Chapter One**

For many years in the United States, most undergraduate students (in their first four years of college) were 18 to 22 years old. They attended college full-time, lived in a dormitory on campus, and expected many “extras” from their colleges, not just classes. But things began to change in the 1970’s, and are very different now. Today, these “traditional” students are less than one-quarter (1/4) of all college students. These days the nontraditional students are the majority; they are different from traditional undergraduates in several ways. They are older. Many attend college part-time because they have families and jobs. Most live off campus, not in dormitories. These traditional students don’t want the extras that colleges usually offer. They aren’t interested in the sports, entertainment, religious groups, and museums that are part of most U.S. colleges. They want mainly good-quality classes, day or night, at a low cost. They also hope for easy parking, access to information technology, and polite service. Both time and money are important to them.

1. What is the Topic?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What is the Main Idea? \_\_\_\_\_

3. According to the passage, how today students are different from traditional students?

Non-traditional students are the minority.

Non-traditional students are not working these days.

Non-traditional students live on campus.

Non-traditional students are majority and part-timers

**Words in Phrases:**

As you read, it's important to begin noticing words that often go together. Go back to A paragraph. Find words to complete the following phrases and write them in the blanks. Most are prepositions.

Paragraph A

Lived \_\_\_\_\_ a dormitory \_\_\_\_\_ campus.

Many \_\_\_\_\_ college part-time (verb)

Access \_\_\_\_\_ information technology

**Understanding Pronoun Reference:**

Look back at the reading selection "Campus Life is Changing" to find the meanings of the following pronouns. What does each pronoun refer to?

They (Paragraph A, line 2) \_\_\_\_\_

They (paragraph A, line 6) \_\_\_\_\_

Them (Paragraph A, line 12)

**Paragraph B:**

**B**

Psychological test reflect different learning styles in this new student population, too. Each person has a certain learning style, and about 60 percent of the new students these days prefer the sensing style. This means that they are very practical. They prefer a practice-to-theory method of learning, which is experience first and ideas after that. They often have difficulty with reading and writing and are unsure of themselves. Most of these students are attending college because they want to have a good job and make a lot of money.

What is the Topic? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the Main Idea? \_\_\_\_\_

According to the passage, what do 60 percent of the new students prefer these days?

- a. They prefer a practice – to- theory method of learning.
- b. They prefer a theory-to-practice theory method of learning.

**Paragraph C:**

C

In contrast other students (but not as many) prefer the intuitive learning style. These students love ideas. They prefer a theory-to-practice method of learning and enjoy independent, creative thinking. These “intuitive” are not very practical. They are attending college because they want to create unique works of art or study philosophy or someday help in the field of science.

Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

Main Idea: \_\_\_\_\_

**Paragraph D:**

There is a drawback for the students who prefer the sensing style of learning. A majority of college professors prefer the intuitive learning style. These teachers value independent thinking and creative ideas. Students in the sensing group are at a disadvantage because their way of thinking doesn’t match their teachers’.

Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

Main idea: \_\_\_\_\_

Words in phrases : Paragraph D :

are \_\_\_\_\_ a disadvantage.

Understanding Pronoun References: Their (Paragraph D, line 4) \_\_\_\_\_

**Paragraph F:**

F

On all college campuses, student life is very different from what it used to be because of technology – specifically, the internet. At most colleges, all entering first-year students receive an email address. Dormitory rooms offer high-speed Internet access. Computer systems are available to everyone in computer labs, the library, and student centers. Application for classes and registration are usually now possible online. Most schools offer entire courses online. Many professors still have “office hours,” when students can come to talk with them about class work or ask for help. But increasingly, students can contact professors 24 hours a day, thanks to email. In many classes, students complete assignments and even take exams online. Perhaps most important for both students and professors, research is now easier and faster because of the new technology.

Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

Main Idea: \_\_\_\_\_

Understanding pronoun references: **Them (paragraph F, line 6)**

**Words in Phrases:**

Words in phrases: As you read, it's important to begin noticing words that often go together. Go back to F paragraph. Find words to complete the following phrases and write them in the blanks. Most are prepositions.

Life is different because \_\_\_\_\_ technology

Are available \_\_\_\_\_ everyone

Students \_\_\_\_\_ exams (verb)

**Section B:**

**Section: B**

**Directions: Read the following paragraphs and choose the correct main idea for each paragraph**

**Paragraph E:**

"There are several events that can change the Earth's surface very quickly. Volcanoes can erupt and spread lava, rock and ash for several miles. Earthquakes can leave large cracks in the Earth's surface."

What is the main idea?

1. Several events can change the Earth's surface.
2. Earthquakes can cause large cracks.
3. Volcanoes can be dangerous.
4. Earthquakes

**Paragraph F :**

"Most of the world's volcanoes are part of the "The Ring of Fire." This is a ring of volcanoes that form a circle around the Pacific Ocean. Thousands of volcanoes make up "The Ring of Fire." These volcanoes formed the sea floor and many underwater mountains.'

What is the main idea?

1. There are thousands of volcanoes in the world.
2. Most volcanoes are part of the "Ring of Fire."
3. Some underwater mountains are volcanoes.
4. The Ring of Fire

**Getting Meaning From Context**

1. On the one hand, there are many advantages to this system. On the other hand, there are also several drawbacks.

On the other hand = \_\_\_\_\_ from one point of view

On the other hand = \_\_\_\_\_

2. In a number of countries, education is both compulsory – required- and universal, available to everyone, at least in primary school (elementary school)

Compulsory= \_\_\_\_\_

Universal= \_\_\_\_\_

Primary school= \_\_\_\_\_

3. There are many more schools in cities than in rural areas.

Rural = \_\_\_\_\_

4. Public schools are all both free and egalitarian; all students are considered equal and learn the same material.

Egalitarian = \_\_\_\_\_

5. College students need great discipline; in order to make time for their studies, they need the self-control to give up hobbies, sports, and social life.

Discipline = \_\_\_\_\_

6. Results on these exams affect the entire family because there is high status, or social position, for a whole family in which children have high test scores.

Entire= \_\_\_\_\_

Status= \_\_\_\_\_

7. Students themselves decide if they want college-preparatory or vocational classes in high school; no national exam determines this for them.

Determines = \_\_\_\_\_