

Advice on doing homework

Damian, 13

PROVA N.1

I don't mind doing homework, especially when I play some jazz (and not pop) on my phone. When I do, I'm able to think more carefully about what I'm doing. Sometimes I really enjoy doing my homework, especially when it's maths and I understand it well. Or when one of my classmates comes to my place and we study together. I find it's best if I let my parents and sister know I'm busy so they don't come into my room and spend all evening talking to me!



Louis, 11

When I started doing my homework in my room every morning, it wasn't a great success. I always found something more interesting to do! But these days, I don't have the same problem. I just go to my room in the evening, switch on the light, sit down at my desk and do it. I do love music, but if I put my MP3 player on, I start to think about the song and not the homework! So I don't listen while I work. It's the same problem if my mum or dad put music on in the next room. I turn my mobile off or put it away before I start. That helps too.

Jackson, 14

I usually do most of my homework before I go to bed. And then I do a bit more as soon as I wake up. I've always found it easy to do that. I'll maybe look at my German vocabulary for five minutes before breakfast. I tell my friends at school: 'If you want to do your homework well, make sure your room is nice and bright. Otherwise, you'll fall asleep!'



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Questions 14–18

For each question, choose the correct answer.

PROVA N. 4

Lots of people become good at something when they are young. And quite a lot of children know what career they want to follow when they are older. But not everyone opens their own company. This is exactly what Isabella Rose Taylor has done. She started designing clothes when she was eight years old.

At the time, she was a keen painter. She used a lot of reds, blues and yellows, and these colours helped her to think of new clothes which she could make.

When she started designing and making clothes, Isabella just made clothes for fun. But people liked her designs, so soon she started selling them online. Now she has a business and takes part in fashion shows. She runs her business from the family home, where she has made one room into an office, and another into a studio where the clothes are made.

Isabella has also found time to finish school and get a college degree. She's intelligent, and she has thousands of followers online who love her stuff. It's brilliant that she already has people who work for her. Above all, she really knows what is needed to succeed in the world of fashion. And I am sure that she will.

'The way I see it is I get to follow my dream and be a teenager at the same time. I think I'm pretty lucky,' she says.



Questions 14–18

For each question, choose the correct answer.

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Three teenage sports superstars

Gaurika Singh, swimmer

PROVA N. 6

Gaurika is from Nepal, and she was the only under-14-year-old to take part in the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. She swam the 100 metres backstroke for Nepal. Home for Gaurika these days is in the UK, and she trains at the Copthall Swimming Club, where the coaches have trained other world-class swimmers. Her father, Paras Singh, travels with her around the world when she goes to a competition.



Tracy Austin, tennis player

7

When Tracy Austin was given a car as a prize in a tennis competition in Stuttgart, Germany, she was 15 and still too young to drive, but she was already a professional tennis player. Then, at the age of 17, the American became the youngest ever sports person to earn a million dollars. Before long, she was the world's number one player. These days, she often appears on TV, talking about tennis matches at major competitions.

Nadia Comăneci, gymnast

8

When Romanian gymnast Nadia took part in the Olympic Games in Montreal, Canada, in 1976, she immediately became one of the most famous sports people in the world. She got perfect scores of 10.0 in seven different events. Everyone thought that nobody could do this and, in fact, 9.9 was the highest number that the score board could show. She did so well that she helped large numbers of people become interested in gymnastics.



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Cookery books for young people

This week, we look at three books about cooking for young people.

***My First Cookbook* by Lenard Minnow**

PROVA N.9

Lenard Minnow's last cookery book was a huge success across the world. And now, he has written a cookery book just for children. It has lots of lovely reading activities, so that children can get to know the names of more unusual foods. It explains in an easy-to-read way how to cook and makes it clear that cooking can be a hobby that young and old can really enjoy.



***Cooking for Students* by Cormac O'Dally**

The idea for this book came when Cormac O'Dally's two sons went away to university. They never cooked and had no idea what to do in the kitchen, so Cormac wrote this book to help them. The photo on the cover of the book shows Cormac and his sons laughing and enjoying the food together. Students who use this book won't win prizes for great new food ideas. The meals are very simple, like cheese on toast, but they're easy to prepare and good for you, too.

***Everybody Can Cook* by Denise Macon**

With its 'look-as-you-cook' photos, you can see the author doing everything that you need to do in this wonderful new book. And, as the title says, you'll soon be able to make tasty meals. Many of them come from all four corners of the world. The author received £4,000 when the book was chosen as *Cookbook of the Year* in a competition this year.



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***Cooking for Students* by Cormac O'Dally**

PROVA N. 10

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Three teenage business people

Noa Mintz

PROVA N. 12

Noa started a business when she was 8, holding art classes for children. Two years later, she began a party planning business for children. She doesn't think that went very well. She thinks that because she was very young, the business wasn't exactly perfect. These days, she is sure that she knows what she's doing, as she has a business that finds staff to look after other people's children. She also pays someone to help her with the business.



Mikaila Ulmer

Mikaila has opened a company called *Me and the Bees*. It sells lemonade, which is made with local honey. The drink is sold in several shops in Mikaila's home town and online, and some of the money is given to nature groups that work with bees and other insects. Mikaila also shows children and their families how to get ideas to make money. She says, 'I think I've got lots of good advice for them.'

Jessie Chong

When Jessie was really young, her parents told her that she should find something that she loved doing. She's happy she did because she thinks everyone should love their work. Jessie makes jewellery and sells it online. She looks at flowers and plants, and then uses the shapes and colours she sees in her jewellery.



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Questions 14–18

For each question, choose the correct answer.

PROVA N. 15

An amazing stay at the Ocean View Hotel

I'm usually sad to say goodbye to my cousins after visiting them in Australia. But last June I wasn't. We had to change planes in the Middle East on the way back and had to stay overnight. I just couldn't wait to get to our hotel.

The first thing I noticed in the hotel was all the glass. It was really bright, so I don't know why all the lights were on in the building! There was also loud rock music playing, which I loved (but my parents didn't)! There weren't many people waiting at the reception, so we were soon in our rooms.

The garden wasn't what I expected. 'Dad,' I said, 'you told me there was a pool!' He took me back into the reception area and then up in the lift to the 39th floor and out onto the top of the building. 'Here it is,' he said. It was amazing! Swimming under the clouds was awesome.

I've stayed in some great hotels around the world, but nothing as cool as that one! I saw photographs of it before I went, but they don't really show how large the building is. I couldn't believe it. Everything is huge – the building, the pool, the meals (which were delicious, too, by the way)! There's so much to do and see there. I hope we can go back again and stay for longer!

