



# Education and School Life

Multiple matching: learning spaces | Cambridge IGCSE ESL 0510/0511

## 1. Lead-in discussion

Talk with a partner before you read.

1. Where do you learn best at school?
2. Should learning spaces be quiet, flexible or social?
3. How can classroom design affect concentration?
4. What makes a space useful for independent study?

### Exercise 2 at a glance

Read four short descriptions. For each statement, choose the correct space, A-D. One space may be used more than once. Read the whole detail carefully before you choose.

## 2. Read for overall understanding

Read the four texts. Which learning space would help you most? Give a reason.

### Places to Learn

#### A Silent study room

The silent study room is open during lunch and after school for students who need somewhere quiet. It is not a punishment room, although teachers sometimes recommend it to students who are easily distracted. Phones must stay in bags, but students may use laptops for research if the sound is off. The room has individual desks facing the wall rather than group tables. It became popular before exams, so students now book a place online. Some students complained that the rules felt strict, but others said the clear expectations helped them concentrate. A teacher supervises without giving subject help.

#### B Project studio

The project studio has movable tables, whiteboards and a small filming corner. It is used for group tasks such as designing posters, recording presentations or planning debates. Students must leave the room tidy because several classes use it each day. The studio was created after teachers noticed that ordinary classrooms were not flexible enough for project work. It is not ideal for silent reading, and the school makes this clear on the booking page. Students like the whiteboards because they can plan ideas quickly and rub them out. The filming corner is booked most often near assessment deadlines.

#### C Outdoor classroom

The outdoor classroom is a covered area beside the school garden. Science and geography teachers use it for observation tasks, but English teachers also take classes there for descriptive writing. It has benches rather than desks, so students use clipboards. Lessons are not moved outside just because the weather is sunny; teachers must have a reason connected to the work. The space was funded by a local environmental group. Students helped choose plants that attract insects, and the caretaker added storage for equipment. The area closes during heavy rain because noise on the roof makes discussion difficult.

#### D Reset room

The reset room is a small calm space for students who feel overwhelmed during the school day. Students can stay for ten minutes, complete a breathing task and write down what they need to do next. It is not a place to avoid lessons for long periods. A support assistant records visits to notice patterns, such as students struggling before particular subjects. The room has soft lighting, but no games or phones. It was introduced after students said they sometimes needed a short break before returning to class. Teachers say it works best when students use it early, before problems grow. Students are asked for feedback because a useful learning space can stop working when routines change.

### 3. Strategy focus

#### Check activity and atmosphere

Learning spaces may all sound positive. Match the statement to what students actually do there and how the space is meant to feel.

### 4. Exam-style matching questions

For each statement, write the correct letter, A, B, C or D, on the line.

No.	Which space...	A-D
1	allows laptops but controls sound and phone use	.....
2	is used by more than one subject, not only science or geography	.....
3	keeps records to identify repeated difficulties	.....
4	is unsuitable for quiet reading because of its purpose	.....
5	is used only when the lesson needs the outdoor setting	.....
6	requires students to reserve a place when demand is high	.....
7	helps students return to lessons after a short break	.....
8	was created because normal classrooms did not suit certain tasks	.....
9	has desks arranged to discourage group work	.....

### 5. Vocabulary notebook

Underline five useful words or phrases. Check their meaning, then record them in your vocabulary notebook.

### 6. Follow-up tasks

1. Discussion: What rules would help each learning space work well?
2. Strategy: Highlight the sentence where you found each answer. Label it with the question number.
3. Writing: Describe an ideal learning space for one type of lesson.
4. Vocabulary: Circle words and phrases connected to school facilities and learning habits.

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## 2. Read for overall understanding

Suggested answer: Students' own answers, but they should refer to one or more details from the texts.

## 4. Exam-style matching questions

1. A
2. C
3. D
4. B
5. C
6. A
7. D
8. B
9. A

## Notes for checking

Learners should match the statement to the exact detail in the text.

An option may be used more than once.

If learners disagree, ask them to highlight and label the sentence that proves their answer.