

What are the advantages and disadvantages of studying at the university in your home town?
What are the advantages and disadvantages of moving to another city to study?

1b Compare your ideas.

2 Read the comments from an Internet forum.

Match the people below to one of the comments 1–3.

- 1 It's better to study at home.
- 2 It's better to study in another place.
- 3 It isn't better or worse to study at home.

Top Cat _____ Storm _____
Lotus _____ Sa-Ra _____

EXAM SUCCESS

In reading activities where you match questions or statements with different texts, remember that the words in the question may not be exactly the same as the words in the text.

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3 Read the comments again. For questions 1–10, choose from the four people (A–D). The people may be chosen more than once.

Which person

- thinks that Anita needs to consider more specific questions before she decides? 1 _____
- bases his/her opinion on his/her experience? 2 _____
- bases his/her opinion on someone close to him/her? 3 _____
- bases his/her opinion on what he/she wants? 4 _____
- talks about problems with concentration? 5 _____
- thinks that the decision of staying at home or moving away is not final? 6 _____
- says that first you need to find out what your university has got? 7 _____
- is happy for his/her family to help him/her? 8 _____
- doesn't feel his/her life has changed much? 9 _____
- wants to experience new things? 10 _____

4 Find words in the text with similar meanings to these words.

- 1 university (colloquial) (Anita)
- 2 the same as (Top Cat)
- 3 the way that two or more people act or behave together (Lotus)
- 4 questions, ideas (Lotus)
- 5 a long time (Storm)
- 6 moments (Storm)
- 7 jobs at home (Sa-Ra)

5 SPEAKING What about you?

- 1 What do you want to do when you finish school?

Student Helpline

The best place for help with university life

You are here: Home > Forums > General University Discussion



28-03-12
Anita

A



28-03-12
19.27
Top Cat

Q: Is it better to go to the uni in your home town and stay at home or to move away to somewhere different? Next year I want to go and study at uni, but I'm not sure if it's better to stay at home and study here or if I should go and live in another city. What do you think?

At the moment I'm doing a microbiology course at the uni in my home town. I decided to stay here because I wanted to be close to my family and friends. But in the end most of my good friends went away to work or study at other universities. Living at home with my parents is OK, but it's difficult to make new friends because most of the other students live in halls of residence and they spend all their time together. Another problem is that I haven't become very independent because my mum and dad still help me with everything. Sometimes I think I'm at school, not at university. Don't be like me!

B



28-03-12
19.34
Lotus

What's better? It depends on you. Nobody can decide for you. It depends on the relationship you have with your parents. It depends on your student loan too because it's usually cheaper to stay at home. Above all, it depends on the course you want to study. Find out which is the best university for your subject. Maybe they don't teach it in your home town. Find out details about the course, the tutors, assessment, etc and compare them with other places. What facilities has the university got for undergraduates? Choosing the right university is a really important decision. It can change your life. Don't make your decision without thinking about the really important issues.

C



28-03-12
19.45
Storm

I've also been thinking about this question for ages, but now I've made my decision. I'm moving away. I've lived in my home town all my life. Now I'd rather study in another city, maybe abroad, and see the world. I want to become independent. You can always go home for the holidays and for special occasions. Remember, at university the summer holidays are really long. And when you finish university, you can decide to go back if you don't like living away from home. But you always make more new friends when you live away from home. You have more time for extra-curricular activities. I love my mum and dad but it's good to be able to come and go when you like without anybody asking where you're going and what time to expect you back.

D



29-03-12
10.16
Sa-Ra

Last year my brother went away to study. He was living in a hall of residence at first, but then he found a house with four friends. He was having a great time but then he started failing his exams. He sees that he needs to study more but it's impossible in the house. His friends are always having parties, making noise and doing everything except studying! He thinks I should study in my home town and live at home because at home it's quiet and you can study. And he says you have more time because you don't have to do chores like the shopping or the washing. I think staying in my home town has lots of advantages. But