

## No Homework Policy

# HOMEWORK YES or NO to 'No Homework Policy'?

Some say homework is doing more harm than good. Should schools adopt the "No Homework Policy"? Read these teens' opinions.

### Joe Ruiz, 16 (Year 11)

In secondary school? My answer is 'Yes'. I understand children need to get into the habit of studying from a young age, so I think homework is important in primary school, but not in secondary school. By now we should be able to cope with the load of work we're confronted with, I mean, we're old enough and capable enough to decide whether we need to study or not and when we should do it. After a day of school, I'm quite wiped out. That's even truer on the days I have my violin lesson and my street dance class. Should we have to give up our extracurricular activities because of homework? What about our families and friends? Sometimes I don't even have the time to sit at the table for dinner. Homework is ruining our lives!



### Rashida Iyer 15 (Year 10)



I will have to say 'No' to the 'No homework policy'. You learn something in school and then you go home and practise, that's how I see it. But don't take me wrong, you have to get it in the right amount. In my older sister's school, for example, the homework load is too heavy. She has had at least two hours of homework nightly for years. I don't agree with that. Luckily that doesn't happen at my school. I usually get a once-a-week, three-page math assignment to do. Now and then, a Science project also comes our way. But that's it. As far as I'm concerned, that is enough. I like being responsible for my learning process.

**Kent Ross, 14 (Year 9)**

Well it depends on the Year you're in. I think children in primary school shouldn't have homework to do. I mean, we don't want to chain a kid to a desk in the evening doing homework. They need time to spend with their families, to play and socialize. But in my opinion students in secondary school should get homework on a regular basis - individualized homework according to each student's needs. Anyway, homework assignments should not replace other important experiences such as sports programs, dance, music, and/or theatre. Not to talk about healthy leisure and solitary time... There must be some kind of balance.



1. Read through the text and say who these statements refer to by ticking [✓] the appropriate box(es).

	Joe	Rashida	Kent
1) Homework is important for elementary school children.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2) Homework shouldn't be the same for the whole class.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3) He/She is against massive amounts of homework.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4) It is important to have time for ourselves and our families.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5) It is important to create a balance between freetime activities, quality family time, and homework.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6) This school has a 'wise' homework policy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Are these these statements True or False? Correct false statements.

a. In Joe's opinion, teachers should give homework to secondary school children.

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b. He feels exhausted after a school day, especially when he has extracurricular activities.

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c. Rashida doesn't agree with the 'No Homework Policy'.

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d. For Kent, secondary school children should have a piece of homework now and then.

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**3. What's your opinion about homework? Should it be banned or not? State your reasons.**

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**4. Reread Joe's opinion and find words/expressions in the text that mean the same as these (synonyms)**

a. get used to doing something .....

b. elementary .....

c. deal .....

d. if .....

e. completely .....

f. stop doing something .....