

Working from home

This task is about retrieving information and making inferences from a text.

Warning for people who work from home

Working from home saves on petrol but increases the risk of being lonely, a Victoria University social scientist says. A Wellington Regional Council survey released this month said commuter traffic would drop by 15 percent if more people worked from home. More than 75 percent of 79 respondents to a questionnaire said they wanted to develop teleworking in their organisations. But, Victoria senior lecturer in social policy, Judith Davey said that in her experience, teleworking had a downside. "I ran a business from home for several years. It was a very lonely, isolated existence."

Some people thought it would be good to avoid being stuck in traffic jams, but human contact was a key part of daily working life, she said. Many teleworkers needed to travel into town, in any case, to meet business contacts. Teleworking as an option for women with young children was another myth, she said. "What's so great about being at home trying to work with the kids there? I think men should think about what that's like before talking about it."

Read the newspaper article and answer the following questions.

a) List **two** advantages and **two** disadvantages of working from home that are stated in the article.

Advantages

1.
2.

Disadvantages

1.
2.

b) Explain what 'teleworking' is, as used in the article.

c) What is the meaning of the word 'myth', as used in the last paragraph?

d) What does Judith Davey mean in the article when she talks about the 'downside' of an experience?

e) The article tells us about adults working from home.

Now consider the issue of school aged children choosing to be educated at home.

Give **two** advantages of home schooling and then **two** disadvantages.

Advantages

- 1.
- 2.

Disadvantages

- 1.
- 2.