

The Joy of Learning

Intermediate (B1-B2)



WARM-UP

Part 1. Read the statements below. Decide if you agree, disagree, or are not sure. Explain your choice.

1. I enjoy learning new things.
2. School made me love learning.
3. I learn more outside classrooms than inside them.
4. Making mistakes stops people from learning.

Part 2. Read the quotes. Choose one you connect with and explain why.

Learning feeds curiosity and changes how we see the world.

You don't need a reason to learn something — curiosity is enough.

A bad experience can stop people learning for years.

Learning doesn't just give skills — it changes who you are.



VIDEO ACTIVITY

Part 1. You're going to watch a video called "The Joy of Learning." Before watching, discuss the following questions.

1. Is there a subject you once found fascinating? What happened to that interest?
2. Have you ever avoided learning something because of fear or a bad experience?
3. Do you think adults feel more pressure to be "good" at learning than children?

Part 2. Watch the first part of the video, up to where the speaker explains how astronomy changed their view of the world (0:34).

Part 3. Discuss the following questions.

1. What sparked the speaker's curiosity?
2. How did learning about astronomy affect how they saw the planet — and themselves?
3. Was anything surprising or interesting for you?

Predict:

What problems with learning do you think the speaker will talk about next?

Part 4. Watch the second part of the video (0:34 to the end).

Part 5. Match each experience (1-4) from the video with the feeling (A-D) it created.

1. Being shamed by a teacher

2. Making mistakes while learning

3. Exploring a topic independently

4. Using online resources

A. Confidence and motivation

B. Fear and avoidance

C. Freedom and curiosity

D. Frustration but growth

VIDEO FOLLOW-UP

Part 1. Look at the expressions below, which appeared in the video. Match each one to its closest meaning.

Feed your curiosity

Pursue knowledge

Hesitate at the thought of

Gain experience

Disrupt your learning

Explore something new

1. _____ Learn through doing and practice
2. _____ Feel unsure or afraid to begin
3. _____ Damage motivation or progress
4. _____ Actively look for understanding
5. _____ Try a new subject or activity
6. _____ Satisfy interest and questions

Part 2. Complete the sentences with the correct phrase.

1. I started watching documentaries about space because I wanted to _____.
2. Some adults _____ learning a new language because they're afraid of making mistakes.
3. A bad experience can _____ and stop people from trying again.
4. You don't need a qualification to _____ – curiosity is enough.
5. The best way to _____ in a new skill is by practising regularly.
6. At some point, it's important to _____, even if you don't feel ready.



Part 3. Choose three prompts below and speak for 1–2 minutes. Try to use all six expressions across your answers.

1. Talk about something that once **fed your curiosity** and what you did next.
2. Describe a time when you **hesitated at the thought of** learning something new.
3. Explain how you **gained experience** in a skill you now feel more confident about.
4. Talk about something that **disrupted your learning** in the past and how it affected you.
5. Describe a subject or skill you would like to **pursue knowledge** in, even without a clear goal.
6. Talk about **something new** you would like to **explore**, and why.

Part 4. For each pair, choose the sentence you agree with more.

A. Learning should be practical and useful.

B. Learning can be just for curiosity.

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A. Online learning is better than classrooms.

B. Learning with others is more motivating.

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A. Mistakes are necessary for learning.

B. Mistakes damage confidence.

Part 5. Complete the sentences with your own ideas. Add one or two supporting details.

1. Something I'm curious about but haven't explored yet is _____.
2. A learning experience that still affects me today is _____.
3. If learning felt safer, I would try _____.



REFLECTION

Discuss the following questions.

1. What idea from the lesson changed how you think about learning?
2. What belief about learning would you like to let go of?

