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The role of the independent language learning.

Independent study is a form of education offered by many high schools, colleges, and other educational institutions. It is sometimes referred to as directed study, and is an educational activity undertaken by an individual with little to no supervision.

Independent language learning aims to give learners more control over what, how and when they learn languages. You can take control and be more effective, more efficient and have more fun learning another language. Learners decide on their aims, make plans of what to learn, develop their own methods of learning (learning strategies), assess their own learning, and plan what to learn next.

Independent learning is often linked with other approaches to learning such as standards, are more motivated and have higher self-esteem than other.

Independent learning is the most important issue in education today, and in many ways the most elusive or difficult issue to deal with. More than class size, teacher accreditation, or the latest innovations in teaching methodology, developing independent learning habits, in other words, self-learning, in students, and teachers, should be the main preoccupation of educators, and of learners themselves.

The time of a lesson is usually fixed. In independent learning the learner chooses the time. Learning can be done at any time if you use internet. In a class the teacher usually decides what to teach based on the average level of the students. But this may not be the right level for most of the students. For some students it will be too easy. For some students it will be too hard. In independent language learning the learner decides what level to work at. In classroom lessons, the pace of the lesson usually goes either at the pace of the slowest student, which is boring for the others, or at a pace somewhere in the middle, which is too fast for some students and too slow for

others. In independent learning the learners can go at any pace they need and like. The topic of the lesson is also usually based on the needs of the average students in the class, but some students may know the material already if they are higher level, or not have the basic knowledge needed to understand the lesson if they are lower level. In independent learning, learners can choose what they want to study, and can change it any time.

But sure independent learning has its disadvantages as well.

Groupwork is a great opportunity to share the load and concentrate on one area of the project. Even if group work assignments are bigger, more difficult and require a separate set of skills – like statistics, presentations it is the chance for you to focus on one section. So sure during the independent work you don't have such opportunity.

Sometimes, you'll find yourself stuck during an essay and won't really have anyone at hand to go to for help. If this does happen you can speak to your classmates but never during independent learning.

The big disadvantage with working on your own is that you don't get the opportunity to discuss topics and theories with other students and your teacher. Ideas won't bounce off of each other and all suggestions have to come from you.

There may times when you find what you are studying difficult to comprehend; it happens to the best of us, however, working with other people is the chance for you to talk about any problems you have.

There will be days when you don't want to work at all, if that does happen there is no bigger motivation than other people! If you are a part of a project, you know that you can't lag in the work department if it affects other people's grades. Or if you have weekly study sessions with classmates and you don't want to let them down. If you're studying affects other people, then that motivation will be a constant!

There are advantages and disadvantages to independent learning at higher education, and even though they are very diverse the most effective types of study is by using a mixture of different methods. There is group work, tutorials, study sessions, independent and learning support. Explore all different kinds of studying techniques and see what one is most effective and has the best result.

References:

1. <http://blog-education2you.blogspot.com/2010/12/concept-of-independent-learning.html>
2. <https://www.llas.ac.uk/resources/gpg/1400>