



Bangkok Post Learning: Test Yourself

Test Yourself is where you can improve your reading skills. Whether it's for tests like University Entrance Exams or IELTS and TOEFL, or even just for fun, these stories help you to read, understand and improve your English.

Hot lockdown buys by Gary Boyle

Read the following story by Suthivas Tanphaibul from *Bangkok Post's Guru Magazine*. Then, answer the questions that follow.



Photo: Nasarun Amornchanthanakorn

The latest hot picks in online shopping are air fryers, Nintendo Switch and potted plants, to name a few. Although they do not keep us safe from infection, they help us kill lockdown boredom. Guru asks what people have bought recently

**Pachara "Tung-Guard"
Aungsusuknarumol, 26,
Attache, Ministry of
Foreign Affairs**

I ended up buying more and more gadgets for my workstation. It started from

an adjustable stand for my laptop to a big screen and a multi-device keyboard. The latest investment is a Blue Yeti microphone. During the WFH period, I had to attend several meetings via Zoom and other online platforms. I find it handy to have a microphone with better sound quality, so I don't have to shout at my laptop anymore.

Supitcha "Eve" Wisethpanish, 25, Accountant

A mini-shabu pot. It's convenient when you get a midnight craving for instant noodles. Another thing I found pretty useful at night, is an LED clip-on lamp. The reason why I bought this lamp is simple. I'm too lazy to walk back and forth between my bed and the light switch. I got myself a dust vacuum at half price. I just found out that my mother is allergic to dust and dog fur.

Chayanid "Paint" Udomrattanasirichai, 23, Key account executive

The lockdown unlocked a new skill for me: cooking. I started with a must-have item that everyone is crazy about, an air fryer. It does its job excellently. Besides owning a new toaster and a low-sugar rice cooker, I also decided to squeeze in a new coffee machine. I use them every day. Apart from making my cooking easier and convenient, they help me take my mind off work.

Nasarun "Nan" Amornchanthanakorn, 23, Artist/public relations

A foldable treadmill is what I bought after gyms and parks were closed. I also filled my balcony with plants I bought from online stores.

The Nintendo Switch is another life-saver gadget that has helped kill my boredom. It helps me clear my mind after a long day at work and allows me to spend time with my family, screaming over each other while playing Overcooked. They are all worth it, even though I may not need to run on my treadmill after the parks reopen.

Section 1: Write the correct answer in the space provided.

1. Who bought food gadgets?
2. Who bought exercise equipment?
3. Who bought something that helps with allergies?
4. Who says they are lazy?
5. Which gadget helps with boredom?.....
6. Who bought something to help them work?

Section 2: Read the following passage. Then, fill in the blanks with the correct words from the choices given.

I'm also one of those people who jumped on the air fryer ...7... . .8... heard everyone talking about snacks from an air fryer ...9... healthier. Frankly, I haven't noticed that much of a ...10... .

- | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| 7. <input type="checkbox"/> A. band | <input type="checkbox"/> B. bus | <input type="checkbox"/> C. bandwagon |
| 8. <input type="checkbox"/> A. I'm | <input type="checkbox"/> B. I'd | <input type="checkbox"/> C. I'll |
| 9. <input type="checkbox"/> A. is | <input type="checkbox"/> B. are | <input type="checkbox"/> C. being |
| 10. <input type="checkbox"/> A. different | <input type="checkbox"/> B. difference | <input type="checkbox"/> C. differ |

Section 3: Find words that match the following definitions.

11. a small machine or piece of electronic equipment
12. a powerful desire for something
13. having a reaction when in contact with certain things
14. a machine for exercising on which you run

For the answers, find the story online at www.bangkokpost.com/learning. If you have any questions or feedback, please contact the Editor at garyb@bangkokpost.co.th