

Task2

Read the text and compare your answers to what is said in it. Then turn to your partner and have a short talk together about school marks and progress in school.

School Report and School Achievement

When most Greek parents receive bad school reports for their children, it seems that they are affected much more negatively than their children. "You are not able to attend Senior High School, so you'd better go to a Technical Vocational School (TEE)" is a usual reaction to a Junior High School leaver whose school report is not especially good. They tend to view a TEE as a kind of school for failures and not a school that may perhaps suit the child's skills and abilities better.

How can one show parents that, if a school report recommends that the child cannot progress in that type of school, they'd better make peace with the fact that:

- a) it is the school in question that may not be suitable for their child, and
- b) a society does not need only doctors and lawyers, but also good technicians of all kinds. How can one tell parents that they must understand the possible effect on their child if she or he is not ready for a certain type of school, but advances anyway? According to a psychologist, "If the learning load in school is too heavy for the child, struggling won't build character, it will erode self-esteem".

Once parents have reconciled themselves to the fact that their child may not be able to achieve much next year in what has been traditionally considered a prestigious type of school, what could they do to make choice of a TEE school successful for the child?

Task3

Read the text again and choose the correct answer.

1. When Greek parents receive bad school reports for their children,
 - a) they accept the fact that their child may not be good in everything.
 - b) they feel unhappier than the child and say nasty words.
 - c) they have a calm talk with the child to see what went wrong.
2. Greek parents seem to view TEE as a school option appropriate for
 - a) pupils with excellent marks.
 - b) pupils with skills suitable for this kind of school.
 - c) pupils with bad marks.
3. What society needs is
 - a) people of all professions.
 - b) only doctors and lawyers.
 - c) only good technicians of all kinds.
4. According to a psychologist, if children go to a school that demands
 - a) more than they can do, their self-esteem will grow.
 - b) less than they can do, their self-esteem will grow.
 - c) more than they can do, their self-esteem will become less.

Task4

Match the English words with their definitions.

1.	affect	a)	think that	1-K
2.	prestigious	b)	inagreement with	2-H
3.	reconcile	c)	meaning 'no' in a bad way	3-D
4.	traditionally	d)	find a way to agree	4-J
5.	negatively	e)	lack of success	5-C
6.	struggle	f)	move forward	6-L
7.	consider	g)	destroy slowly	7-A
8.	failure	h)	more important than	8-E
9.	advance	i)	the way you feel about yourself	9-F
10.	according to	j)	as in the past with no change	10-B
11.	self-esteem	k)	cause to change	11-I
12.	erode	l)	try very hard	12-G

Task5

You are going to listen to a psychologist's suggestions to parents. Before doing so, ask yourself the following questions. Be honest. Turn to your partner and see how he/she has answered his/her questions.

1. How do you feel when you get bad marks?
2. Do you ever blame others for your mistakes?
3. Have you been forced to choose your school or was it your own decision?

1.
2.
3.

Task 6

Listen for a second time. Complete the following statements. When you finish, give your work to your partner. Exchange information. Listen to the text again. Correct his/her mistakes.

1. It is important to increase the child's..**view of himself or herself**..
2. Let your child assume responsibility **for his or her next step**.....
3. You are not punishing your child by ...**forcing the choice of a TEE (EPAL)**.....
4. It is better to choose a school which..**could be easier**.....
5. A teenager may take a bad report as ...**personal failure**.....
6. Not choosing a Senior High School is not something to be..**ashamed of**..
7. Three years at a TEE is what one might call. ..**growing towards your profession**... ..
8. Tell your child how smart he/she is to make a move towards making..**money earlier**...
...and getting ahead with...**securing~a~job~for~himself~or~herself**.....

Task 7

Work together with your partner and comment on each of the five suggestions to parents mentioned in the text of Tasks 5 and 6 above. Then write your comments on each of the suggestions. If you need more help, go to the Appendices, Unit 1.

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