

Study Success: Reasons for absence

Look at the following reasons for absence.

Think about why YOU have missed lessons and rank the reasons below in order using numbers 1-10. Use 1 for the most common reason and 10 for the least.

| | |
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| Appointments | <input type="text"/> |
| Can't be bothered | <input type="text"/> |
| Don't like the course | <input type="text"/> |
| Don't want to enter class because of lateness | <input type="text"/> |
| Family commitments | <input type="text"/> |
| Hangover / comedown | <input type="text"/> |
| Haven't done homework / assignments | <input type="text"/> |
| Illness | <input type="text"/> |
| Tired / sleep in | <input type="text"/> |
| Work | <input type="text"/> |



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You've got an important doctor's appointment during class time. You've already missed a lot of class and are afraid of being kicked out of college. What should you do?

- A. Miss the class and hope the teacher doesn't notice
- B. Phone your tutor and tell him/her about the appointment
- C. Try to rearrange the appointment first, then let the teacher know if you need to miss class

You've been doing your course for two weeks and decide that you don't like it. You've already missed quite a few classes because you're finding it difficult and boring.

- A. Arrange to meet your tutor and ask his/her advice
- B. Attend for 2 more weeks, then decide
- C. Drop out
- D. Stay on the course, hoping it'll get more interesting and less difficult

You're having problems waking up in the morning and are often late. You decide to miss the morning classes to avoid getting told off.

- A. Continue missing morning classes – it's better than being told off
- B. Go into the class late and deal with the telling off.
- C. Think about why you're often too tired to wake up and do something about it

You often stay up with your friends drinking during the week. Because of this, you're finding it difficult to get up in the mornings and have missed a lot of class.

- A. Continue as you are – you're only young once
- B. It's OK to miss the occasional class because of a hangover, as long as you tell the teacher before the class
- C. Tell your friends you can only party at the weekends

You've got a big family and your parents both work. Your little sister is often ill and you have to babysit. Because of this, you've been missing a lot of college and are getting behind in your work.

- A. Arrange to meet your tutor, explain the problem and ask for extra work to do when you're off
- B. Change to a part-time course
- C. Miss the classes
- D. Talk to your family and try to find someone else who can help with the babysitting

You're having problems keeping up with your assignments / homework and often skip class rather than tell the teacher you've missed the deadline.

- A. Ask your teacher for an extension on the deadline
- B. Continue missing classes – it's better than being told off
- C. Write the homework deadlines in your diary and decide on a regular time and place to do homework each week

Your boss regularly asks you to do extra shifts at work. These often clash with your college timetable. You usually say 'yes' because you need the money and don't want to lose your job

- A. Keep working when your boss wants you to
- B. Show your boss your timetable and explain that you can only work when you're not in college
- C. Tell your boss you can't do the extra shifts – college is worth risking your job

You keep arguing with your boyfriend / girlfriend. He / she doesn't have a job or course and gets jealous when you're at college. You've been missing classes to keep him/her happy.

- A. Ask friends for advice
- B. Drop him / her – it's not worth risking your future
- C. Drop out of college
- D. Encourage him/her to get a job or a course

You've been seeing your boyfriend for a while now. You've just found out that you're pregnant.

- A. Ask your parents' advice
- B. Have the baby – you can continue with your education later
- C. Ignore the problem – it will go away
- D. Make an appointment with a college counsellor ASAP to work out your options

Your dad doesn't want you to study. He's got a restaurant where you work in the evenings. He's putting pressure on you to drop college and work with him full-time.

- A. Do what your dad wants
- B. Go against your dad's wishes and stay at college
- C. Change to a part-time course so you can work more at his restaurant
- D. Get your dad to meet your tutor who can explain why college is important