

Chapter 3: Independent learning

Task 1

How well do you know your university library?

- Can you use the library catalogue to find books on a particular subject?
- Do you know what a database is?
- Which databases are most relevant to your own areas of study?
- Do you know how to locate specific journal articles?
- Do you know how to get help in using the library?

If the answer to any of these is 'no', you should go to the information desk at your university library and ask about the training programmes the library offers.

Task 2

Take a tour of your university library. Use the information that you learn on this tour to prepare a brief guide to the library that would be suitable for new students.

Task 3

Use the internet to find out about the training classes for students offered by your university library. Select one training class and prepare an advertisement giving the following information to your fellow students:

- the aim of the training class
- the time and place it is held
- the reasons for enrolling in this class

Task 4

Does your university have a study skills centre, a writing centre or other means of assisting students with the demands of academic life?

- Where is the centre located?
- What type of courses does it offer?
- Are the courses for credit?
- Select one course and explain why this course would be useful to you.



Task 5

Does your university have a numeracy centre to assist students with mathematics and statistics?

- Where is the centre located?
- What type of courses does it offer?
- Are the courses for credit?
- Select one course and explain why this course would be useful to you.

Task 6

- What type of problems do you think a counsellor might help you with?
- Where are the counsellors located at your university?
- How do you make an appointment to see a counsellor?
- Does your university have international advisors for students from overseas?