

### Case Study #1 for Unit 4

Distance Learning for sure has its critics and advocates as to the potential of being the future of Education. More and more wireless providers are springing up for all sorts of devices: laptops, PDAs and cell phones. However, it remains a drawback of distance learning to lack face to face interaction. Even though a drawback for many adults, it seems to be the environment of choice for many of the younger generation. What comments can you supply to support either the belief that distance learning can or cannot allow students share each others' ideas? Respond to the proposal that all students have the right to choose between a contemporary online or traditional classroom education. How would you respond to the criticisms of distance learning as an unproven alternative to face-to-face education? Be sure to cite specific examples to support your responses from lecture, textbook, or investigations.

### Case Study #2 for Unit 4

The following is a quote from the report *Fool's Gold: A Critical Look at Computers and Childhood* by the Alliance for Childhood: "Those who place their faith in technology to solve the problems of education should look more deeply into the needs of children. The renewal of education requires personal attention to students from good teachers and active parents, strongly supported by their communities. It requires commitment to developmentally appropriate education and attention to the full range of children's real low-technology and personal needs—physical, emotional, and social, as well as cognitive" (Cordes & Miller, 2000, p. 4). In light of the increasing importance of the Internet as an information resource and an instrument for students' research, how would you respond to this controversial statement? Keep in mind, the ever increasing Home Schooling arena is growing by leaps and bounds as we speak. Respond to these statements about **WWW (Internet)** and **sustain your position** with information gained from the **lecture, readings and investigations** from Unit 1 **or** from other valid and reliable sources. Include supporting statements for either position.

### Case Study #3 for Unit 4

Common knowledge about the pitfalls of the **WWW (Internet)** such as: inappropriate web sites, online predators, fraudulent activities, computer viruses abound whenever it is discussed, however, it still survives and even continual is growing. It seems to be unlimited in scope and depth to supply any and all knowledge or information needed to a worldwide user group. Comment on ways Education and society should deal with these important negative aspects of the **WWW (Internet)**. Respond to at least two of these shortcomings of the **WWW (Internet)** and **sustain your position** with information gained from the **lecture, readings and investigations** from Unit 1 **or** from other valid and reliable sources. Include supporting statements for both or more of these disadvantages.