A diagram of a park

Description automatically generated

The pictures illustrate how the facilities of the Grange Park changed between 1920 and today.

Overall, almost all the area in the park have been changed. There are more functional facilities than before.

In 1920, the majority of the park was used for visiting plants. There was a fountain in the center of the park, and a stage for musicians on the west side of it. Besides these, all other parts of the park were for plants. There were three rose gardens, two were next to the entrance at Arnold road, one was next to the stage on the southern side of the park. A pond of water plants was on the northeast corner, facing to a glasshouse on the southeast corner of the park. There were some seats for people to rest and enjoy the plants in every where of the park.

Today, there is huge change in the park. A square rose garden has replaced the fountain in the center of the park, surrounded by four seats. Only one of the previous rose gardens has been kept, stayed in the northwest corner. The stage for musicians has been replaced by a bigger Amphitheater for concerts that contains more audiences. On the east side of the park, there is a café and children’s play area replaced the old rose garden and the pond. The glasshouse in the southeast corner has been replaced by a water feature. It is worth noticing that a new entrance to under ground car park is built next to the water feature.

A diagram of a park

Description automatically generated

In today’s society, more and more people choose to be a freelancer rather than as a employee in a firm. The main reason of this phenomenon is people who self-employed can have more freedom than working in a company, while the drawbacks are they may lack social connections and their income may not maintain stable.

Having more disposable time is the determining factor that people choose to become a freelancer. That is because they can manage their affairs according to their own schedule, rather than being arranged by supervisors in company. Also, working from home saves people a lot of time in commute, in which case, they can spend more time and vigor on work and guarantee their working efficiency and productivity. For example, people who work as an online tutor do not need to go to school in person, which brings them much convenience and flexibility and they can spend more time on preparation for classes, thus enhancing their teaching outcomes.

However, there are some drawbacks of being self-employed. Firstly, people who work from home may lack social contact. Compare to those who work in a company or organization with many colleagues, freelancers usually just work with himself. In this case, they may sometimes feel lonely and demotivated.   
  
Secondly, the stability of their income is not guaranteed. Unlike working in the company, which employees can get paid on time, the salary of freelancers depends on the quantity and quality of their works and clients. If they cannot widen their social circle, they may not have enough clients to support their sustainable income. For instance, many designers chose to leave their company and became freelancers after the Covid pandemic in 2020, however, many of them cannot maintain their income because they do not have enough customers as before, and they finally went back to work in design companies.

In conclusion, enjoying more freedom is the contributing factor of people choosing to be self-employed. However, the disadvantages of this phenomenon cannot be neglected.

More colleges and universities are offering distance learning. The advent of the Internet as a learning medium has helped to create distance-learning opportunities worldwide. However, is it really possible to learn from home? I find it hard to do so. Learning from home do not provide proper assessment of the students ability, fail to provide a competitive environment however it is more cost friendly for the students  
  
  
Are such courses suitable for all learners? I know several people who have tried this type of course and they all gave up after a few weeks. I will examine these questions below, firstly by considering the advantages and disadvantages of learning in this mode, and then by looking at the kind of learner that suits distance learning. But first, here is a brief history of distance learning.