EXTRA VOCABULARY PRACTICE: EDUCATION

1 Subjects

Match the following school subjects with their definitions:

a. history	f. chemistry
b. music	g. biology
c. maths	h. IT (information technology)
d. economics	i. geography
e. physics	j. art

1. The study of plant, animal and human life.
2. The study of the world's physical features, climate, populations etc.
3. The study of the past.
4. The study of painting and drawing.
5. How to use computers.
6. The study of heat, sound, electricity etc.
7. Arithmetic, algebra, geometry, calculus etc.
8. The study of elements and how they combine and react.
9. The study of financial systems.
10. Playing instruments and singing.

Now mark each subject either 'S' (science subject) or 'A' (arts subject).

In Britain everyone has to do PE (physical education) and RE (religious education). Many people study languages, usually French, Spanish or German. Classics is the study of Latin, Greek, and perhaps ancient history.

2 Exams

Cross out the verb which does not collocate:

do / make / take / sit / pass / fail *an exam*

Complete the dialogue with the correct form of these verbs:

re-sit pass fail revise

A: Hi Tara, I'm so happy. I (1) . . . . . all my exams. I even got a grade A in English!

B: I didn't do too badly, but I (2) . . . . . biology. That means I'll have to (3) . . . . . it next term.

A: Oh no, I'm so sorry. You spent ages on biology, didn't you? What happened?

B : Well, I guess I just didn't (4) . . . . . hard enough. Perhaps I'll get it next time.

3 Your school career

Use these verbs:

passed	graduated
sat	got
doing	applied

and these other words to complete the text:

primary	nursery
secondary	college
university	degree

When I was very young I went to a playgroup and then a (1) . . . . . school. When I was five, I started at the local (2) . . . . . school. School is compulsory in Britain for everybody between five and sixteen years old, but in lots of other countries children don't start until they are seven.

My primary school was mixed, but when I was eleven, I went to an all-boys (3) . . . . . school. My favourite subjects were maths and English. After five years at secondary school, I decided to go to sixth form (4) . . . . . .

In my last year in the sixth form I (5) . . . . . exams in four subjects – maths, physics, chemistry, and geography. I (6) . . . . . them all and (7) . . . . . A grades in maths and physics.

I (8) . . . . . for a place at (9) . . . . . to study astronomy. It was a three-year (10) . . . . . course. I (11) . . . . . with first class honours. I thought about (12) . . . . . a postgraduate degree, but decided it was time to get a job and earn some money.

Most people go to state schools but some parents pay to send their children to private schools. In England the best known private schools are called public schools. Sometimes students live for the whole term at their boarding school. The most traditional are still single-sex schools but most are now co-educational (co-ed).

Americans go to high school and then college.

Pupils is used until children leave primary school; after that we usually call them students.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

4 The school buildings

Match the different places with their definitions:

1. classroom
2. hall
3. playground
4. gym
5. playing fields
6. staff room
7. chemistry / physics lab
8. library

a. where you play football and other sports
b. the teachers' room
c. where students go during breaks
d. a quiet place to read or look things up
e. where you have most of your lessons
f. a special room where you can do experiments
g. a big room where the whole school can meet for assembly
h. where you do PE

5 Remembering your schooldays

Complete the text below with these words:

grade	rules
strict	discipline
hour	uniform
period	test

School was very different when I was young. We all had to wear a school (1) . . . . There were lots of (2) . . . . . and the teachers were very (3) . . . . . . We had to stand up whenever a teacher came into the room. Once a week we had a (4) . . . . . and anybody who got a (5) . . . . . D or E had to do extra work during the lunch (6) . . . . . . My favourite subject was art, but we only had that for one (7) . . . . . a week. Schools are more relaxed nowadays, but when you look at the problems in society, I think perhaps we should bring back some of the (8) . . . . . .

Is discipline strict in the schools in your country?

Do you (or did you) like school?

6 Being good or bad at school

Put the phrases below into the correct list:

a. work hard.
b. always do your homework.
c. get into trouble a lot.
d. play around in class.
e. pay attention all the time.
f. pick things up really quickly.
g. skip lessons.

1. If you are good at school, you:
   . . . . . .
   . . . . . .
   . . . . . .
   . . . . . .
2. If you aren't a good student, you:
   . . . . . .
   . . . . . .
   . . . . . .

7 School staff

Match the following school staff with their job descriptions:

head teacher	caretaker
head of department	librarian
PE teacher	deputy head
learning support assistant	lab technician

1. I teach football and hockey and other sports.
2. I run the English department.
3. I provide extra help in the classroom.
4. I make sure the doors are locked at night.
5. I'm the boss!
6. I'm in charge of the library.
7. I'm number 2!
8. I help the science teachers prepare their experiments.

The person who helps older students decide what to do when they leave school is the careers adviser.

LIVEWORKSHEETS