

Lesson 13 – Study

Most children begin their studies at 5 or 6 years old in **pre-school**, followed by **kindergarten**. After that comes **primary/elementary school**, which consists of **first grade** through **fifth grade**. Then there's **middle school – sixth grade** through **eighth grade** – and **high school**, which is **ninth grade** through **twelfth grade**.

After high school, you **apply to colleges/universities** to see which ones will accept you. You **send in/submit your application** and then wait for the results. If you **got good grades** in high school, you might **get / be awarded a scholarship** to help pay the tuition (the cost of studying).

In college, you'll **take classes/courses** on various subjects. You should always **take notes** as the teacher is **giving the lecture**. Some teachers may ask the students to **give/make presentations** or **do research** and **write an essay, an assignment, a report, or a paper**. After you **hand in your work**, the teacher will **grade the assignment** (*give you an evaluation, for example, 90%*) and **give you feedback** (*comments on your work*).

To evaluate your progress, you'll **take tests/exams**. If you get the minimum number of points required, you've **passed the test**; if you don't get the minimum number of points, you've **failed the test**. It's also possible to **pass/fail a course**.

If the course proves to be too difficult, or if you don't like it, you can **withdraw from** or **drop the course**. "Withdraw from" is the more formal expression, and "drop" is the more informal expression.

Most college students **choose a major/concentration**. To talk about a concentration of studies, you can use "major" as a verb or a noun – for example,

- "I majored in biology" / "I was a biology major."
- "My daughter is majoring in philosophy." / "My daughter's a philosophy major."

When you **graduate from college**, you'll **get a diploma**. Afterwards, you can say you **have a degree** in the area of your concentration. You can have a **bachelor's degree, master's degree, or doctorate (Ph.D.)**, for example:

- "I have a bachelor's degree in chemistry."
- "I have a master's degree in linguistics."
- "I have a Ph.D. in theology."

Lesson 13 Quiz

1. Christine has been a central / medium / middle school teacher for many years.
2. Could you give me some degree / concentration / feedback on my presentation? I'd like to know how to improve it.
3. He's applying / submitting / trying to all the best universities in the country.
4. I think I got every question on the exam wrong - I have no doubt that I dropped / failed / lost.
5. I'm having / taking / going a course on Latin American politics.
6. My daughter's 12 - she's in sixth class / grade / level.
7. My father promised he'd buy me a car if I got / made / took good grades in my final year of high school.
8. No, my son hasn't chosen a degree / major / series yet. He's debating between sociology and anthropology.
9. She awarded / formed / graduated from the University of California in 1999.
10. The professor took ten points off my test because I handed it in / gave it up / passed it a few minutes late.
11. The top five students in the class were awarded / submitted / withdrawn a scholarship to a local college.
12. This topic will be on the test - make sure to take detailed lectures / notes / writings.