

1 THE SCHOOL SYSTEM IN THE UK AND THE US

a Complete the text about the UK with words from the list.

boarding /'bɔːdɪŋ/ degree /dɪ'ɡriː/ head /hed/ nursery /'nɜːsəri/
primary /'praɪməri/ private /'praɪvət/ pupils /'pʊplz/
secondary /'sekəndəri/ state /steɪt/ students /'stjuːdnts/
terms /tɜːmz/

In the UK

Children start ¹ primary school when they're five. Before that, many children go to ² _____ school, e.g. between the ages of two and four, but this is not compulsory. From 11–18, children go to ³ _____ school. The majority of schools in the UK (about 90%) are ⁴ _____ schools, which means that they are paid for by the government and education is free. The other 10% are ⁵ _____ schools, where parents have to pay. A few of these are ⁶ _____ schools, where children study, eat, and sleep. Children at primary school are often called ⁷ _____ and children at secondary school are usually called ⁸ _____, as are people who are studying at university. The person who is in charge of a school is called the ⁹ _____ teacher. The school year is divided into three ¹⁰ _____.



If you want to go to university, you have to take exams called A levels in your last year at school. If your results are good enough, you get a place. A person who has finished university and has a ¹¹ _____ is called a graduate.

b 7.2 Listen and check.

c Complete the text about the US with words from the list.

college /'kɒlɪdʒ/ elementary /elɪ'mentəri/ grades /ɡreɪdʒ/
high /haɪ/ kindergarten /'kɪndəɡɑːtn/ semesters /sɪ'mestəz/
twelfth grade /'twelfθ ɡreɪd/

In the US

The school system is divided into three levels, ¹ elementary school, middle school (sometimes called junior high school), and ² _____ school. Schoolchildren are divided by age groups into ³ _____. The youngest children start in ⁴ _____ (followed by first grade) and continue until ⁵ _____, which is the final year of high school. The school year is divided into two ⁶ _____. Higher education in the US is often called ⁷ _____.

d 7.3 Listen and check.

ACTIVATION Cover the texts. With a partner, remember the different types of school (starting from the lowest level) in both countries.

2 DISCIPLINE AND EXAMS

a Complete the texts with a verb from the list in the right form.

not be allowed to /nɒt biː ə'laʊd tə/
be expelled /bi ɪk'speld/ be punished /bi 'pʌnɪʃt/
cheat /tʃiːt/ let /let/ make /meɪk/
misbehave /mɪsbi'heɪv/

A Discipline is very strict in our school. We ¹ aren't allowed to take our phones to school and they don't ² _____ us bring unhealthy food for lunch, like crisps or fizzy drinks. Most children behave well, but if you ³ _____, for example, talk too much in class, you'll ⁴ _____ and the teacher will probably ⁵ _____ you stay behind after class. If you do something more serious, like ⁶ _____ in an exam, you might even ⁷ _____.

fail /feɪl/ pass /pɑːs/ result /rɪ'zʌlt/
revise /rɪ'vaɪz/ take /teɪk/ (or do)

B Marc has to ¹ _____ an important English exam next week. He hopes he'll ² _____, but he hasn't had much time to ³ _____, so he's worried that he might ⁴ _____. He won't get the ⁵ _____ until July.

b 7.4 Listen and check.

ACTIVATION Cover the texts and look at the verbs. Explain what they mean.

make, let, and allow

My French teacher **made me do** extra homework. Our IT teacher **lets us play** games every Friday. The head **doesn't allow us to take** our phones to school.

We use **make** and **let** with an object pronoun and the infinitive without **to**. We use **allow** with an object pronoun and the infinitive + **to**.

let and **allow** have a similar meaning. We often use **allow** in the passive, e.g. *We're allowed to play games every Friday*, but we can't use **let** in the passive **NOT** *We're let play games...*

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