

# Education

## Exercise 1

Complete definitions 1 – 14 with words and expressions from the box. You will not need all of the words and expressions from the box.

acquire class correspondence course course day release degree  
 discipline doctorate elementary (education) elementary school  
 enroll exam experience faculty fail fees grade grades grade school  
 graduate (noun) graduate (verb) graduate school grant higher degree  
 higher education high school junior high school kindergarten learn  
 learning resources center lecture lecturer lesson literacy mature (student)  
 middle school night class numeracy opportunity pass physical education  
 private school professor prospectus public school qualifications quarter  
 retake (an exam) resources secondary (education) semester seminar  
 SAT® (Scholastic Aptitude Test) sit / take (an exam) skills study subject  
 syllabus topic tutor tutorial undergraduate

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ is an educational course that you take at home, receiving your work and sending it back by mail or email. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a lesson in the evening for people who work during the day. People who have a job might be given \_\_\_\_\_ by their employer, which means that can take a day off work about once a week to attend a course of study.
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ is an examination that students must take before they can go to university.
3. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a period of time in which students are taught a subject in school (also called a \_\_\_\_\_).
4. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a talk given to a group of students at college or university about a particular \_\_\_\_\_. The person who gives this talk is called a \_\_\_\_\_. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a meeting at which a group of students discuss something they are studying. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a meeting at which one student, or a small group of students, discusses something he / she is studying with his / her \_\_\_\_\_.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ is the ability to read and write. \_\_\_\_\_ refers to basic skills in mathematics.
6. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a small book that provides information about a university. Once a student who has read this book decides he / she would like to study there, he must \_\_\_\_\_ (in other words, he / she puts his / her name on the official list of students).
7. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a main department at a university. This word can also be used to refer to the teaching staff of a school, college, university, etc.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ refers to sports and exercise that children do at school as a school subject.
9. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a school that is funded by taxes. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a school where the parents of the children who attend it must pay \_\_\_\_\_.
10. A \_\_\_\_\_ is school for very young children (aged 4 or 5), which prepares them for the first \_\_\_\_\_ at school. An \_\_\_\_\_ is a school for the first six or eight years of a child's education. It is also known as a \_\_\_\_\_.

11. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a list of the main subjects in a course of study (sometimes called a *curriculum*).
12. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a school for students between the ages of 12 and 14 or 15. It is also known as a \_\_\_\_\_. From the age of 14 or 15, students attend a \_\_\_\_\_.
13. A \_\_\_\_\_ is one of two periods into which the school year is divided. A \_\_\_\_\_ is one of four periods into which the school year is divided.
14. A \_\_\_\_\_ is someone who has completed a course at school, college, or university. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a college or university where students can study for a \_\_\_\_\_ such as a Master's or Ph.D.

### Exercise 2

Use your dictionary to check the meanings of the other words and expressions in the box.

### Exercise 3

Complete this essay with appropriate words and expressions from the box in Exercise 1. You may need to change the form of some of the words.

You are never too old to learn. Do you agree with this statement?

Education is a long process that not only provides us with basic (1) \_\_\_\_\_ such as (2) \_\_\_\_\_ and (3) \_\_\_\_\_, but is also essential in shaping our future lives. From the moment we enter (4) \_\_\_\_\_ as 5-year-olds, and as we progress through (5) \_\_\_\_\_ and (6) \_\_\_\_\_ education, we are laying the foundations for the life ahead of us. We must (7) \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves to work hard so that we can (8) \_\_\_\_\_ exams and gain the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ we will need to secure a good job. We must also (10) \_\_\_\_\_ valuable life skills so that we can fit in and work with those around us. And of course (11) \_\_\_\_\_ helps us to develop our bodies and stay fit and healthy.

For most people, this process ends when they are in their mid-to-late teens and they (12) \_\_\_\_\_ from high school. For others, however, it is the beginning of a lifetime of learning. After they finish school, many progress to (13) \_\_\_\_\_ education where they will work towards a (14) \_\_\_\_\_ in a chosen (15) \_\_\_\_\_ at university. After that, they may work for a while before opting to study at a (16) \_\_\_\_\_ for a Masters degree, or a (17) \_\_\_\_\_. Alternatively, they may choose to attend a (18) \_\_\_\_\_ after work or, if they have a sympathetic employer, obtain (19) \_\_\_\_\_ so that they can study during the week. And if they live a long way from a college or university, they might follow a (20) \_\_\_\_\_ using mail and the Internet. In fact, it is largely due to the proliferation of computers that many people, who have not been near a school for many years, have started to study again and can proudly class themselves as (21) \_\_\_\_\_ students.

We live in a fascinating and constantly changing world, and we must continually learn and acquire new knowledge if we are to adapt and keep up with changing events. Our schooldays are just the beginning of this process, and we should make the best of every (22) \_\_\_\_\_ to develop ourselves, whether we are eighteen or eighty. You are, indeed, never too old to learn.

### Exercise 4

Now try this essay. Use words and expressions from the vocabulary box in Exercise 1, and any other words or expressions that you think would be relevant.

*Do you agree with this statement? "The most important things in life are not learnt at school or college." Use examples and details in your answer.*