Unit 7

EDUCATION OPTIONS FOR SCHOOL-LEAVERS

I Pronunciation

1 Read and mark the intonation in these questions using ↗ (rising intonation) or ↘ (falling intonation). Then practise saying them.

1. Why do you want to go to a vocational school?
2. What do your parents think about your future plans?
3. Is it expensive to study at university in Viet Nam?
4. Do you like studying science subjects at school?

2 Read the following conversations and mark the intonation in the questions using ↗ (rising intonation) or ↘ (falling intonation). Then practise saying them.

1. *A:* Did you go to the education fair?
   B: Yes, I did.
2. *A:* Did you get the brochure about the vocational school?
   B: Yes, here it is.
3. *A:* How many students are there in a class?
   B: About 30.
4. *A:* What do you like best about this university?
   B: Oh, I like its library best.

II Vocabulary

1 Find the following words in the word search.

vocational	apprentice
institution	qualification
graduation	academic
trade	professional

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q	w	n	o	i	t	u	t	i	t	s	n	i
u	g	h	g	r	a	d	u	a	t	i	o	n
a	j	k	v	o	c	a	t	i	o	n	a	l
l	l	z	x	c	a	v	b	n	m	q	t	w
i	e	r	t	y	d	u	i	o	p	a	u	s
f	p	r	o	f	e	s	s	i	o	n	a	l
i	d	f	g	h	m	j	k	l	z	x	d	c
c	v	b	n	m	i	q	e	e	r	t	a	y
a	u	i	o	t	c	p	a	s	d	f	g	h
t	j	a	p	p	r	e	n	t	i	c	e	k
i	m	s	t	a	t	a	t	h	o	n	l	z
o	x	c	v	b	n	m	d	e	w	r	t	y
n	u	i	o	p	a	s	d	e	g	h	j	k

2 Choose the best answers to complete the sentences.

1. _____ education is a popular option for school-leavers who don't go to university.
   - A. Vocational
   - B. Academic
   - C. Secondary
   - D. Formal
2. After completing their vocational courses, students are offered four-month _____ to learn from skilled people in the trade.
   - A. education
   - B. apprenticeships
   - C. courses
   - D. breaks
3. The University of Oxford is one of the best academic _____ in the world.
   - A. chances
   - B. careers
   - C. institutions
   - D. companies
4. _____ gives students the opportunity to study a subject in depth.
   - A. Secondary education
   - B. Vocational education
   - C. Special education
   - D. Higher education
5. My brother wasn't offered the job because he didn't have the right _____.
   - A. qualifications
   - B. trades
   - C. apprentices
   - D. skilled people
6. He completed a _____ cooking course at this vocational school before he became a restaurant cook.
   - A. business
   - B. professional
   - C. formal
   - D. responsible

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7. At the education fair, we collected a lot of _____ from different institutions about their training programmes.

A. answers B. questions C. brochures D. donations

8. Despite their financial difficulties, my parents _____ to pay for my university education.

A. disagreed B. approved C. refused D. managed

3 Complete the text using the correct forms of the words in the box.

formal	vocational school	school-leaver	academic
apprentice	qualification	graduation	entrance

Nowadays, there are many educational opportunities available to school-leavers. If they plan to work in a certain trade, they can go to a (1) _____. These schools will provide training and (2) _____ related to a particular job, such as being a cook, hotel receptionist, or hairdresser. Vocational schools also work closely with different industries where students can work as (3) _____ even during their study time. Other (4) _____ may want to continue their (5) _____ education. To do that, they should have good (6) _____ results or pass the university (7) _____ exam. University students usually find jobs or do other courses after (8) _____.

III Grammar

1 Choose the best answers to complete the sentences.

1. My mother remembered _____ visited this place.

A. having B. have C. had D. has

2. _____ talked with my teacher helped me understand the lesson better.

A. Had B. Having C. Have D. Has

3. Nam regretted not having _____ the university entrance exam.

A. taking B. take C. taken D. took

4. My parents were proud of having _____ the best schools in the area for me and my brothers.

A. choose B. choosing C. chose D. chosen

5. _____ studied the brochure carefully, my brother decided to apply for the hotel management course.

A. Having B. Having been C. Have D. Had

6. Having made the wrong decision, he _____ interest in studying the subject.

A. having lost B. lost C. have lost D. having

7. Not _____ read the text, he couldn't answer the questions.

A. having had B. having been C. having D. have

8. Having _____ carefully for the exam, she could answer all the questions easily.

A. been revised B. had revised C. revise D. revised

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2 There is a mistake in each sentence. Find the mistake and correct it. Use perfect participle clauses or perfect gerunds.

1. My father remembered having meet the man in his office.
2. Having have a difficult childhood affected his confidence.
3. Not have taken a professional cooking course, he couldn't find a job as a restaurant cook.
4. He denied have posted negative comments about the school on social media.
5. Having fail the university entrance exam, she decided to go to a vocational school.
6. Not have spent enough time on studying, he didn't pass the exam.
7. Have finished a professional cooking course, my brother got a job as a restaurant cook.
8. Having talk with his cousin about future jobs, Tam changed his initial plan.

3 Rewrite these sentences using perfect participle clauses or perfect gerunds. Add commas where necessary.

1. My mother didn't go to university. She regretted it.
   → _____ to university.
2. My sister finished school. Then she went to a vocational school to train to be a tour guide.
   → _____ went to a vocational school to train to be a tour guide.
3. My grandfather did not remember that he had lost his reading glasses.
   → _____ his reading glasses.
4. My brother wrote his first travel book after he had returned from Japan.
   → _____ wrote his first travel book.
5. Trang won the first prize in the competition. She is very proud of this.
   → _____ the first prize in the competition.
6. Nam worked as a mechanic's apprentice and learnt useful job skills.
   → _____ learnt useful job skills.
7. Phong achieved excellent grades at school, so he improved his chances of getting into a top university.
   → _____ improved his chances of getting into a top university.
8. I spent a lot of time talking to her, and I realised she was not telling me the truth.
   → _____ realised she was not telling me the truth.

IV Reading

1 Read the text and choose the best answers.

Lam's educational journey

Lam completed secondary education when his parents were over 55. They were both farmers with a very low income. He had good grades, but he knew that it would be very difficult for his parents to (1) _____ his university costs. Lam talked to his teachers about his future plans and asked them for (2) _____. He also attended several education

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(3) _____ for school-leavers and met representatives from different educational institutions. He realised that vocational training could help him (4) _____ a job faster because most vocational school courses are much shorter than those at traditional universities.

He also found out that the factory in the nearest town was in need of (5) _____. The factory also closely worked with a local vocational school that (6) _____ different training courses. So Lam decided to (7) _____ a one-year course in machinery mechanics. After finishing the course, Lam was immediately offered a(n) (8) _____ in the factory. He still thinks that vocational training was the right choice for him. Now he can even give his parents a portion of his salary as a way of showing respect and gratitude to them for raising him.

1. A. cover	**B.** buy	**C.** spend	**D.** get
2. A. permission	**B.** advice	**C.** help	**D.** payment
3. A. shops	**B.** institutions	**C.** fairs	**D.** markets
4. A. run	**B.** make	**C.** do	**D.** get
5. A. mechanics	**B.** managers	**C.** doctors	**D.** scientists
6. A. employs	**B.** provides	**C.** stays	**D.** pays
7. A. visit	**B.** apply	**C.** attend	**D.** go
8. A. degree	**B.** apprentice	**C.** salary	**D.** job

2 **Read the text and complete each sentence on page 66 with no more than THREE words from the text.**

From a school-leaver to an award-winning teacher

We spoke with Mai Ha, an award-winning teacher, who grew up in a poor mountainous area. It's amazing what she's achieved and how much she's contributed to her community.

Hi Mai Ha! Tell us about your education.

My parents always supported my studies, and I left school with high grades. Several top universities offered me a place, but I wanted to become a teacher of English, so I chose the University of Languages and International Studies.

I joined the university English language club, practising my English with native speakers and taking part in cultural exchanges. I also worked as a teaching assistant, which helped me improve my teaching skills. So after graduation, I got several job offers in Ha Noi.

But you returned to your home town. Why?

I think my old school needed me more than some big school in the city. English gave me lots of opportunities, and I wanted other young people in my town to learn the language and connect to the world.

You're also involved in other initiatives. Can you tell us about them?

I became a member of several international teaching communities, and learnt a lot from experts and other English teachers. So I introduced an online platform to students at my school. They use it to communicate in English with teenagers from around the world. Our school even teamed up with a school in Manchester, and students from both schools worked on several projects together.

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You've just won the Teacher of the Year award. Congratulations! How do you feel about it?

Thank you! I'm very proud of winning the award, but I'm prouder of my students, who work very hard to achieve their goals and learn new things. There is nothing more inspiring than seeing my students start to believe in themselves.

1. After leaving school, Mai Ha went to university and trained to become a _____.
2. Mai Ha joined the English language club at her university. She also worked as a _____.
3. After graduation, she returned to her home town to teach English at her _____.
4. Mai Ha's students use _____ to connect with teenagers from other countries and improve their English.
5. Mai Ha is very pleased when her hard-working students _____ and learn new things.

V Speaking

1 Complete the conversations by circling the best answers. Then practise reading them.

1. ***Tom:*** Ms Hoa, _____ an appointment with you next Monday to discuss my essay. Would 9 a.m. be convenient for you?

   Ms Hoa: All right, I'll see you then.

   A. I'd like to make
   B. I'd like to do
   C. I'd like to call
   D. I like to book

2. ***Lan:*** Ms Van, I would like to meet you to review my exam grades. Will you be available at 2 p.m. today?

   Ms Van: I'm sorry, _____ this afternoon.

   A. I can't do it
   B. I can't make it
   C. I don't want it
   D. I don't need it

3. ***Khoa:*** Mr Smith, could I meet you on Friday afternoon after 4:30?

   Mr Smith: OK, _____ at around five.

   A. I'd like to
   B. may I see you
   C. I'll see you
   D. I can meet

4. ***Lan:*** Good afternoon. Is Dr Hoa in her office today?

   Receptionist: Sorry, she's just left for an important meeting. She'll _____ to see you tomorrow morning.

   A. sound good
   B. suit you
   C. be convenient
   D. be available

5. ***Laura:*** Mike, I'd like to arrange a meeting of the history club next week. _____ for you?

   Mike: I think Tuesday after school will suit me.

   A. Would Tuesday suit
   B. What time
   C. When's convenient
   D. Are you free

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2 **Talk about your plans after leaving secondary school. Use the ideas below to help you. You can start your talk with the sentence below.**

- type of educational institution you want to go to
- reasons why you have chosen it
- what you can do after you finish your studies there
- what you need to do to achieve your plans

'Today, I'm going to talk about my plans after leaving secondary school ...'

VI Writing

1 **Use the words and phrases below, and add some words where necessary to make meaningful sentences. You may need to change the forms of some verbs.**

1. I / write / ask / information / language courses / your learning centre.

_____

2. Could / you / please / let / know / whether / there / German courses / your language centre?

_____

3. I / wonder / if / your language centre / offer / German course / beginners.

_____

4. I / would like / know / how long / course for beginners / last.

_____

5. Could / you / please / tell / length / course for beginners?

_____

6. I / would / grateful / you could tell / course fees.

_____

7. Would you mind / tell / there / native teachers / your language centre?

_____

8. It / would / great / you could send / information / my email address.

_____

2 **Rewrite the questions without changing their meanings.**

1. Does your language centre offer English courses?

   → Could you please tell me _____?

2. What is the average class size at your school?

   → I want to know _____.

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3. How much does a course for beginners cost?

→ I would be grateful if you could tell me _____.

4. Do all your teachers have professional teaching qualifications?

→ Would you mind telling me _____?

5. Could you send your school brochure to my address?

→ It would be great if _____.

6. Can I start classes immediately?

→ I'd like to know _____.

7. What facilities do you provide at your school?

→ I'd appreciate it if you could _____.

8. Do you have any online resources for self-study?

→ I wonder _____.

3 Write a letter (140–170 words) to request information about the course in the advertisement below. Use the suggested ideas in the box to help you or your own ideas.

Success Language Centre

Want to learn foreign languages?

- Are you interested in learning foreign languages?
- We provide all kinds of courses in many languages.

Contact information:
Email: languagecentre@web.mail
Address: 50 Peace Street, Green City

- German courses?
- Length of a course for beginners?
- How often are classes?
- Course fees? Any discount?
- Are there native teachers?

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