

Unit 4 SCHOOL EDUCATION SYSTEM

- LANGUAGE FOCUS -

PRONUNCIATION: Stress in 3-syllable words

- *Listen and repeat.*

algebra	carefully	politics	physical
chemistry	academic	primary	statistics
computing	cinema	compulsory	September

- *Practise reading these sentences.*

The academic school year generally commences in September.

The typical school day normally finishes at 3.00 p.m. in England.

The national curriculum is usually set by the government.

The GCSE stands for the General Certificate of Secondary Education.

English, Maths and Science are compulsory in the national examination at certain stages of the school education system.

GRAMMAR: THE PASSIVE VOICE

Exercise 1: Fill in each blank with the simple present passive form of the verbs in brackets.

1. The academic year in England _____ into three terms. (divide)
   The academic year in England is divided into three terms.
2. Each term _____ by a one-week break. (separate)
   _____.
3. The national curriculum _____ by the government and _____ in all state schools. (set, must follow)
   _____.
4. The national curriculum _____ of more than ten subjects. (make up)
   _____.
5. The state school system _____ for by the state. (pay)
   _____.
6. The advanced students _____ to take part in the annual International Olympic Competition. (select)

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Exercise 2: Rewrite the following sentences using the passive voice

1. They built this school in 1997.

→This school …….. in 1997.

2. They first published this dictionary in 1870.

→This dictionary …….. in 1870.

3. The students in my class are going to organize a surprise party tomorrow evening.

→A surprise party …….. by the students in my class tomorrow evening.

4. They are painting the kitchen now.

→The kitchen ……..now.

5. Shakespeare wrote "Romeo and Juliet" in 1605.

→ "Romeo and Juliet" ……..by Shakespeare in 1605.

6. They have translated Shakespeare's tragedies into many languages.

→Shakespeare's tragedies ……..into many languages.

7. They have just built a new primary school in my village.

→A new primary school …….. in my village.

8. They will speak English at the conference.

→English ……..at the conference.

9. Jane hasn't cleaned the floor yet.

→The floor …….. yet.

10. They will repaint the house soon.

→The house …….. soon.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Exercise 3: Fill in the spaces of the following passage with the correct tense in passive voice of the verbs in brackets

The world's first electronic computer _____ (1. build) by the University of Pennsylvania in 1946. However, computers _____ (2. sell) commercially for the first time in the 1950s. Much progress on computers _____ (3. make) since 1950. Computers are now much smaller and more powerful and they _____ (4. can buy) much more cheaply.

Computers _____ (5. use) in many fields – in business, science, medicine, and education, for example. They _____ (6. can use) to forecast the weather or to control robots which make cars. The computer's memory is the place where information _____ (7. store) and calculations _____ (8. do). A computer cannot think for itself – it _____ (9. must tell) exactly what to do. A lot of difficult calculations _____ (10. can do) very quickly on computers.

LIVEWORKSHEETS