UNIT 4: SCHOOL EDUCATION SYSTEM

Read the passage and mark the letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the following questions.

In Britain, children are required to be in full-time education between the ages of 5 and 16. Different areas of Britain have different school systems. In some areas, children receive their primary education at an infant school and then a junior school, or at a primary school that combines the two. At about eleven they begin their secondary education at a comprehensive school, a grammar school or a high school. In other areas children go to a first school at age of 5, a middle school at 8 and an upper school from 13 onwards.

Most children go to state schools. Until 1988 these were all responsible to a Local Education Authority (LEA). LEAs obtain their funding from central government and the council tax. In 1988 secondary schools and larger primary schools were encouraged to opt out of LEA control and become grant-maintained.

Some children go to independent school run by private organizations, for which their parents have to pay fees. A few go to public schools, such as Eton and Harrow. Younger children may attend a private preparatory school until the age of 13. Some parents may send their children to private schools, even if this is against their principles, because they think that their children will receive a better education.

The British education system aims to educate the whole person, so that each child develops his or her personality as well as gaining academic knowledge. Most primary and secondary schools offer a range of extra- curricular activities, including sports, music, community service and trips to places of interest. Secondary schools also give careers advice and help student to prepare for having a job by arranging short periods of work experience with local businesses.

1. According to the first paragraph, English children_____.
   A. start their compulsory education at the age of 5
   B. are required to go on to comprehensive schools
   C. don't go to nursery schools
   D. receive different school education
2. Primary schools in Britain are for children_____.
   A. under 5 B. between the ages of 5 to 16
   C. at about eleven D. under 11
3. What is the purpose of the British education system?
   A. To offer children a range of extra-curricular activities
   B. To encourage children to develop their personality
   C. To provide academic knowledge for children
   D. B and C are correct
4. Since 1988, most state schools _____.
   A. were all responsible to a Local Education Authority
   B. have been under the control of the local government
   C. have received money direct from central government
   D. have received money from a Local Education Authority
5. Some people believe _____.
   A. tuition free of private schools is rather expensive
   B. private schools provide a better education than state schools
   C. the quality of education in state schools is higher
   D. it's not necessary to send children to private schools
6. Which of the following is NOT TRUE according to the passage?
   A. There are two parallel school systems in Britain.
   B. Local government is responsible for education of students between the ages of 5 and 16.
   C. Many activities outside normal lessons are offered at schools in Britain.
   D. School education system in Britain varies from area to area.

LIVEWORKSHEETS