

# I can talk about university

## A A university degree

I started university two years ago, when I was nineteen, and I'm **doing a degree in** Spanish and French. The **course lasts** three years, and there are three **terms** a year. I work in the **library** a lot because – like many **undergraduates** – I have to **write** lots of **essays**. I also have to take exams, and last term I failed one and had to take it **again**. I got the result two weeks ago; **fortunately** I passed this time. When I've got my degree – a **BA** – I want to **do research** for a **PhD**.



### Glossary

- do a degree** study at university for three or four years  
**course** a number of classes on a subject, e.g. an English course  
**term** a period of study, usually about ten weeks  
**library** a place where you can read and borrow books  
**undergraduate** a student doing a first degree  
(A **graduate** has a degree.)  
**write an essay** do a piece of writing on a subject  
**again** one more time  
**fortunately** We say **fortunately** when we give good news. **OPP unfortunately**  
**BA/BSc** Bachelor of Arts/Science  
**MA/MSc** Master of Arts/Science  
**do research** study a subject for a long time to learn new information  
**PhD** Doctor of Philosophy

### spotlight *How long does it last?*

**To last** is to continue for a period of time.  
*How long does the film **last**? ~ Two hours.*  
*The Masters course **lasts** two years.*

### 1 Circle the correct word.

- She did an English course/term.
- I want to do/make a degree in maths.
  - A term/degree lasts about ten weeks.
  - I've got a BA/BSc in physics.
  - I study a lot in the library/bookshop.
  - A graduate/An undergraduate has a degree.
  - Fortunately/Unfortunately, I failed the exam.
  - You can do research before/after a degree.

### 2 Complete the dialogues.

- How long does the term last \_\_\_\_\_ ? ~ About twelve weeks.
- Have you got a \_\_\_\_\_ ? ~ Yes, a BSc.
  - Did she have to \_\_\_\_\_ an essay? ~ Yes, three, in fact.
  - Can you \_\_\_\_\_ research next year? ~ Yes, I want to do a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Did he get his exam results? ~ Yes. \_\_\_\_\_, he passed.
  - Can he take the exam \_\_\_\_\_ ? ~ Yes, next summer.
  - How long does the course \_\_\_\_\_ ? ~ It's only one term.

### 3 ABOUT YOUR COUNTRY Write your answers or ask another student.

- How long do you need to study for a degree in chemistry? \_\_\_\_\_
- How long do you need to study for a Masters degree? \_\_\_\_\_
- How long does a university term last? \_\_\_\_\_
- How long does a school term last? \_\_\_\_\_
- If you fail exams, can you always take them again? \_\_\_\_\_

