

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 four years, and there are three terms a year. I work in the library a lot because 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, I want to do research.



Seth

GLOSSARY

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| do a degree (in sth) | study a subject or subjects at university. You do a degree in a subject. |
| 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 (Be careful: a bookshop is a place where you buy books.) |
| write an essay | do a piece of writing on a subject |
| again | one more time |
| fortunately | We say fortunately when we start talking about sth good. OPP unfortunately |
| do research | study a subject for a long time (usually after a first degree) to learn new information about it |

SPOTLIGHT *How long does it last? / How long does it take?*

Last means 'continue for a period of time'.

- A university term **lasts** ten weeks.
- My French course **lasts** a year.

We use **take** (often with *it*) to talk about how long we need to do something.

- **It took me** three years to do my research.
- **He took** two days to write the essay. **It took him** two days to write the essay.

1 Circle the correct word.

- She did an English **course** / **term**.
- 1 I want to **do** / **make** a degree in maths.
- 2 A **term** / **degree** lasts about ten weeks.
- 3 I have to **learn** / **write** essays.
- 4 Most lessons **take** / **last** an hour.

- 5 I study a lot in the **library** / **bookshop**.
- 6 I want to **do** / **make** some research.
- 7 **Fortunately** / **Unfortunately**, I failed the exam.
- 8 **Before** / **After** a degree, some people do research.
- 9 It **takes** / **lasts** a long time to do a degree.

2 Complete the dialogues.

- How long does the term last? ~ About twelve weeks.
- 1 Are you doing a course? ~ Yes, Medicine.
- 2 Are you planning to do research? ~ Yes, when I've got my first degree.
- 3 Did he get his exam results? ~ Yes, he passed.
- 4 Can he take the exam again if he fails the first time? ~ Yes, in September.
- 5 Did she have to write an essay? ~ Yes, and it took her a long time.
- 6 How long does the course last? ~ It's only one term.
- 7 Did you buy that new dictionary? ~ Yes, I got it in the college bookshop.
- 8 Did Miriam pass all her exams? ~ No, she failed two subjects.

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

- 1 How long do you need to study for a degree in Medicine?
- 2 What percentage of young people do a degree?
- 3 Do many students go on and do research?
- 4 How long does a university term last?
- 5 If you fail your exams, can you always take them again?



TEST YOURSELF

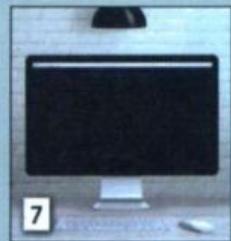
B University subjects and people

| | Degree Subject | Person |
|---|------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 | medicine | a doctor |
| 2 | architecture | an architect |
| 3 | engineering | an engineer |
| 4 | law | a lawyer |
| 5 | business studies | a businessman/woman |
| 6 | journalism | a journalist OR a reporter |
| 7 | computer science | e.g. software designer, IT manager |



SPOTLIGHT *teacher, lecturer, professor*

A **teacher** is a person who teaches for a job, usually in a school (NOT *a professor*). In the UK, a person who teaches in a university is a **lecturer**, and they give **lectures** (NOT *lessons*). A **professor** in a university is a lecturer of the highest level.



4 Is the pronunciation of the underlined letters the same or different? Write S or D.

Use the to help you. Practise saying the words.

- design / medicjne D
- 1 law / four
- 2 computer / doctor
- 3 business / journalist

- 4 computer / wwoman
- 5 lawyer / boy
- 6 science / design
- 7 teacher / architect

5 Complete the sentences. Use the word on the right to help you.

- He always wanted to be a teacher TEACHING
- 1 She wants to be a MEDICINE
- 2 When did Tom become an ? ENGINEERING
- 3 Emily is studying to become an ARCHITECTURE
- 4 My sister is a LAW
- 5 Edward now works as a LECTURE
- 6 After his degree he became a software DESIGN
- 7 Is it difficult to become a ? JOURNALISM
- 8 I knew he'd become a BUSINESS STUDIES

6 Complete the words in the sentences.

- He wants to be a hospital doctor
- 1 My uncle is a university p
- 2 It's not easy to get a place to study l
- 3 My friend got a job as an IT m
- 4 He's a j for a national paper.
- 5 I don't go to all my university l
- 6 My degree was in b studies.
- 7 I studied journalism to be a r
- 8 I enjoyed my e degree.
- 9 She wants to do computer s
- 10 She's a b now. She works for a large company.

7 **ABOUT YOU** Take six jobs from this unit and put them in order from 1) a job I would like, to 6) a job I would not like. If possible, talk to another student.

