

UNIT 8: ACADEMIC SUBJECTS

LESSON 1

PREPARE TO READ

A. Vocabulary Preview

Write each word from the box next to its definition.

specialised	industry connections	laboratory practice	analytical skills	case studies
placements	cultural awareness	critical thinking	leadership abilities	ranked

- _____ place in a list based on quality or performance
- _____ real-life work experience in a company
- _____ the ability to understand and compare different ideas carefully
- _____ examples of real business situations used for learning
- _____ knowing and understanding different cultures
- _____ training that happens in a science lab
- _____ the ability to examine information and solve problems
- _____ relationships with companies or organisations
- _____ related to one specific area or subject
- _____ the skill to guide, organise, or motivate a group

B. Complete the sentences using the words or phrases from exercise A.

- Good _____ help people solve problems in a logical way.
- Some jobs require very _____ training before you can start working.
- Many students hope to get _____ to gain experience before they graduate.
- Employers value _____ because they show you can compare ideas carefully.
- Group projects are a good way to build _____.

6. Teachers often use _____ to help students understand real-life situations.
7. Travelling to different countries can improve your _____.
8. Hotels are often _____ from one to five stars.
9. Science subjects usually include _____ as part of the course.
10. Companies with strong _____ can offer more opportunities for young professionals.

WHILE READING

Choosing a major is an important step for new university students, especially when they are unsure about their strengths or future career plans. At the University of Surrey in the United Kingdom, students can explore a wide range of subjects through several specialised faculties. Each faculty focuses on practical learning, industry connections, and professional skills that help students succeed after graduation.

Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences

This faculty is ideal for students who enjoy solving technical problems and understanding how things work. Programmes include Mechanical Engineering, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Physics, and Computer Science. Students learn through laboratory practice, design projects, and teamwork. As they work with real machines, computer systems, or scientific tools, they develop strong analytical skills that prepare them for careers in engineering companies, technology firms, or research centres.

Surrey Business School

Students who are interested in how organisations operate often choose to study Business Management, Accounting and Finance, or Marketing. The school emphasises group discussions, presentations, and case studies based on real companies. As students practise making decisions and planning strategies, they become more confident communicators. Many Surrey graduates later work in international companies, start-ups, or financial institutions in roles such as business consultant, marketing officer, or financial analyst.

School of Hospitality and Tourism Management

This is one of the most famous schools at the University of Surrey and is consistently ranked among the best in the world. It offers programmes in Hospitality Management, Tourism Management, and Event Management. Students develop strong customer-service skills, cultural awareness, and leadership abilities through industry placements and practical workshops. They

learn how hotels operate, how tours are designed, and how events are organised. Graduates often pursue careers in hotels, resorts, event companies, airlines, and destination-management organisations.

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences

This faculty suits students who love creativity, communication, and understanding human behaviour. It includes subjects such as English Literature, Sociology, Media, Music, and Modern Languages. Students explore how society works, how messages are communicated, and how culture shapes everyday life. With their strong communication and critical-thinking skills, graduates may work in education, media, publishing, public relations, or community organisations.

Choosing a major at Surrey is not only about academic interests but also about personal growth. With its wide range of faculties, industry partnerships, and supportive learning environment, the University of Surrey helps students discover their strengths and prepare for meaningful careers in a rapidly changing world.

A. Complete each sentence with ONLY ONE WORD from the reading text.

1. Engineering students work with machines and scientific tools, which helps them develop strong _____.
2. Business students become more confident _____ through discussions and presentations.
3. Hospitality students learn how to plan tours and organise _____.
4. In Arts and Social Sciences, students explore how _____ works and how culture shapes daily life.
5. Many business graduates work in international companies, _____, or financial institutions.
6. The university helps students discover their _____ through a supportive learning environment.

B. Global MCQ – Choose the Best Title for the Whole Text

Which title best summarises the text?

- a. How to Succeed in University Life
- b. Which Major Fits You at the University of Surrey?

- c. Careers in Tourism and Hospitality
- d. Why Engineering Is the Most Popular Major