UNIT 11 EDUCATION

52 TRACK 53 TRACK

academy [ə'kædəmi]

SYN. school

n. An **academy** is a school that provides training in subjects or skills.

Lisa is taking piano lessons at a music **academy**.

campus ['kæmpəs]

n. A **campus** is the area and buildings around a school, university, or college.

The students enjoy meeting on **campus**.

childhood ['tʃaɪldhʊd]

n. **Childhood** is the period of time when someone is a child.

His **childhood** dream was to become a famous athlete.

course [kɔːrs]

n. A **course** is a series of classes about a particular subject in a school.

They are taking a computer **course**.

crayon [kreɪɑːn]

n. A **crayon** is a stick of colored wax that is used for drawing.

The little girl is drawing with **crayons**.

difficulty ['dɪfɪkəlti]

n. A **difficulty** is something that is not easy to do or to deal with.

Chris is having **difficulties** with his assignment.

eraser [ɪ'reɪsər]

n. An **eraser** is a small piece of rubber that is used to remove something you have written or drawn on paper.

He is using an **eraser** to erase his writing.

gym [dʒɪm]

n. A **gym** is a building or room with equipment for doing exercises.

The students are playing basketball in the **gym**.

kindergarten ['kɪndərgɑːrtn]

n. **Kindergarten** is a school or class for very young children.

Mike is a student in **kindergarten**.

learn [lɜːrn] learned(learnt) - learned(learnt)

SYN. get, gain, study

v. To **learn** is to gain knowledge or skill by studying, practicing, and experiencing something.

Beth is **learning** French online.

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UNIT 11 EDUCATION

54 TRACK 55 TRACK

lecture ['lektʃər]
n. A **lecture** is a talk given to a group of people to teach them about a subject.
The students are taking notes during the **lecture**.

marker ['mɑ:rkər]
n. A **marker** is a type of pen that makes wide lines.
The teacher is writing with a **marker**.

purpose ['pɜ:rpəs] SYN. aim
n. A **purpose** is the reason why something is done or used.
The **purpose** of studying is to gain knowledge.

rank ['ræŋk] ranked - ranked SYN. rate
v. To **rank** is to place something or someone in a particular position on a list for reasons such as quality, ability, or size.
He is **ranked** first in the world.

student ['stu:dənt] SYN. pupil
n. A **student** is a person who is learning at a school.
They are second-year medical **students**.

teach ['ti:tʃ] taught - taught SYN. educate
v. To **teach** is to show or explain how to do something.
Kathy is **teaching** math to her class.

understand [ˌʌndər'stænd] understood - understood ANT. misunderstand
v. To **understand** is to know why or how something happens or works.
I don't **understand** how to do this homework.

university [ˌju:nə'vɜ:səti] SYN. college
n. A **university** is a school where students study at a high level to get a degree.
She wants to go to **university** to study biology.

vocabulary [vou'kæbjəleri] SYN. words
n. **Vocabulary** is all the words in a particular language.
I like to make a list of new **vocabulary** words every week.

whiteboard ['waɪtbɔ:rd]
n. A **whiteboard** is a large board that can be written on with special markers.
The professor is drawing a diagram on the **whiteboard**.

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EXERCISE 1

UNIT 11

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Track 52, 54: Pronunciation
Track 53, 55: Word List
Track 56: Reading Practice

A. Choose the correct word for the given definition.

1. a small piece of rubber that is used to erase something
   a. crayon b. chopstick c. eraser d. receipt
2. the area and buildings around a school, university, or college
   a. campus b. cathedral c. course d. kindergarten
3. a stick of colored wax that is used for drawing
   a. field b. crayon c. chess d. eraser
4. to gain knowledge or skill
   a. greet b. cure c. learn d. depart
5. a series of classes about a particular subject
   a. gym b. course c. document d. campus

B. Circle the correct word to complete each sentence.

1. Max and I played basketball at the pool / exit / gym after school.
2. I spent my lunchtime / childhood / sidewalk in Africa.
3. My mom has to pick up my brother at kindergarten / parking / ticket.
4. We faced an unexpected crayon / guidebook / difficulty.
5. Hannah is learning how to code at a computer notebook / academy / message.

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EXERCISE 2

A. Choose the correct definition for the given word.

1. purpose
   a. a person who attends a school
   b. a talk given to a group of people
   c. something that is not easy to do
   d. the reason something is done
2. student
   a. a school for very young children
   b. a place for students to get a degree
   c. a short piece of writing
   d. a person who learns at a school
3. lecture
   a. all the words you know in a particular language
   b. a talk given to a group of people about a subject
   c. the reason why something is done or used
   d. a type of pen that makes wide lines
4. rank
   a. to show or explain how to do something
   b. to know why or how something happens or works
   c. to place something or someone in a particular position on a list
   d. to meet someone with friendly and polite words
5. teach
   a. to gain knowledge by studying
   b. to explain how to do something
   c. to know why something happens
   d. to say or write something to someone

B. Circle the correct word.

1. If you don't _____ the assignment, see the teacher after class.
   a. rank b. teach c. understand d. show
2. Ellen wrote the answer on the _____ at the front of the class.
   a. whiteboard b. lecture c. crayon d. conversation
3. We will have a(n) _____ quiz in Spanish class on Friday.
   a. postcard b. vocabulary c. kindergarten d. academy
4. The teacher wrote our score on our essays with a red _____.
   a. eraser b. marker c. whiteboard d. envelope
5. Tom wants to study engineering at _____.
   a. university b. gym c. vocabulary d. purpose

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READING PRACTICE

The Gaokao (56 TRACK)

The *gaokao* is China's **university** entrance exam. The **purpose** of this exam is to determine which university a **student** will go to. Each year, millions of students take the *gaokao.* The exam takes place over two days, and it is nine hours long.

The exam is the key to their future. In China, universities are **ranked**. Students who get high scores go to good universities, and students who graduate from good universities get good jobs. Good jobs mean a high salary. A high salary means a good life.

A. Answer the questions.

1. What is the reading mainly about?
   a. Chinese kindergarten students
   b. How to learn Chinese
   c. An exam in China
   d. The cost of education in China

2. How many days is the *gaokao*?
   a. One
   b. Two
   c. Five
   d. Nine

3. Fill in the blank with the word from the passage.
   a. The *gaokao* is _____ entrance exam.
   b. The *gaokao*'s _____ is very hard.

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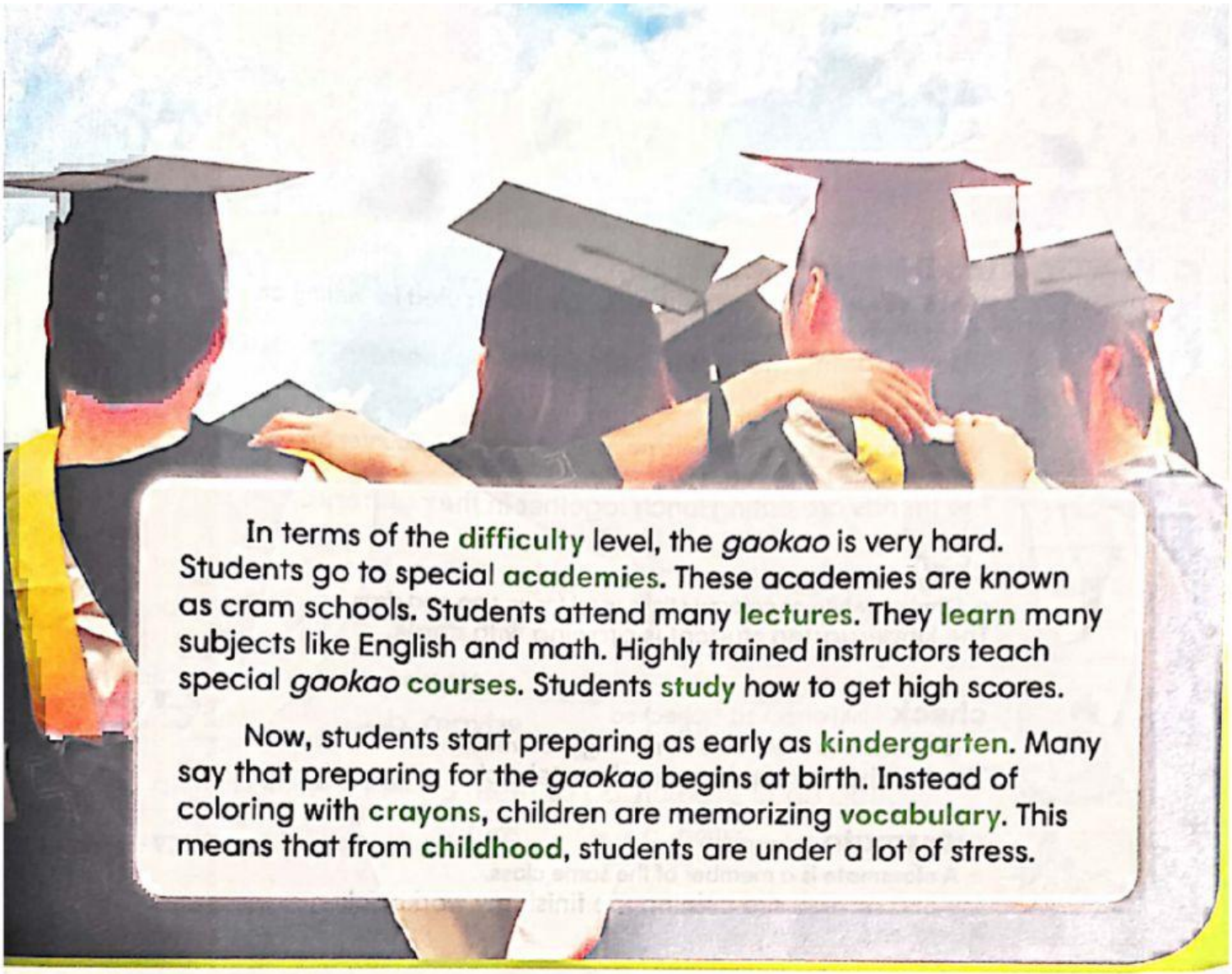

In terms of the **difficulty** level, the *gaokao* is very hard. Students go to special **academies**. These academies are known as cram schools. Students attend many **lectures**. They **learn** many subjects like English and math. Highly trained instructors teach special *gaokao* **courses**. Students **study** how to get high scores.

Now, students start preparing as early as **kindergarten**. Many say that preparing for the *gaokao* begins at birth. Instead of coloring with **crayons**, children are memorizing **vocabulary**. This means that from **childhood**, students are under a lot of stress.

B. Write T for true and F for false.

1. The *gaokao* is very important for a student's future. _____
2. Students go to special academies to prepare for the *gaokao*. _____
3. Students start studying for the *gaokao* in high school. _____

C. Match the definition with the word in bold from the passage.

1. the reason why something is done or used _____
2. a talk given to a group of people about a subject _____
3. all the words you know in a particular language _____

 # In Real Life How do you prepare for an important exam?

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