

Unit 7. FURTHER EDUCATION

PART 3: READING

I. Fill the blank with a suitable word.

In the USA, further education generally refers to education undertaken by adults of all ages after leaving full-time study. It doesn't include degree courses (1) at college or university directly after leaving high school, which come under (2)education.

Further education includes everything from basic reading and writing skills for the illiterate to full-time professional and doctorate degrees at university. On many university (3), more students are enrolled in further education courses than in (4)degree programmes.

Often adult education students don't need to be high school or degree graduates or take any tests or interviews, and they're generally (5)on a first-come, first served basis. A high school diploma is (6)for some courses, although General Educational Development (GED) tests allow students to (7)a high school equivalency diploma.

Adult education courses may be full-time or part-time and are provided by two and four-year colleges, universities, community colleges, (8)schools, and elementary and high schools. Courses are also provided by private community organizations, government (9), and job training centres. More and more adult education programmes are becoming (10)on the Internet, including courses which offer university or continuing education credits for completion.

II. Fill each of the numbered blanks in the following passage. Use only one word in each space.

leading straight long fields education
higher offers persuade skilled qualifications

Further education in Britain means (1)after GCSE exams taken around the age of 16. It includes courses of study (2)to A-levels which students do at their school or college. Some students go (3)to a college of further education which (4)a wide range of full or part-time courses. Further education also includes training for professional (5)in nursing, accountancy, and management and in (6)such as arts and music. The term (7)education is used to refer to degree courses at universities.

The British government is keen on (8)more young people to remain in education as (9)as possible in order to build up a more highly (10), better educated workforce.

III. Choose the word or phrase among A, B, C or D that best fits the blank in the following passage.

British further education qualifications are respected by employers and (1) ____ worldwide. There are two main types: academic courses, and vocational and professional courses. Academic courses help you (2) ____ for higher education at a university or college. They aim to develop your analytical skills, critical thinking and knowledge. (3) ____ and professional courses give you the skills and qualification you need to enter and succeed in your chosen career. They offer technical (4) ____ and skills for the workplace. British (5) ____ education providers invest heavily in facilities - from libraries, computer centres and science laboratories to sports centres, theatres and arts studios. Class sizes are (6) ____ to ensure that you have access to

equipment and enough time to talk to your tutors and lectures.

British qualifications are a great boost to your CV and to your earnings. Employers are increasingly looking for (7) ____ with multicultural experience. Moreover, British colleges and universities have strong links with industry - many courses are designed in partnership with, and taught by, industry professional. Many include the option of a year in industry or a work placement, giving you real professional (8) ____.

English is widely regarded as the language of business. Studying in the UK helps you learn language quickly, through your studies, friends and everyday life. If you need any additional support, (9) ____ are lots of English language classes across the UK.

The UK is a truly multicultural society, with a wonderful mix of people from many different backgrounds. As a student, you'll get to know people from all over the world and be inspired by many cultures. Many colleges have international offices and advisers to ensure you feel welcome and are supported (10) ____ your time in British further education.

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|------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. A. academics | B. academy | C. academical | D. academically |
| 2. A. get | B. prepare | C. make | D. support |
| 3. A. Occasional | B. Vocational | C. Optional | D. Various |
| 4. A. growing | B. changing | C. adding | D. training |
| 5. A. further | B. each | C. both | D. every |
| 6. A. bored | B. restricted | C. expensive | D. attracted |
| 7. A. joins | B. enters | C. arrives | D. graduates |
| 8. A. experiment | B. factor | C. experience | D. problem |
| 9. A. there | B. that | C. which | D. they |
| 10. A. in | B. over | C. throughout | D. cross |

IV. Read the passage and choose the best answer.

It's called 42 - the name taken from the answer to the meaning of life, from the science fiction series The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy. 42 was founded by French technology billionaire Xavier Niel, whose backing means there are no tuition fees and accommodation is free. Mr Niel and his co-founders come from the world of technology and start-ups, and they are trying to do to education what Facebook did to communication and Airbus to accommodation.

Students at 42 are given a choice of projects that they might be set in a job as a software engineer - perhaps **to design a website or a computer game**. They complete a project using resources freely available on the Internet and by seeking help from their fellow students, who work alongside **them** in a large open-plan room full of computers. Another student will then be randomly assigned to mark their work.

The founders claim this method of learning makes up for shortcomings in the traditional education system, which they say encourages students to be passive recipients of knowledge. "Peer-to-peer learning develops students with the confidence to search for solutions by themselves, often in quite creative and ingenious ways."

Like in computer games, the students are asked to design and they go up a level by completing a project. They graduate when they reach level 21, which usually takes three to five years. And at the end, there is a

certificate but no formal degree. Recent graduates are now working at companies including IBM, Amazon, and Tesla, as well as starting their own firms.

"The feedback we have had from employers is that our graduates are more apt to go off and find out information for themselves, rather than asking their supervisors what to do next," says Brittany Bir, chief operating officer of 42 in California and a graduate of its sister school in Paris. Ms Bir says 42's graduates will be better able to work with others and discuss and defend their ideas - an important skill in the "real world" of work. "This is particularly important in computer programming, where individuals are **notorious** for lacking certain human skills," she says.

But could 42's model of teacherless learning work in mainstream universities? Brittany Bir admits 42's methods do not suit all students. "It suits individuals who are very disciplined and self-motivated, and who are not scared by having the freedom to work at their own pace," she says.

Question 1: According to the passage, 42 is ____.

- A. a kind of school
- B. a type of accommodation
- C. an innovation in technology
- D. a tool of virtual communication

Question 2: The word "**them**" in paragraph 2 refers to ____.

- A. students at 42
- B. projects
- C. resources
- D. software engineers

Question 3: The author mentions "**to design a website or a computer game**" in paragraph 2 to illustrate ____.

- A. a job that a French software engineer always does
- B. a choice of assignment that students at 42 have to complete
- C. a free resource available on the Internet
- D. a help that students at 42 get for their work

Question 4: What do 42's graduates receive on completion of their course?

- A. a certificate
- B. a degree
- C. a project
- D. a design

Question 5: Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

- A. The founders of 42 share the idea of providing free service on Facebook.
- B. It normally takes 42's students at least five years to complete their course.
- C. The students of 42 are required to play computer games during their course.
- D. 42's peer-to-peer approach promotes active learning and working.

Question 6: According to Ms Bir, 42's graduates will be able to improve ____.

- A. the skills of giving feedback
- B. the skills of searching for information
- C. the skills of teamwork and debating
- D. the skills of software programming

Question 7: The word "**notorious**" in paragraph 5 can be best replaced by ____.

- A. respectable
- B. incompetent
- C. infamous
- D. memorable

Question 8: It can be inferred from the passage that ____.

- A. 42 is a good choice for people of all ages and nationalities
- B. all 42's graduates are employed by world leading technology companies
- C. 42's students have to handle the task assigned without any assistance

D. 42 adopts project-based and problem-solving learning methods