

UNIT 7: EDUCATION SYSTEMS

A. VOCABULARY & GRAMMAR:

Exercise 1: Match the types of education in the box with the descriptions.

adult education

compulsory education

pre-school education

primary education

private education

secondary education

state-school education

tertiary or higher education

- 1 schools that everyone has to attend whether they want to or not:
- 2 schools that you have to pay for:
- 3 schools that are free and are managed by the government:
- 4 nursery schools or kindergartens for very young children:
- 5 compulsory schools for children up to the age of approximately 11 years old:
- 6 compulsory schools for older children and teenagers:
- 7 non-compulsory colleges and universities usually for young adults:
- 8 classes for people who have finished their school education, sometimes to learn things they didn't learn at school:

Exercise 2: Complete the sentences. Use the subjects in the box.

English

ICT

PE

art and design

geography

history

maths

science

- 1 My favourite subject at school was . To begin with, we learnt all about spelling and grammar, but when we were older we spent a lot of time writing essays.

- 2 My best subject was always [REDACTED]. It stands for Information and Communications Technology, so we spent a lot of time learning about computers and the internet.
- 3 I was never into sports. I know it's important to stay fit, so I'm glad I had those physical education lessons. But I didn't really like [REDACTED] when I was at school.
- 4 I liked learning about countries around the world and the people who live there. At school, this also included quite a lot of geology – learning about volcanoes and earthquakes. My best subject was probably [REDACTED].
- 5 I mean, I was OK when I started [REDACTED] at school with simple numbers, but when the lessons got more difficult, I got a bit lost.
- 6 I've always loved drawing and painting. Some of the skills I learnt at school have been useful in my career as a graphic designer. My favourite subject was always [REDACTED].
- 7 When I was at school, I thought [REDACTED] lessons were really boring. I wasn't at all interested in things that happened centuries ago, and I was terrible at learning dates. But now I love this subject! I think it's really interesting.
- 8 I remember doing cool tests in the laboratory in chemistry and building my own electric motor in physics. Also, it was interesting to learn about animals in biology. Yes, my favourite subject was definitely [REDACTED].

Exercise 3 : Choose the correct adjectives to complete the sentences.

- 1 In my school, some teachers are very patient/ relaxed/ strict. They expect all the students in their class to do as they're told and to follow the rules.
- 2 Teachers in my school are generally very patient/ private/ well-behaved. They give you time to think for yourself, and they never rush you.
- 3 I think it's important for teachers to be flexible/ organized/ strict, so they can change their lessons and their teaching style to suit their students.
- 4 Students in my school are always friendly/ practical/ well-behaved – they always do exactly what the teacher says.

5 In my school, some teachers are too easy-going/ private/ strict – they don't really care if you don't do your homework, or if you cheat in a test.

6 Lessons in my school are very academic/ practical/ well-behaved – we learn by doing things, like conducting experiments.

Exercise 4 : Complete the text. Use the words and phrases in the box.

application

clearing

conditional offer

different option

grades

personal statement

register

unconditional offer

If you want to go to university in the UK, you'll need to with UCAS (University and Colleges Admissions Services). You're allowed five choices on the UCAS , so make sure you choose carefully. Include your first-choice course, but also include a in case your exam results aren't as good as you expect. You'll also need to write a short , explaining why you think the university should admit you. Take care when writing this – it could be the most important piece of writing you ever do.

Then you have to wait to hear from the universities. Some of the universities might give you a/an . That means you can join the course if you want to. However, it's more likely that you'll get a/an which means you can join the course, but only if you get certain in your exams. If you don't get any offers, or if you don't get the grades you need, don't worry. UCAS has a system called , which matches students who are looking for places with courses that are looking for students.

Exercise 5 :

Match the words and phrases in the box with the descriptions.

Master's degree

bachelor's degree

dissertation

essay

lecture

research

seminar

tutorial

- 1 work done by a student to find out new information, e.g. by reading books or conducting experiments:
- 2 a meeting at college or university between a tutor and one student, or a very small group:
- 3 a programme of postgraduate study at university:
- 4 a lesson at college or university where a tutor explains something and the students listen and take notes:
- 5 a piece of academic writing where students write a few pages on a particular topic:
- 6 a long piece of academic writing that a student might write at the end of a university or college course, based on their own research:
- 7 a programme or course at university of undergraduate study:
- 8 a lesson at college or university where a small group of students discusses a topic with a tutor:

Exercise 6 : Read the information. Then read the sentences. Why is the modal verb used in each one? Choose the correct explanation for each sentence.

Modal verbs of obligation

- Strong positive obligations: *must; have/has to; need to*
- Weak obligations: *should*
- Strong negative obligations: *mustn't*
- No obligation (optional): *don't need to / don't have to*
- Positive advice: *should*
- Negative: *shouldn't*

A choice whether to do something or not.

Advice about the best thing to do.

Advice about what not to do.

An obligation not to do something.

An obligation to do something.

- 1 You **must** write your answers on the answer sheet provided.
- 2 You **mustn't** use your phone during the exam.
- 3 You **don't have to** write full sentences – one-word answers are also OK.
- 4 You **should** apply for that course – I think you'd love it.
- 5 You **shouldn't** apply for that course – I don't think you'd like it.

Exercise 7 : Read the information again. Then choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

Modal verbs of obligation

- Strong positive obligations: *must*; *have/has to*; *need to*
- Weak obligations: *should*
- Strong negative obligations: *mustn't*
- No obligation (optional): *don't need to* / *don't have to*
- Positive advice: *should*
- Negative advice: *shouldn't*

- 1 This is a very dangerous experiment, so you don't have to/ mustn't/ shouldn't put on your protective glasses.
- 2 We don't have to/ mustn't/ shouldn't use mobile phones in class. If a teacher catches us using one, we always get into trouble.
- 3 I think you don't have to/ mustn't/ shouldn't start revising for your exams soon. It's a bad idea to leave it too late.
- 4 School uniform is optional at my school. You don't have to/ mustn't/ shouldn't wear it.
- 5 This is the third time that you've arrived late to my class. You don't have to/ mustn't/ shouldn't be late again or I'll inform your parents.

6 In my opinion, teachers don't have to/ mustn't/ shouldn't be too easy-going. It's important for children to learn discipline.

7 We must/ should/ shouldn't have a PE lesson now, but our PE teacher's ill so it's been cancelled.

8 I want to study literature, but my parents say I don't have to/ mustn't/ shouldn't study law instead.

Exercise 8 :Read the information. Then match the explanations with the example sentences.

Talking about past obligations

- Strong positive obligations: *had to*
- Strong negative obligations: *wasn't / weren't allowed to*
- No obligation: *didn't have to*
- Past mistakes / regrets: *should / shouldn't have* + past participle

I'm regretting something negative that DID happen in the past.

I'm regretting something positive that DIDN'T happen in the past.

There was no past rule – it was possible to choose.

This is a negative past rule – something that people had an obligation NOT to do.

This is a positive past rule – something that people had an obligation to do.

1 When I studied history at school, we **had to** learn lots of dates.

2 When I studied history at school, we **didn't have to** learn lots of dates.

3 When I studied maths at school, we **weren't allowed to** use calculators.

4 I **should have** studied harder when I was at school.

5 I **shouldn't have** been so lazy at university.

Exercise 9 : Read the information again. Then complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in brackets. Use contractions (e.g. *didn't*), where possible. Some sentences are negative. The first question has been done for you.

Talking about past obligations

- Strong positive obligations: *had to*
- Strong negative obligations: *wasn't / weren't allowed to*
- No obligation: *didn't have to*
- Past mistakes / regrets: *should / shouldn't have* + past participle

1 Personally, I really regret choosing to study law at university. I shouldn't have chosen it! (should / choose)

2 Looking back on it, engineering would have been more interesting, so I _____ an engineering course instead. (should / do)

3 When I read the course prospectus, the course sounded really interesting. It _____ a really practical course, with lots of real-life case studies and class discussions. (should / be)

4 However, it wasn't practical at all. We just _____ thousands of names and dates and technical terms. (have / learn)

5 During lectures, we just _____ and take notes. (have / listen)

6 We _____ to ask any questions during lectures. (allow)

7 In my opinion, the lecturer preferred it that way because she _____ creative in her teaching. (have / be)

Exercise 10 : Put the words in the correct order to complete the sentences.

1 mustn't You test talk the during .

2 you Should it explain to I again ?

3 What go university I when to I study
should ?

4 these dates do Why to have all learn we
?

5 wear a uniform Did have you to school to
?

6 complete our When have English essays we to
do ?

7 have done differently should What I ?

8 homework by You the must complete Wednesday .