

Complete the text with one suitable word.

As for higher education _____ the US, it is necessary _____ pay large amounts of tuition fee in practically all American colleges and universities. A very small number _____ scholarships are available for exceptionally talented and/or very poor students, and there _____ special scholarships for talented athletes. The choice is enormous: there are more than 4,000 colleges and universities in the US, including public, private, church-related, small and large, two-year and four-year institutions, maintained _____ cities, counties, and states. Despite _____ high costs, over 60 percent of all high school graduates enter colleges and universities.

The two basic types of American higher educational institutions are colleges _____ universities. The term 'college' means something very different _____ Britain where colleges are units within a larger university (e.g. Balliol College within Oxford University or Trinity College within Cambridge University). In the US, a college _____ any higher educational institution which provides a Bachelor's degree _____ its graduates. Issuing Master's degrees and doctorates (PhD) is the privilege of universities.

_____ American English, the term "college" is also used in the general sense, it stands _____ all higher education institutions, including universities. When an American asks you "Have you _____ studied in college?", it would be a wrong answer to say "No, I studied at a university", because universities are also implied in the question. Similarly, the term 'college degree' may refer _____ any degree earned in higher education.

Complete the text with one of the given words. There are three extra words that you do not need to use.

BUS **FRONT** **THEMSELVES** **ELEMENTARY**
SEMESTERS **HAVE** **MEETS** **MIDDLE** **HAD**
PHYSICAL **DAY** **LABOUR** **TEENAGERS**
ENOUGH **WHERE** **TOO** **THEIR** **OUT**

General Education

Many American school children and _____ start the day by running _____ the door to catch the bright yellow school _____. Others walk to school, some drive themselves and their friends if they are old _____, and others are driven to school by _____ parents. In some rural areas of the USA students _____ to travel up to two hours to get to school. In towns and cities, the school bus _____ students at a bus stop, but in rural areas, _____ houses can be far from each other, the school bus stops in _____ of each student's house.

The school year usually starts after _____ Day in early September, and continues until the _____ of June, so summer vacation is about ten weeks. Each school year has two _____, with the first semester from September to December, and the second from January to June. The school _____ is Monday to Friday, usually from 9 am to 3 pm. Almost every _____ school instructs children in penmanship (handwriting skills), science, mathematics, music, art, _____ education, one foreign language (mainly Spanish or French), and social studies (a subject combining elements of geography, history, sociology and political studies).

Complete the text with the correct form of the words given in capitals.

Most _____ schools require students to take English, mathematics, science, social studies, and physical_____.

SECOND

EDUCATE

In _____ to this core curriculum, students choose ‘_____ courses’ in their areas of interest out of a wide range of_____.

ADD

ELECT

POSSIBLE

Computer programming, car design, stage _____, or cross-country running, are all possible courses in an American public school. High school students at the same grade level do not take the same courses.

MANAGE

Students who do not plan to go to college may be enrolled in classes such as basic _____, typing, or agricultural science, which prepares them for _____ or technical positions.

ACCOUNT

VOCATION

Students aiming at college may be enrolled in college-preparatory courses such as chemistry, _____ science, or advanced _____, more academic subjects required for college work. Talented and _____ students may take so-called ‘honours classes’ in history, English or science, which are more _____ and cover more material.

POLITICS

WRITE

AMBITION

DEMAND

The American high school is therefore best _____ as

SEE

if it were a _____ of all the various types

COMBINE

of schools which are usually separated and _____ in

KEEP

separate buildings in other countries. To use a _____ parallel,

HUNGARY

an American high school is a Hungarian grammar school (gimnázium)

and vocational or technical school (szakközépiskola, szakiskola)

rolled into one. In most _____ high schools, the Hungarian

AMERICA

idea of a 'class' is _____ unknown.

COMPLETE

In American English, a 'class' means (besides a school lesson)

all the students belonging to the same grade; they often

talk about 'the class of 1995', for example, _____

MEAN

all those people who graduated from the school in that year.

In an average high school, such a 'class' may include

several hundred students.

Complete the text with one suitable word.

At the start of _____ school day, middle and high school students go _____ their homeroom, the class where the teacher calls out each student's _____. The school day always begins _____ students standing up, facing the American flag at the front of the classroom, putting their right hand _____ their hearts, and saying the Pledge _____ Allegiance, a promise _____ be a good citizen.

The hours in the school day _____ broken up into periods, usually 45 or 50 minutes long. When the school day ends, _____ students stay after school to join extra-curricular activities, _____ are usually sports and clubs. Most schools, for instance, publish their own student newspapers, and some have _____ own radio stations. Almost all have student orchestras, bands, and choirs, which give public performances. _____ are theatre and drama groups, chess and debating clubs, etc. Sports are especially important, because talented athletes (the word _____ used for all kind of sportspeople in American English, not just for people doing athletics) are offered full scholarships _____ colleges and universities. The most popular American college sports are football, baseball, and basketball, but scholarships in soccer, volleyball, ice hockey, athletics, tennis, or swimming are also available. It is important _____ students to choose extra-curricular activities, and to put a lot of time and work _____ them, because colleges choose students not only for their grades, but also for _____ interests outside the classroom. Another extra-curricular activity is working on _____ yearbook, which is a book _____ photos of every student and teacher, school life, and sport events from that year. Everyone can buy the yearbook _____ the end of the school year.

When students finish middle school and begin their high school education, they _____ called freshmen. In their second year, they are called sophomores, in the third year juniors, and _____ their fourth year they are seniors.

Americans use the word “grade” not only for the year _____ are in at school, but _____ for the result they get for their school work and exams. There is a scale of 5 grades. The best is A, followed by B, C, and D, _____ is the lowest pass grade, while F stands for ‘failure’. These grades are often modified by + and – signs, indicating slightly better _____ worse performances.

Secondary education is not finished _____ any sort of standardized examination like the British GCSE, or the Hungarian érettségi. High school is concluded with _____ spectacular graduation ceremony, where the graduating class wears long gowns and special, flat-topped caps. A chosen student, usually one of the best _____ the class, makes a speech. Students receive a high school diploma, which proves that they _____ completed their secondary education. Such a diploma in itself, however, is _____ enough to gain entry into higher education: they usually need _____ take standardized tests for that. About 95% of all people aged 25 to 29 complete high schools.