

My field of study. Occupation and employment

A) The British System of Education

Stages in a person's education	types of education in Britain	age
Play-school, nursery school	pre-school	2-5
Infant school, junior school	primary	5/6-12/13
Comprehensive or grammar school	secondary	12/13-16/18
College, polytechnic, university	further/higher	18+

Universities in Great Britain:

Oxbridge – Oxford and Cambridge, founded in the medieval period. Federations of semi-independent colleges known as Fellows. Before 1970 all Oxbridge colleges were mostly for men, now the majority admit both sexes.

The old **Scottish universities**:

The system of study is closer to the continental tradition than to the English one.

The **civic (redbrick) universities**:

Usually oriented to technical sciences, in industrial towns and cities.

Campus universities:

They have accommodation and all services for most of their students on site.

TASK

Compare the British system of education to the Czech one. Are there many differences? Which of the systems do you find better and why?

B) Vocabulary connected with study and learning

Alternatives to do and get:

Do an exam	sit/take and exam in....
Do research	carry out/conduct research, a project
Do a course	enrol on/take a course in....
Do a degree/diploma	study for/take a degree
Do a subject	study/take a subject
Do an essay/assignment	write and essay/assignment
Do a lecture/talk	give a lecture/talk
Get a degree/diploma	obtain/be awarded a degree, diploma
Get a grade	receive/be given a grade
Get a qualification	obtain a qualification

Exercise: replace the verbs **do** or **get** in this paragraph with more interesting words:

I have three daughters. The oldest one did a degree in economics at Birmingham University. She got her bachelor's degree last year and is now doing some research on taxation in different countries. The second one is doing a course at Newcastle University. She's doing history. She has to do a lot of assignments. My youngest daughter is still at school. She is doing her school-leaving exams in the summer. She will go to university next year if she gets good grades in her exams. She wants to do sociology and then get a social work qualification. My daughters are all getting a much better education than I ever had.

C) Vocabulary connected with written work for courses, etc.:

Composition	could be just 50-100 words, often used to refer to children's work
Essay	longer than a composition, more serious, hundreds or even thousands of words
Assignment	a long essay, often part of a course, usually thousands of words
Project	like an assignment, but emphasis on student's own material
Dissertation	a long, research-based work, perhaps 10-15,000 words, for a degree of diploma
Thesis	a very long, original, research-based work, perhaps 80-100,000 words, for a higher degree (e.g. PhD)

Exercise: Correct the wrong usage of words to do with written work:

1. His PhD assignment was 90,000 words long.
2. Little Suzy did her first dissertation in school today.
3. The teacher gave us the title of this week's project today. We have to write 1,000 words on the topic "If I ruled the world".
4. At the end of this course you have to do a 5,000- word thesis.
5. I will do a study of people's banking habits for my MSc /Master of Science/ composition. It has to be about 12,000 words.
6. I will do the dissertation instead of the two exams, because I like to do work where I can research something that interests me.

Exams:

Take/do/sit/resit an exam

Pass/do well in an exam

Fail/do badly in an exam

Idioms describing people in the classroom:

Teacher's pet

Top of the class

A know-all

A big-head

A lazy-bones

Exercise: what do we call...

1. an irritating person who knows everything?
2. the person who is the teacher's favourite?
3. someone who things they are the best and say so?
4. the one who gets the best marks?
5. a person who is very lazy?

TASK

Which of the idioms characterize you as a student?

D) Vocabulary connected with work

Collocations of words connected with work

Get Find Look for Do

Collocations connected with a living:

Make Earn Do for

Collocations with a job:

Take on Have Look for Get Find Offer Do

Expressions connected with work:

To work shift –work

To be on flexi-time

To work nine-to-five

To get the sack, to be fired, to be made redundant, to be dismissed, to be laid off

To give up work

To be on/take maternity leave

To be on/take sick leave

To be a workaholic

To be promoted

To apply for a job

Exercise:

Fill in the collocations:

I'd love to..... a job in journalism, but it's not easy without qualifications.

Since I have to earn a somehow, I will have to get

..... wherever I can find it. I have been some part-time work editing a typescript for a book, but I am not sure I want to..... it

.....

Using the expressions connected with work, say what you think has happened/is happening:

1. I am not working now, my baby is 3 months old.
2. I lost my job.
3. One week I work from 6 to 2, the next it's nights.
4. They have made her the General Manager!
5. I get in at nine o'clock and go home at five.
6. Your trouble is you are obsessed with work!
7. I am a translator, so I can work any time I feel like working.
8. I am down with flu.
9. I have sent my CV and the application form and now I am waiting for their reply.

DISCUSSION

Why did you choose to study sports science?

What do you expect of your studies?

Which qualities do you think sports may help you develop?

What work opportunities have you had?

Have you had any summer jobs?