

Below is useful vocabulary with audio for the topic of education for both school and university. These are the most common words and collocations which you will need to learn in order to talk or write about school or university successfully. After each section of vocabulary, there are exercises for you to practice using the words.

Please visit blog (www.ieltsliz.com/vocabulary) to listen to the audios to learn correct pronunciation.

Educational Institutions

kindergarten = pre-school education

primary school

secondary school

college = further education

higher education = university education = tertiary education

post-graduate school = university for students studying beyond degree level

School Subjects

maths

language

literature

science

physics

biology

chemistry

natural science

geography

religious studies

history

information technology (IT)

physical education (PE)

cookery = domestic / food science

handicrafts

art

music

Vocabulary Exercises: School Subjects

1. One of the reasons that I didn't like was because of the lab work which sometimes involved dissection.
2. I've always enjoyed learning about how chemicals react with one another so I decided to choose as one of my main subjects.

3. When I was a child, we practiced three times a week which was fine in summer but was freezing during the winter when you have to football or hockey outside.
4. My teacher encouraged us to take part in in order to develop skills beyond what is taught in scheduled lessons.
5. I used to find complicated calculations difficult as well as algebra but when we got a new teacher, it all become much easier to understand.
6. One of my favourite subjects was because you had a chance to get out of the classroom and learn more about the environment.
7. Teachers were really strict on in exams. The exam invigilators won't even let you have your bag in the exam room.
8. Poetry should be taught more in lessons in order to help students develop a deeper understanding of their language and culture.
9. I always loved studying maps. We spent a lot of time in our lessons tracing the borders of countries and learn the capital cities of different countries.
10. My worst subject at school was because I was completely tone deaf.

Please see my blog (www.ieltsliz.com/vocabulary) for answers.

Useful Language & Collocations

lab work = laboratory experiments

dissection = cutting up animals for scientific research

scheduled lessons = lessons which are planned and written into a school curriculum

algebra = formulas and equations in mathematics

to give out or assign homework / to do or complete homework

to complete high school / to graduate high school

to do, to participate or to take part in school activities or sport

tracing = copying, outlining in pencil

tone deaf = without an ear for music = unable to appreciate or hear different music and notes

Types of Schools - Same-Sex & Co-Ed Schools

Watch this video to learn the advantages of single-sex schools and the plus points of mixed schools. This video contains ideas and vocabulary to help you express your ideas clearly.

Please see my blog to watch this video (www.ieltsliz.com/vocabulary)

University Vocabulary

University Courses

BA / BSc = Bachelor of Arts Degree / Bachelor of Science Degree

MA / MSc = Masters of Arts / Masters of Science

PhD = Doctorate
Other Courses

Certificate = a lower level qualification often offered at colleges rather than universities. This is also the word used for the documentation received for completing any type of course or degree (she received her certificate for her BA degree).

Diploma

Online Course

Distance Learning Course

Vocational course = a course which teaches you skills for a specific job, for example engineering.

Non-vocational course = a course which is not related to a job but to a general subject instead, such as Biology.

Useful Verbs & Nouns for University

to graduate from a university = complete a degree course / to finish university

to enroll on a degree course = put your name down for a degree course

to major in physics = to choose physics as your main subject at university

to attend a lecture = to go to listen to a speaker at university often with a large audience in a lecture theatre

to attend a tutorial = to go to a meeting with a professor usually in small group held in his/her office

deliver a lecture = to give a talk or presentation

to lecture in media studies = to talk about media studies or to teach media studies at university

the faculty of business = a department specialising in business at university

to read history = to study history

to do or complete coursework = doing project work or assignments as part of your course

undergraduate (n) = someone currently doing their first degree

graduate (n) = someone who has completed a degree course

note-taking = being able to take notes in a lecture while the lecturer is talking

keeping up with the work load = being able to maintain the level of studying required

fall behind with studies = fail to keep pace with the school / university work

University Work

presentations

lectures

tutorials

thesis

dissertation

hypothesis

assignment

project work

research

Vocabulary Exercises: Universities

Complete the following sentences are university education using no more than one word.

1. People who have from university stand a better chance of finding a good job.
2. I hope to enroll a degree in law next year in the UK.
3. There is a lot of competition to get a but without it I won't be able to afford the universities fees.
4. One of the keys to successful is knowing where to look for information and how to judge which information is most current and relevant. Knowing the best sources of materials is essential.

Please see my blog for answers.

Other Useful Vocabulary for Education

literate = to be able to read and write

illiterate = unable to read and write

the literacy rate = the percentage of people in a country or region able to read and write

comprehensive education = a well-rounded, broad education covering a variety of subjects

scholarship = an award of either free or supported education for high achievers

student loan = money taken by a student to pay for their education which they must pay back after graduating

pay off a student loan = to repay money borrowed for university education

intensive course = a course which runs over a short period of time but contains a lot of information and training

play truant / truancy = not attending school / being absent from school without permission

gap year = to take a year out between high school and university

Vocabulary Exercises: Useful Education Vocabulary

Complete the sentences using no more than two words.

1. The rate of is higher in developed countries than in under developed countries.
2. Schools should offer a which includes subjects relating to all minority groups.
3. The rise in university fees has led to a large proportion of students taking out which can often be difficult to pay back.
4. Students who take a often find it difficult to get back into their studies again.
5. Rather than the government offering free university education for all people, they should, instead, ensure that a certain number of gifted individuals receive a

Please see my blog for answers (www.ieltsliz.com/vocabulary)