

## Unit 1 Language for studying

### Task 1 Speaking

Discuss these questions.

1. Which of these subjects have you studied? At what age did you study them? Which subjects are/ were you good at? Which of them do you consider relevant to your future career? Which would you like to study further?

mathematics	history	psychology	chemistry	sociology	
philosophy	languages	physics	economics	statistics	biology

2. What is a person called who specialises in the subject? Which is the stressed syllable in the word?

### Task 2 Vocabulary

1. Complete the sentences with one of these verbs in the correct form.

*skip attend revise re-sit do apply get study fail pass pay*

- a) I hated maths at school. I didn't do any of the homework, never ..... attention to the teacher and ..... classes whenever I could. Of course, the first time round I ..... my exams and had to ..... them the following year. The second time round I ....., which I was really pleased about. It really boosted my confidence and I decided to ..... to one of the better universities. To my amazement, I got in and I'm there now – studying maths!
- b) Marc's a very bright student. He always ..... very well when he was at school. I'm sure he'll ..... a good degree, even though he doesn't ..... hard. Of course, he hardly ever ..... lectures or ..... the things we've done. I sometimes resent the fact he's so clever!

*What sort of student are you? What are the good and bad things about your studies?*

2. What is the one word all these expressions collocate with?

intensive – introductory – intermediate – advanced – refresher – do – take – enrol on – sign up for – withdraw from – drop out of – complete – pass – fail

### **Task 3 Idioms**

**Can you spot idioms about learning in the sentences below?**

**Can you guess their meaning?**

- a) "I got very drunk once and was really sick. I won't do it again, I learnt my lesson."
- b) "I learnt all the vocabulary off by heart."
- c) "She's new here and is still learning the ropes."
- d) "He could never learn how to use the Internet. Just shows you can't teach an old dog new tricks."
- e) "She got into the university of her choice, because she passed all her exams with flying colours."
- f) "Other countries could teach us a lesson or two on educational policy."
- g) "I studied at the University of Life."
- h) "I never knew that she was married. Oh well, you live and learn."
- i) "A new computer simulator teaches drivers how to handle a skid before they end up learning the hard way."

(For more, go to <http://www.english-at-home.com/vocabulary/english-studying-vocabulary/>)