

TEXT 1 SCHOOL AND EDUCATION IN THE UK

Age	school
3	nursery school
5	primary school
11	secondary school (US high school) – comprehensive (=mixed ability)/grammar school
16	either: leave school and get a job/go to a college for vocational training or: stay at school for 2 more years
18	either: leave school and get a job or: go to university/go to a college for further education/training

1. When are children required to go to school by law?
2. Is primary system in Britain and the Czech Republic similar? In what?
3. What is the classroom management like in Britain and in the Czech Republic?
4. How are schools in Britain and the Czech Republic equipped?
5. What is the school canteen like in Britain and in the Czech Republic?
6. What are the advantages and disadvantages of wearing uniforms?
7. What exam do students take at the age of 16?
8. What exam do students take at the age of 18?
9. What is the difference between the “MATURITA” exam and the “A”-levels?

Studying at university in England

If you want to go (=enter) university), you must first pass examinations that most students take at the age of 18 (called A-levels). Students must do well in order to get/obtain a place at university because the places are limited. (Approximately 30% of students get to university in Britain)

The tuition is free. Some students get a grant (=the money for their living expenses).

Students are called undergraduates when they are studying for their first degree.

When they finish the course and pass their examinations, they receive a degree (the qualification when you complete a university course successfully) = BA/BSc.

1. Why is higher education important for a good career?
2. What is the main university diploma in Britain?
3. What does the “Final” examinations look like?
4. What is the financial situation of the British and Czech university students?
5. Who should pay for university fees, the student’s family or the government?
6. Why do some people leave university before completing the course?
7. What are the advantages and disadvantages of the UK university entrance system?

Postgraduate courses

When a student completes the first course s/he is a graduate. Some students then go on to a second course or degree (postgraduate course/postgraduate degree). These students are postgraduates.

Postgraduate degrees: MA/MSc; MPhil, PhD

Studying a subject in great detail = conducting/carrying out research