

British Education

Introduction

- All children in the U.K. MUST receive a full-time education from the age of 5 to 16.
- Compulsory-required; mandatory; obligatory (p. 155)
- *Education in Britain is compulsory until the age of 16.*

State Schools vs. “Public” Schools (p. 155)

- State schools are paid for by the government
 - Government control
- “Public” schools are paid for by the students and their families (fees)
 - More independent than government schools



Primary Education (p.156)

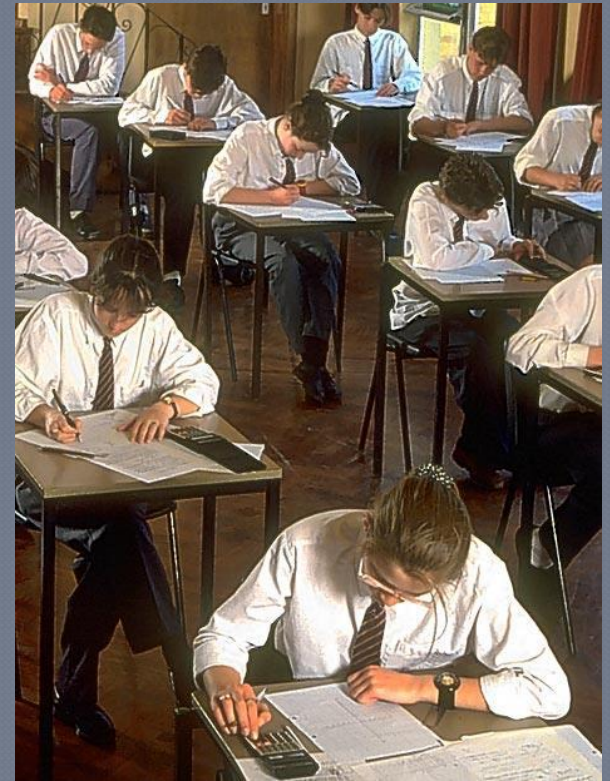
- Ages 5-11
- Religion, English, Math, Geography, Nature Studies, Hygiene, Art, Music, and Physical Education and Foreign Language
- Most students go to the State Schools (95 percent)

Secondary Education (p. 158)

- 11-16
- Grammar Schools
 - Oldest schools in UK. Top students go these schools
- Comprehensive Secondary Schools
 - Most common type of secondary school (90% of students)
 - Not as much emphasis placed on test scores
- Students may go to “sixth form” (Advanced Level) from the age of 16-18 if they would like to go to university.

“Public” Schools (Secondary) p. 162

- Students pay fees (to send a student to a leading school, it may cost 41,000 RMB!)
- Uniforms
- Shaping character, a focus on classics and science



Gap Year

- Many students take a year to figure out what they want to do with their lives
- Students spend the year after high school as volunteers or workers in foreign countries

Higher Education (p. 164)

- Before 1950, there were less than 20 universities and less than 200,000 students
- By the mid-1990's, Britain had 90 Universities
- Now there are 1.1 million students

Oxford and Cambridge Universities

- Are called the “Old Universities”
- Started in 1167 and 1284 AD
 - Were the only two universities in England until the 19th century
- Oxford is the oldest university in Britain



The “Four” Scottish Universities

- ◉ St. Andrews University



- ◉ Glasgow University



- ◉ University of Aberdeen

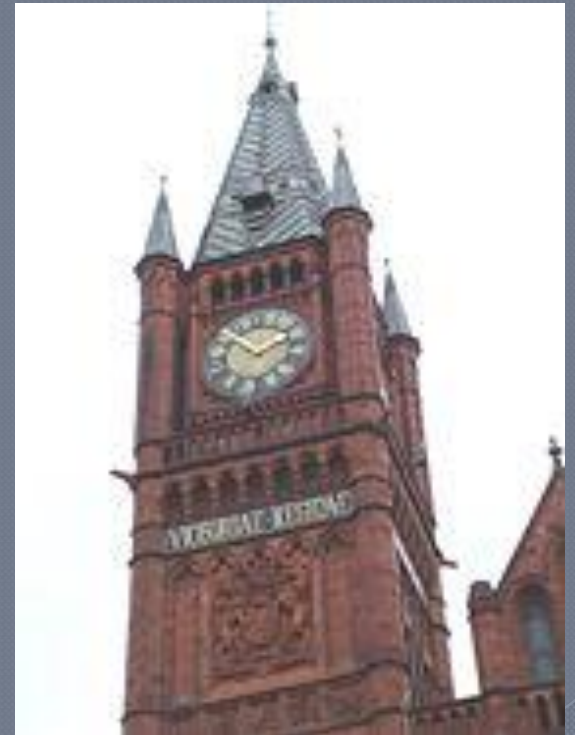


- ◉ Edinburgh University



Middle-Aged Universities

- Universities founded between 1830-1930
- Often referred to as “red brick” universities



New Universities

- Began in the 1960's
- Often referred to as “plate-glass” universities
- More “modern” approach
 - Technical skills, etc.





The Open University (p. 167)

- Founded in 1969
- Open to everyone
- Distance learning-classes are conducted through books, audio, the internet, and DVDs. Classes are not held on a campus!
- Over 70% of the students are in full-time employment

Vocabulary

- Distance learning (The Open University) (p.167)
- Compulsory (p. 155)
- State Schools (p. 155)
- “Public” Schools (p. 162)
- Primary schools (p. 156)
- Secondary schools (p. 158)
- Bachelors, Masters, Doctorate (p. 167)
- College vs. University (p. 166)