

education n.

• Poland's education system failed during the 1990s to train enough skilled workers, including engineers and craftsmen.

educate v.

• Tim was educated at a public school in England .

well-educated adj.

• We need to redesign the school system so that it produces a well-educated population.

educational adj.

• The larger issue, though, is whether such schools can provide better educational benefits

qualification

- a quality or accomplishment that makes someone suitable for a particular job or activity
- These qualifications are just like a ticket for entry into the corporate world
- academic / educational / formal qualification
- acquire / gain / get / have qualification

graduation

- the completion of university degree course or your education and receiving of an academic degree or diploma
- I went to England to work after my graduation

enroll

- officially register as a member of an institution or a student on a course, school, university, etc
- In many areas, it is possible to enroll for adult education classes in archaeology.
- Today women make up 70 percent of professional school **enrollment**.

degree

- qualification or an academic rank that is given after successful completion of a course of study
- He is an artist with a master's degree in Conflict Resolution Through Arts.
- college, university degree
- first / second degree
- undergraduate / higher, master's, postgraduate degree
- business, medical, history, law degree
- degree in economics / marketing / engineering / art

discipline

- the practice of training people to obey rules or a code of behavior
- In addition , the type of research carried out is exploratory , involving a variety of academic disciplines

tuition

- The training or instruction provided by a teacher or tutor especially in small groups
- We want to support them by providing free tuition in core subjects.

primary (elementary) school

- An institution in which children aged between 5 and 11 receive the first stage of academic learning
- Some articles may not be appropriate for Primary school children.

secondary (middle/high) school

• The project will involve two primary schools and a secondary school.

university

- attend / go to / study at university
- apply for / enter university
- finish (at) / graduate from / leave university

People talk about their school years in this way:

- Freshmen (1st year)
- Sophomore (2nd year)
- Junior (3rd year)
- Senior (4th year)

acquire

- to get or gain something
- There are regular classes where you can acquire new expertise , or improve existing skills , with professional tuition.

compulsory

- something that is compulsory must be done because of a rule or law
- The majority of the age cohort attend beyond the end of compulsory schooling

dropout

- a student who fails to complete a course of study and leaves university etc with no qualifications
- Years ago the official label for "dropout" was changed to "premature school leaver."

- **teacher centered**: where the teacher is leading the class
- encourage collaboration: learning together through discussions
- pressure to meet deadlines: having to finish work by a certain time / date
- **assignments:** homework or essays
- sail through them: not to have to work hard and to find things easy
- learning expectations: what the teacher expects from their student

- league tables: tables which rank the position of schools according to academic success 排名表
- alumni: students who used to go to a certain school or college
- **boarding school:** where students live at school during the term time
- extra-curricular activities: anything NOT academic, eg sport, drama
- **peer group**: students of your own age, in your class
- **remote:** not being physically there / learning via computer

IDIOMS ABOUT EDUCATION

- I need to **put my thinking cap on** (= to think about something)
- I've been **racking my brains** about this problem (=thinking hard)
- That teacher was great, he didn't **spoon-feed** us, he made us think!
- I am going to **hit the books** (=study)
- I managed to sail through this test, it was so easy. (=to pass smoothly)
- To sit a test = to take a test (as a student)
- To pass = to succeed in a test
- I **passed** my test **with flying colors** (= got a very high score)

教育类常见问题

- What did you enjoy most when you were at school?
- School feels like a long time ago now, as I am currently at University, but I do remember really enjoying English lessons. We were lucky enough to have a native speaking teacher, which was usual, but it gave us the opportunity to be inspired by hearing **authentic** pronunciation and our teacher told very funny stories to keep us focused.

- Do you think a teacher should be friendly or strict?
- When I was at school, our teachers were 'old-school', strict and very traditional, so our lessons were teacher centered. As children we were not encouraged to ask questions or voice our opinions. However, today, thankfully, classes are more student centred, and encourage collaboration and I think a more friendly teacher would be more successful here.

- What are some essential qualities every teacher should have?
- As for me, every teacher should be able to catch student's attention. It is very important to make your subject interesting to the others. Also, teacher should be a subject specialist and a kind, helpful person.

- What's the most difficult part of your study now?
- Well, for the most part, I'd say it's encourage collaboration. I mean there are so many assignments, and students are always under a lot of pressure to meet deadlines. I am lucky as I don't find exams too overwhelming. If you are well prepared, they are entirely predictable, and I can pretty much sail through them with only a bit of revision.

- What are the benefits of a boarding school?
- As an alumni of a boarding school, I can see the upsides as well as the challenges. In some countries children as young as 8 are sent away to school, either because of the higher standard of education on offer, or because their parents may be working overseas.
- Many of these schools offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities such as golf, photography or fashion as well as the core academic subjects. Children usually speak of forming lifelong friendships, with their peer group as well as teachers and there is a strong concept of shared experiences.

- What are the advantages of studying a distance learning course?
- For many people, especially students who work or need more flexibility, distance or remote learning is the ideal way to study. There are several benefits that immediately come to mind. Not only the cost, which is far less than it would be to attend a college with high tuition fees but the ability to study at your own speed.
- It is usually agreed that some find that this method of learning suits them better than sitting in lectures or going to tutorials which demands more self-motivation and discipline.

- What is the difference between the role of a teacher and a parent in the education of children?
- I think the role of teachers is to impart knowledge and inspire students to learn. Parents, on the other hand, need to teach children how to behave properly and set an example for them to follow. If children encounter problems, they should be able to consult both parents and teachers. In my country, from primary school to high school, each class is assigned a "head teacher" who would know the students very well and students can turn to this teacher for advice.

- What suggestions would you give to teachers to improve education?
- I think each teacher has a different style of teaching which may not work well for all students. Frankly a perfect teacher doesn't exist. However, there are two things that all teachers should aim to achieve, which are knowledge and inspiration. Teachers should be able to provide accurate knowledge and inspire students to study. The latter is sometimes very difficult, but they should at least try.

- What is the best way to educate children in your opinion?
- Children must go to school and also take part in extracurricular activities to become wellrounded people. Knowledge is important as it shapes your thinking and builds your ability to work. But interpersonal communication is just as important, so activities where children spend time together are also necessary. Hobbies are good to have too, as they keep children from being lonely.

- How can we help children realize their talents?
- Children need to be exposed to a variety of school subjects and activities before they can know what they're really interested in. What's important is that when they realise they have a certain talent, they should be allowed to nurture this talent and have a career using it.

- Does the government provide enough support to education in your view?
- There isn't enough support yet, especially in remote areas where children don't go to school or often **drop out** after a few years because the family can't provide for them and they have to work when they reach a certain age.

- Should all students pay for their university education?
- In my view, many students should be entitled to have a free higher education, especially if they can't afford the fees but have consistent high grades. For those who are high achievers getting a paid tuition to the university of their choice could be life-changing. For example in many countries in Europe, they offer free higher education to those who obtain high grades in high school, which encourages them to develop their learning and progress into a good profession.

- What advantages do universities bring to society?
- I think that there are many positive things that universities can offer the communities around them. They bring students into the area for one, which means housing will be in demand. They will spend money on food, go out and books for their course, making the town or city a buzzing hub of student life. For the students they benefit from having a high level of education, which can then be translated into skills in the workplace, keeping society going with their knowledge.

How should students spend their summer vacations?

 In my opinion, I think that students should spend some time relaxing during the summer break but should also continue to study and read. A better way to make use of all of that time off is to get an internship or other work experience that will be useful for their CV. They could also have a paid part-time job so that they can save money for the forthcoming school year. When completing a degree, it is really useful to gain experience from internships, save money and continue to study. Making the most of all of that free time is important. Being idle during that time period is not really going to help them to go anywhere in the future.

- Do you stay in contact with old school friends?
- Not really, I've got one best friend back in Canada, but we don't actually talk all that much anymore. He recently got married and we used to be best buds, we would hang out after school, we'd go get pizza together, we'd drive around together, we chatted about girls and about school and about out future – all that stuff – but since I've moved back to China we've kind of grown apart and we're not really as close as we used to be.

• What were your best subjects in school?

I didn't have that many good subjects at all but I was really good in literature because I read a lot so it just came naturally to me. I was also good in history. I never studied but I listened in class and I had like a brilliant memory – almost like a photographic memory but not quite. And I could just remember dates and names and everything – simple! So I never had to study but I always got top marks in history. And besides that I was good in gym because I was very athletic but even if you're not athletic it's easy to get good marks when you're in gym. I wasn't good at math or the sciences or anything like that – things where you actually had to put in real work – I was bad at those things.

• What do most students in your country do after school?

It's a big country so I can't really answer for everyone but the school I used to go to – most kids would play sports after school. Girls usually played soccer and depending on the season guys would play basketball or soccer. If you weren't doing that, there was like an after-school recreational community 'club' where a lot of outcasts in High School would go to play computer games or do art or something like that. Some kids would just head home – that's what I did most of the time. I wanted to get home, play computer games – be alone. So I'd just head home if I wasn't hanging out with a friend or something like that. I think there might have also been some after-school classes. Most people when they finish school, they're done with school and they're moving on to do something fun after school.

- What impact do universities have on the places where they're located?
- I believe that the presence of a university in a town or city has a significant positive impact on the area. For a start, it's often the largest employer, offering jobs at all levels from cleaners and maintenance staff to lecturers and top academics.
- Large educational institutions like this bring in lots of investment from around the world from foreign students and for important research projects. The presence of thousands of students during term times is also a massive boost to the local economy.
- In addition to the financial benefits, there several ways in which universities contribute socially. For example, university towns and cities tend to be vibrant, with a great social life due to the large numbers of young adults living there. What's more, the campus itself usually has a number of facilities that can be used by local people. A university city I used to live in had an excellent theatre that attracted top plays, shows and performers from around the country.

教育类口语主题陈述

Describe a school that you went to when you were a child.

You should say:

- where the school was
- when you went there
- what the school and the teachers were like
- and explain whether you enjoyed your time there.

- I'm going to talk about my primary school. The school was called Milton. and it was in the town of Santa Clara. The location of the school was great because it was within walking distance of our family home at the time. The route to school was all downhill, which made it an easy walk in the morning, but a tiring journey on the way home in the afternoon!
- I was a pupil at Milton between the ages of 5 and 11 the full 6 years of primary education. From age 11 onwards, I went to a nearby secondary school.
- My primary school seemed like a big place at the time, but it was actually quite a small school, with only six classes. I remember there being a large room called the assembly hall, where the whole school gathered every morning to hear messages from the headmaster. I also remember spending a lot of time on the playground and on the sports field. I liked all of my teachers; they were caring but strict at the same time, and I think they fostered a positive and fun atmosphere in the school.
- I have really fond memories of my primary school years, mainly because of the friends I made and the fun I had.
 One of my most vivid memories is of performing in the school play in my final year. I had to learn lines and play the part of a character in a traditional children's story. It was a nerve-racking experience, but it felt like my first real achievement.

Describe a school you have studied in.

You should say:

- where it is
- how long you have studied there
- what it looks like
- and explain what was the most attractive aspect of this school.

- Saint Partick High School is one of the largest institutions in the Kingsly area and this is perhaps the best school in the entire town. I spent almost six years there and have had some wonderful memories.
- Located at the South-east corner on the city map, Saint Patrick High School offers young students quality education and one of the best views in town from its premises. It was established almost one hundred years ago in an area which is more than 30 acres. The then-mayor, Mr. Abel, finished establishing the metro rail system a few years earlier and that had made the communication to and from the school very convenient. This school always make endeavors to excel at all courses that are offered to students. It is one of the prominent and autonomous schools in our state with excellent academic results.
- I got admitted to this school when I was around twelve years old. I studied there until I finished my high school diploma and will never forget my time there. I must admit I enjoyed my high school days thoroughly and thanks to the great masters who worked really hard for us.
- The school is really big and the buildings are mostly two-storied and large enough. During my time, we had around three thousand students.
 The spectacular gardens and immaculately maintained yards, traditionally structured red and white buildings and large open space make it look more like a museum than a school.
- I loved so many things in my school. I relished the rich collection of books the school library had, the large and green playground where I used to play every evening, the scenic beauty of it and so on. But the most attractive aspect of the school was the excellent teachers who used to teach us. The institution could not have been the best one without the dedication and hard work they have put in. I still remember how our teachers had been our mentor, leader and coach on the one hand, and yet friendly on the other hand. During my six years studentship in that alma mater, I have learned a lot and the credit goes to the teachers who had been so inspiring for us.

Describe a subject you enjoyed studying at school.

You should say:

- when and where you started studying it
- what lessons were like
- what made the subject different from other subjects
- and explain why you enjoyed the subject.

- The subject I'd like to describe is World History. It was a subject taught in high school. About one hour is
 allotted everyday to learn about significant historical events. For some of my classmates, it was a boring subject
 but I enjoyed it a lot.
- I remember that our teacher distributed a syllabus on our first meeting which served as a guide on the topics that will be discussed each week. We were assigned to read several books and other reading materials. We talked about famous people, from warriors to philosophers to artists. We discussed the wars that happened in the past. We also talked about religion, traditions and customs of the people during the ancient time.
- As a subject, it required us to memorize a lot which was a disadvantage for me and my classmates at that time because it consumed much of our time. Nevertheless, history really intrigues me. I am always curious about how humans lived in the past. I have always been interested to look into how history turned us into the present generation. It fascinates me.

- There were three subjects I particularly enjoyed at school, English, geography and P.E. but if I had to choose a favorite, I guess it would be geography.
- I suppose you start learning about the natural features around you and other countries in primary school, but geography first appeared on the curriculum as a specific subject in secondary school. I'd been fascinated with other places and cultures for as long as I could remember. My dad had travelled a lot and had a large map on the wall with pins in all the countries he'd been to. I loved looking at it so perhaps that's where my interest in geography first started.
- The geography classroom was great; full of globes, atlases and books about places that were very different to where I lived. We had a nice teacher called Mrs Rose who used lots of pictures and maps in her lessons. This was perfect for me as I'm a visual learner. If Mrs Rose had just talked all the time, as some of our teachers did, I probably wouldn't have enjoyed the subject so much or learnt so easily.
- I even liked doing geography homework. I can remember sitting at my desk at home spending hours carefully drawing maps and adding all the features. When my mum took me to the library on a Saturday morning, I'd look for adventure stories set around the world or books on how people live in other countries.
- When I reached the sixth form and had to choose just three subjects to study, geography was one of them, although I actually failed my final exam. My family moved house yet again just before I took it and I was very unsettled. I had a private tutor for a few months then retook the exam and got a good grade.
- At university, I trained as a teacher myself. I chose primary education so taught geography along with many other subjects. However, during one of my training placements, the headteacher asked me to spend three weeks teaching the subject to every class in the small village school, from 5 year olds up to 11 year olds. It was one of the happiest times in the whole of my career even though I hadn't even got my teaching qualification yet.

- Many businesses think that the new employees who have just graduated from schools lack interpersonal skills, such as working with colleagues as a team.
- What has caused this and what are the solutions to this problem?

- It is claimed by some business owners and recruiters that graduates nowadays tend to lack interpersonal skills.
 This essay will first explore why this is the case, before then suggesting how it may be remedied.
- If it is true that graduates now lack the interpersonal skills necessary to succeed in the modern workplace, then that surely can be blamed on the exceptionally high level of theoretical knowledge necessary to achieve a good degree. As universities have become more competitive, the requirements for achieving a degree have gotten much more stringent, and students are required to spend all their time reading books and preparing for difficult assessments. It seems likely that this hinders their opportunities to socialize or work with others on productive tasks.
- Solving this problem should not be terribly difficult. In fact, university faculties should pay attention to these
 complaints and implement solutions into their courses. Perhaps the most obvious suggestion is that students
 must be required to participate in more group activities throughout their education. For example, rather than
 studying all day and night to write an essay or sit an exam, students could be asked to prepare a group
 presentation together with their peers. Ideally, these groups should be picked at random to ensure that
 students develop the necessary skills to work with others whom they would not have previously chosen to
 work.
- In conclusion, it appears that universities are failing students by not educating them in how to develop their interpersonal skills, and as a result they are struggling in the workplace. These universities should thus require students to develop their communicative abilities through specific group-based tasks.

- Some people think that a sense of competition in children should be encouraged. Others believe that children who are taught to co-operate rather than compete become more useful adults.
- Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.

- People disagree over how to raise their kids, with many parents and teachers suggesting that competition is detrimental to their development. They think that children should be taught cooperation instead. This essay will look at both views, before deciding that these need not be mutually exclusive.
- The argument against competition in children essentially revolves around the idea that it is unhealthy for children to be pitted against one another. Rather than teaching them to compete, these people argue, we should teach them to work together. Natural selection dictates that some children will invariably be winners while others will be losers, and in the modern era, this seems like an out-dated concept. All children should be winners.
- On the other hand, competition is a part of life and therefore children should be exposed to it from the beginning. It needn't be unfair, of course. When children are taught healthy attitudes towards competition – such as sportsmanship – then it is actually tremendously beneficial for them. They can learn how to participate in natural activities and then deal healthily with the result, whether that is victory or loss.
- However, it seems to me that there is no real distinction between competition and cooperation. Team sports, after all, involve both these elements. If children play football, basketball, or rugby, then they will work with their teammates to compete against another team. In the end, both aspects are learned.
- In conclusion, there is no need to separate competition from cooperation, and neither should be removed from a child's education or environment. Both are important for child development.