

## LESSON 2

### **Topic: “HIGHER EDUCATION IN GREAT BRITAIN”**

#### **Lead-in**

Discuss the following: The role of education in my life.

#### **Main stage**

##### Reading practice

*Reading: “Higher education in Great Britain”*

### **Higher education in Great Britain**

When higher education of Great Britain is being spoken about the University education is generally meant. But in fact there is a considerable amount of post-school education, including part-time as well as full-time studies carried on in technical colleges teacher training colleges, art colleges, institutes of adult education and so on.

Higher education, consisting of degree and equivalent courses, has experienced a dramatic expansion. The number of higher education students in Britain almost doubled between 1979 and 1993 to 1.5 million, so that today around 30 percent of young people enter full-time higher education.

There are some 90 universities, which enjoy academic freedom. Every University is autonomous and responsible to its governing body. The regulations differ from University to University. While there are similarities between them, they all differ from Oxford and Cambridge, where are a number of separate colleges, each with their own regulations and courses of studies. The new, so-called “red-brick” Universities are divided into various faculties: Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Science, Faculty of Social and Economic Studies, etc.

University degree courses are generally being taken for three, four or even five years. University teaching combines lectures practical classes and small group teaching in either seminars or tutorials. The last is a traditional feature of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.

First degree courses are mainly full time and usually last three years, with longer courses in subjects such as medicine. Universities offer courses in a broad range of academic and vocational subjects, including traditional arts subjects, the humanities, and science and technology. The government encourages young people to choose degree courses in subjects, or combinations of subjects, that provide the knowledge and skills required by a technologically advanced economy .

Over 95 percent of students on first degree and comparable higher education courses receive government grants covering tuition and accommodation and other maintenance expenses. Parents also contribute, the amount depending on their

income. In addition, students can take out loans to help pay their maintenance costs.

### Comments

1. post-school education – освіта, одержана після закінчення школи
2. in fact – фактично, насправді
3. part-time studies – навчання без відриву від виробництва
4. full-time studies – навчання з відривом від виробництва
5. as well as – також, як і
6. to enjoy academic freedom – мати (користуватись) навчальну свободу
7. to be responsible to – бути відповідальним перед
8. to take a course – вивчати курс
9. a broad range of academic and vocational subjects – широкий вибір навчальних та професійних предметів
10. humanities – гуманітарні предмети
11. teacher training college – педагогічні інститути
12. to carry on – продовжується, здійснюється
13. to provide knowledge – забезпечувати знання
14. to receive government grants – одержувати пільги від уряду
15. maintenance expenses – витрати на утримання

### Comprehension

a) Answer the questions:

1. What is the system of higher education in Great Britain?
2. What does higher education consist of?
3. What can you say about the increase of higher education students' number?
4. How many Universities are there in Great Britain at present?
5. Who is every university responsible to?
6. For how many years are university degree courses taken?
7. What does university teaching combine?
8. Where is a traditional feature of Cambridge and Oxford?
9. How many years do first degree courses last?
10. What courses does University offer?
11. Who does the government encourage?
12. Why does the government encourage young people?
13. What do students on first degree receive?
14. What do parents contribute?
15. What can students take out to help pay their maintenance costs?

b) Agree or disagree with the statements given below. Use the phrases below.

Certain, sure, indeed, of course, it goes without saying, as far as I know...

1. Part-time and full-time studies are carried on only at Universities.
2. British higher education consists of degree and equivalent courses.
3. The number of higher education students has increased recently.
4. Every University is autonomous and responsible to its government body.
5. There are great difference between various Universities.
6. University degree are generally being taken for four years.
7. Lectures and practical classes are traditional for teaching at Oxford and Cambridge.
8. First degree courses are both full-time and part-time.
9. Universities offer courses in a broad range of academic and vocational subjects.
10. All students on first degree receive government grant.
11. Students can take out loans to help pay their maintenance costs.

### Translation

Translate the text “Higher education in Great Britain” into Ukrainian.

### Vocabulary practice

a) Find the Ukrainian equivalents

1. a considerable amount of post - school education
2. to experience a dramatic expansion
3. to enter full-time higher education
4. to enjoy academic freedom
5. to be responsible to governing body
6. degree courses
7. to combine lectures, practical classes
8. to offer courses
9. to cover tuition
10. comparable higher education courses

1. бути підпорядкованим керівному органу
2. ступеневі навчальні курси
3. пропонувати навчальні курси
4. поєднувати лекції з практичними заняттями
5. відповідні курси, що дають вищу освіту
6. значний обсяг після шкільної освіти
7. вступати до вищих навчальних закладів з відривом від виробництва
8. мати свободу вибору під час навчання
9. зазнати значного розширення
10. покривати витрати на навчання

b) Use the word combinations given above in the sentences of your own

c) Complete the following sentences

1. The post-school education is carried on in ... . 2. Higher education, consisting of degree and equivalent courses, has experienced ... . 3. Every University is autonomous and responsible to ... . 4. University teaching combines ... . 5. Universities offer courses in a ... . 6. The government encourages young people to ... . 7. Parents also contribute the amount ... .

### Grammar practice

Fill in the blanks with prepositions or adverbs if necessary

1. There is a demand ... a better and more democratic system ... education ... Great Britain. 2. The students of all the groups are responsible ... their dean. 3. The regulations differ ... university ... university ... Great Britain. 4. Our institute is divided ... various departments. 5. Our university degree courses are taken ... four or five years ... Ukraine. 6. The students were speaking ... their forthcoming exams. 7. Women as well as men have equal rights ... education ... our country.

### Speaking practice

1. Great Britain and London – to speak on
2. Role play: “London”

### **Homework**

1. Higher Education in Great Britain – to speak on
2. Vocabulary

### **Materials and resources:**

Гаращенко Л.М. Г 20 Практична англійська: Навчальний посібник. – Ірпінь: Академія ДПС України, 2001. – 91 с.