**MODULE 1. STUDY & ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES**

**Unit 2. Education in Great Britain**

**Before you start:**

1. What do you know about the UK education system overall?
2. Name some famous British higher education institutions.
3. Why is college considered to be an element of the higher education system?

**Ex. 1. Study the words and word combinations. If possible, give their synonyms.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Word** | **Transcription** | **Translation** |
| a correspondence course | [ 'kɔrɪ'spɔnd(ə)ns kɔ:s ] | заочный курс |
| a counterpart | [ 'kauntəpɑ:t ] | коллеги |
| a curriculum (pl. curricular) | [ kə'rɪkjuləm ] | учебный план (в школе или вузе) |
| a gateway | [ 'geɪtweɪ ] | врата, окно (напр., в Европу) |
| a graduate | [ ˈɡrædʒuət ] | выпускник университета |
| a postgraduate | [ 'pəust'grædjuɪt ] | студент магистратуры или аспирантуры |
| a scholarship | [ ˈskɒləʃɪp ] | стипендия |
| an undergraduate | [ 'ʌndə'græʤuɪt ] | студент бакалавриата |
| application paperwork | [ æplɪˈkeɪʃ(ə)n ˈpeɪpəwɜːk ] | оформление документов для подачи заявления |
| circumstances | [ ˈsɜːkəmstənsɪz ] | обстоятельства |
| civic | [ ˈsɪvɪk ] | гражданский, общественный |
| a distinction | [ dɪˈstɪŋ(k)ʃ(ə)n ] | различие |
| an embassy | [ ˈembəsɪ ] | посольство |
| a guidance | [ ˈɡaɪd(ə)ns ] | руководство, рекомендация, консультация |
| liveliness | [ ˈlaɪvlɪnɪs ] | живость |
| major / minor | [ 'meɪʤə ] / [ 'maɪnə ] | основная / второстепенная специализация |
| pertinent | [ 'pɜ:tɪnənt ] | соответствующий |
| a request | [ rɪˈkwest ] | просьба, запрос |
| to be pronounced | [ bi: prə'naunst ] | быть выраженным |
| to be renowned | [ rɪˈnaʊnd ] | быть известным |
| to confirm | [ kənˈfɜːm ] | подтверждать |
| to denote | [ dɪˈnəʊt ] | обозначать |
| to derive from | [ dɪ'raɪv frəm ] | происходить от /из |
| to discern | [ dɪˈsɜːn ] | различать |
| a tuition fee | [ tjuːˈɪʃn fiː ] | стоимость обучения |
| vocational | [ və(ʊ)ˈkeɪʃ(ə)n(ə)l ] | профессиональный |

**Ex. 2. Read the text and place the titles (a-l) correctly (1-11). There is one extra option.**

1. Why study in Great Britain?
2. What can you study in the UK?
3. Why is the UK a popular destination for students?
4. Is studying for free possible?
5. What is British educational culture like?
6. What skills will you get by studying in Britain?
7. Where will your degree be recognized?
8. What is necessary to apply?
9. Why is the UK the gateway to the rest of Europe?
10. Why does the UK welcome foreign students?
11. What to start with?
12. Is the visa needed?

с. Почему Великобритания является популярным местом для студентов?

d. Возможно ли обучение бесплатно?

ё. Как выглядит британская образовательная культура?

L. Нужна ли виза?

**Destination: British university.**

1. **\_\_\_a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

The UK is renowned as one of the most popular study destinations in the world for international students. According to the latest statistics, the total number of international students in the UK is 679,790 (2021/2022 academic year), and this number is growing exponentially. Thousands of international students, from all corners of the world, embark their studies in the UK every year, enhancing the country’s liveliness and beauty. What we have learned from the statistics is that getting a degree in the UK is a very popular way, but why? What benefits do people have from being educated in Great Britain?

1. **\_\_g\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

If you decide to get your education in the UK, your degree will be recognized and respected, no matter where you end up being employed. The education will provide you with a solid foundation and boost your potential for having a higher salary and finding exactly the job you want.

1. **\_\_b\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

The UK has countless higher education institutions, and almost every single one of them has opportunities for international students to study there. You can choose from a variety of different undergraduate and graduate degrees and combine your courses in order to make a degree program that suits your needs and interests.

1. **\_\_\_f\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

The learning experience that you will receive when you study in the UK is one that will provide you with the skills you need. You’ll be encouraged to read, think independently, question and analyze what you read and learn. Did you know that British scientists and institutions have won almost 100 Nobel Prizes? Very few countries can claim that level of achievement. People who study art, fashion, film, TV and video game design are considered among the best in the world.

1. **\_\_i\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

If you want to travel Europe, the UK is the place to be. In the United Kingdom alone, you can travel to Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland and learn about the different backgrounds and lifestyles in each country. Public transportation makes it simple to travel the entire United Kingdom and take in the sights and sounds. As a student, you can receive special rates for transportation when you buy monthly passes.

1. **\_\_\_j\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

First of all, of course, it is the economic impact of international students. International students in the UK bring billions in income to UK universities, approximately £6.9 billion income *in tuition fees*. Total education exports and transnational activity (TNE) in the UK contributed around £19.9 billion in 2016, a 3.1% increase from the previous year. The second point is that the UK loves international students because they diversify the country and make global connections happen. The UK is constantly working to keep international students here and even include them in the UK job market. Just recently, the UK has introduced a post-study work visa, known as the Graduate Route, which allows graduates to stay in the UK and find a job for a period of up to two years after graduation.

1. \_\_\_h\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Once you’ve decided to study in the UK, you will have to know what to do next: how do you apply to the university in the UK? What do you need to do to make sure that you can go exactly where you want to go? Here are some tips to help you apply for college in the UK.

8.\_\_k\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
The first thing you need to do is define your target: what do you want to study and where do you want to study.  Fortunately, there are countless options available to you as the UK currently counts around 200 recognized higher education providers whereas the variety of available study courses is larger than that. To choose your UK college, make a list of all universities that offer degree courses in your professional field and review their course structure and modules. From there you can filter out a shorter list of colleges that would match your desire.

9. \_\_k\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

After you have decided on what UK college and program you want to study, you must now see what the requirements are to apply for a place there. To do this, you must visit their website and check their application requirements section. Pay attention to the details because at this point of your application everything counts, even the least important document. Now it’s time to submit your application. Before doing that, give a final look of your application paperwork to see if there might be something accidentally missing. As soon as your university receives your application, they will send you an email to confirm it. There’s not a regular period of time it takes the admission committee to go through your application paperwork and respond to you. Due to the great amount of the applications UK universities get, it takes time to process your request. Wait with patience!

10. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

As a non-EU and non-EEA citizen, you need a student visa to study in the UK. The student visa in the UK is labelled as TIER 4 (General). The day you are given a place at the university you must reach the British embassy to seek guidance on student visa requirements in the UK. To ensure your visa application is processed smoothly, you have to possess proper financial means required to cover your studies and stay in the country. The amount of money required to have in your bank account varies according to your personal circumstances.

11. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

In fact, the United Kingdom is the most expensive of the European countries for international students. However, there are always options and alternatives. The first and the most preferred option to study in the United Kingdom for free is to find a scholarship that covers all or most of the tuition. Then, the second option is to find a part-time job to cover tuition and living expenses.

**Ex. 3. Answer the questions:**

1. What benefits does studying in the UK provide?
2. What skills will you improve during your studying in the UK?
3. Can you customize your studies to make a degree programme that utterly meets your needs?
4. Are there many educational opportunities in the UK?
5. What should a student do first of all when submitting documents?
6. How much is the total export of education and transnational activities (TNE) in the UK equal to?
7. Who is the post-study work visa for?
8. Is studying in the UK expensive versus other European countries?
9. What amount of money is required in your bank account while applying for college in the UK?
10. What options does a student have to study in the UK for free?

**Ex. 4. Fill in the blanks with necessary words.**

1. The education will provide you with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_and boost your potential for having a higher salary and finding exactly the job you want.
2. You can choose from a variety of different \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ degrees and combine your courses in order to make a degree program that suits your needs and interests.
3. The learning experience that you will receive studying in the UK is one that will \_\_\_\_\_ you with the skills you need.
4. While choosing a college you should review their \_\_\_\_\_ and modules.
5. Once you've chosen a university and sorted out the requirements, it's time to \_\_\_\_\_ your application.
6. The United Kingdom is \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_of the European countries for international students.
7. The UK currently counts around 200 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ higher education providers whereas the variety of available study courses is larger than that.
8. The student visa in the UK is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as TIER 4 (General).
9. To ensure your visa application is \_\_\_\_\_ smoothly, you have to \_\_\_\_\_ enough financial means to cover your studies and stay in the country.
10. There is an opportunity to find a part-time job to cover \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ expenses.

**Ex. 5. Give English equivalents for:**

место обучения; расти в геометрической прогрессии; приниматься за обучение; преумножать красоту; оказаться в итоге; прочное основание; повышать потенциал для чего-л.; бесчисленное количество учреждений высшего образования; поощрять самостоятельное мышление; похвастаться достижениями; созерцать виды и воспринимать звуки; специальные тарифы; проездной на месяц; случайно отсутствовать; оформление документов для подачи заявки; обратиться за консультацией; обработать заявление; первый и наилучший вариант; найти стипендию; работа не на полную занятость; покрыть расходы на обучение и проживание.

**Ex. 8. Read the text and mark the topics it covers.**

* study modes
* international students in the UK
* history of higher education in England
* degrees granted
* higher education qualifications
* entry requirements
* post-degree courses
* academic year
* extracurricular traditions in Britain
* university types
* course structure
* full-time and part-time courses

## **The System of Higher Education in Great Britain**

Universities historically have been independent and self-governing; however, they have close links with the central government because a large proportion of their income derives from public funds. Higher education also takes place in colleges. In contrast to the university, which tends to be focused equally on practice and theory, college courses in the UK pay attention to more practical skills. So, most students in the UK choose the college to become employable in a short time. Students are carefully selected by examination performance, and the dropout rate is low by international standards.

The autonomy of higher-educational institutions is strikingly pronounced in Great Britain. Its universities enjoy almost complete autonomy from national or local government in their administration and the determination of their curricula, despite the fact that the schools receive nearly all of their funding from the state. Entry requirements for British universities are rather complicated. A student must secure a General Certificate of Education by taking examinations in various subjects and receiving passing marks in them. The greater the number of the A-level (“advanced level”) passes that a student acquires, the better their chances are of entering the university of their choice.

This selective admission to universities, combined with the close supervision of students through a tutorial system, makes it possible for most British undergraduates to complete a degree course in three years rather than the standard four years. Great Britain’s academic programs are more highly specialized than their European continental counterparts. Great Britain’s model of higher education has been copied to varying degrees in Canada, Australia, India, South Africa, New Zealand, and other former British colonial territories in Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific.

Most UK higher education courses are taught by universities, but many are also provided by colleges, specialist institutions – arts and agricultural institutes and business schools. In the UK, higher education starts at the age of 18. Higher Education Qualifications include, among others, diplomas granted upon completion of two year diploma courses, i.e. Higher National Diploma or Diploma of Higher Education are offered by Higher Education institutions in the UK. Three year bachelor degrees are offered leading to Bachelor of Science/Engineering, Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Education.

Some colleges and universities run special foundation courses providing foundation degrees commonly known as 'Year 0' programs, aimed at students who want to enter specific subject areas such as science and engineering, but do not hold the pertinent entry qualifications.

Post-graduate degrees include Master’s degrees which last from one year to four years. The MBA-Master of Business Administration is the world's most popular postgraduate degree, and the highest number of MBAs comes from the UK. Another type of master's degree is the MRes- Master in Research which is designed to prepare students for doctoral research. A doctorate is the highest qualification usually taking three to four years to finish. Intake for the doctoral degree is normally from those with a very good first degree or more commonly from those with a master's degree.

Most higher education courses in the UK have a ‘modular’ structure, i.e. you can make a personalized course by choosing modules or units of study from different subject areas. Also, you can opt for more than one subject as part of your course. You have the options such as “Joint” which means the two subjects are studied equally and “major/minor” which means the time spent is usually 75% and 25% respectively.

The UK offers both full-time as well as part-time courses of study. Full-time undergraduate courses of study take three years to finish and full-time postgraduate courses can be from one year upwards. Part-time courses usually require a longer period of time, thereby allowing you to work alongside your studies. The time span for part-time courses varies from one course to another.

In the UK, the standard academic year starts in September or October and runs until June or July. Often universities follow three term patterns in a year, beginning in September / October, January and May. There are some universities that follow the concept of two "semesters" a year, beginning in September / October and January. Majority of the courses begin in the autumn months in the UK universities.

There are no important official or legal distinctions between the various universities in the country. But it is possible to discern a few broad categories. Thus, the name of ***Oxbridge*** denotes the universities of Oxford and Cambridge famous for their academic excellence. They are federations of semi-independent colleges, each college having its own staff, known as ‘fellows’. The fellows teach the college students, either one-to-one or in very small groups (known as “tutorials” in Oxford or “supervisions” in Cambridge). Oxbridge has the lowest student/staff ratio in Britain.

The ***old Scottish universities*** areGlasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, and St. Andrews. St. Andrews resembles Oxbridge in many ways, while the other three universities are more like civic universities (see below) in that most of the students live at home or rented flats in town. At all of them, the pattern of study is closer to the Continental tradition than to the English one - there is less specialization than at Oxbridge.

The ***older civic (“redbrick”) universities*** during the nineteenth century concentrated in industrial towns and cities to cater for local people but later they started to accept students from all over the country. Their buildings are of red brick in contrast to the stone of older universities.

The ***campus universities*** are purpose-built institutions located in the countryside (East Anglia, Lancaster, Sussex, Warwick). They tend to place emphasis on relatively ‘new’ academic disciplines and to make greater use than other universities of teaching in small groups, often known as ‘seminars’.

***The new civic universities*** (Aston, Selford, Strathclyde) were originally technical colleges set up by local authorities in the first sixty years of the twentieth century. But then they were upgraded to university status. Their most notable feature is flexibility with regard to studying arrangements, including ‘sandwich’ courses (studies interrupted by periods of time outside education).

***Finally, Open University*** is the British experiment in higher education for adults. It opened in January 1971 with headquarters at the new town of Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire. There are no academic prerequisites for enrollment in Open University, the aim of which is to extend educational opportunities to all. Courses, centrally organized by a distinguished faculty, are conducted by various means, including television, correspondence, study groups, and residential courses or seminars held at centers scattered throughout Great Britain. The correspondence course, however, is the principal educational technique. Televised lectures and seminars merely supplement it.

**Ex. 9. Answer the questions:**

1. How autonomous are British universities?
2. What are the main entry requirements for British universities?
3. Is Great Britain’s model of higher education used anywhere else?
4. What types of higher educational establishments are there in the UK?
5. Name the academic qualifications in the UK.
6. When does the academic year start and how many semesters does it run in?
7. What types of study courses are offered by higher education establishments?
8. What does the "Joint" option mean?
9. What is the difference between part-time and full-time undergraduate courses?
10. What University types are there in Britain?
11. What are the Oxbridge universities famous for?
12. What are tutorials and supervisions?
13. What is the Open University famous for?
14. Which of the universities are called «The new civic universities»?
15. What is a sandwich-type course?

**Ex. 10. Find the English equivalents for:**

самоуправляемый, отличительная черта; процент отсева из университета, закончить обязательное образование; быть основанным местными властями; сдавать выпускные экзамены; аттестат о среднем образовании, экзамен на сертификат об общем среднем образовании, выпускной экзамен продвинутого уровня; принимать студентов; открытый университет; ведущий к получению степени; длиться три года; бакалавр искусств / наук / образования / инженерных наук / юриспруденции; специализироваться в чем-либо; степень магистра; присуждать степень; сдавать экзамены; арендованные квартиры, получать стипендию; великолепное качество обучения, соотношение студентов и персонала, расширять возможности доступа к образованию.

**Ex 11. Discuss with your partner:**

1. Do universities where you live get funding from the authorities? Does it depend on their autonomy and self-guidance?
2. Would you like to do a personalized course by choosing modules or units of study from different subject areas? Why / why not?
3. Are there any equivalents to Year 0' programs in your country?
4. Is there the so-called Oxbridge in your country? What is it renowned with
5. Do you know any major / minor courses provided by your university or other institutions in your city?
6. Do you find doing a sandwich course a reasonable idea?

**Ex. 12. Read two opposing points of view of graduates from colleges and universities in England and answer the questions below.**

Studying abroad allows you to get to know another culture first-hand. Cultural differences are more than just differences in language, food, appearances, and personal habits. A person's culture reflects very deep perceptions, beliefs, and values that influence his or her way of life and the way that s/he views the world. Students who experience cultural differences personally can come to truly understand where other cultures are coming from. Below are two examples.

**Vera, Goldsmiths College (University of London):**

*I'm sure many would agree with me that this is a major difficulty - it's a different mentality. It took me some time to discover the real meaning of certain phrases and not to be Russian straightforward. The ability to support small talk can certainly be made an art form in its own right. I would advise having an international circle of friends, not trying to look for compatriots and learning the local culture both practically and through books.*

**Eva, University of East Anglia:**

*To those who choose between the UK and other countries, I would say one important point in favor of the UK: here you will not feel like a stranger. This country is diverse and full of people from all over the world, and basically, all these people quickly find their “real self" here.*

1. **Think about the features of the UK culture foreign students studying there may encounter? What feature does Vera emphasize? Why, according to Eva, is it easy for a foreigner to adapt to life in the UK?** **What stereotypes about the peculiarities of the culture of the British do you know?**
2. **Based on the results of the discussion, write a list of the pros and cons of studying in the UK.**

**Watching the video**

[George Holmes: The Future of University Education | TED Talk](https://www.ted.com/talks/george_holmes_the_future_of_university_education)

**“The Future of University Education” by Professor George E Holmes DL**

**Part 1 (01:07 – 08:14)**

**BEFORE YOU WATCH**

**Ex. 1. Pay attention to the words and word combinations, find their definitions if necessary:**

1. disseminate
2. white heat technology
3. Blue skies research
4. Repository
5. University league table
6. purist
7. Albeit
8. Divergent
9. Employability
10. wealth

**Ex. 2. Discuss with your partner:**

1. How can you define what a university is?
2. What goals should a modern university pursue, in your opinion?

**WHILE YOU WATCH**

**Ex. 1. Answer following questions:**

1. According to Lord Robbins, what is the main concept of a university in the UK?
2. Which universities does the speaker mention that were created in the 60s with Robbins’s ideas in mind?
3. What goals can be introduced for today’s universities as opposed to Robbins’s?
4. What is the main idea of a PhD degree?
5. How can one preserve knowledge?
6. How is the knowledge being disseminated?
7. How can “Higher education limited” be defined?
8. What should a university focus on today?
9. What is different about the knowledge in the 1960s and now?
10. What thing can be named as the world’s university nowadays?

**Part 2 (08:14 – 15:59)**

**BEFORE YOU WATCH**

**Ex. 1. Find English equivalents for the following words and word combinations, check them while watching the video:**

1. Интерпретативное понимание
2. преднамеренный
3. повестка дня
4. понятие
5. нить
6. осязаемый
7. Жители Кембриджа, включая студентов и профессуру

**Ex. 2. Do you know what the underlined words mean? Look them up if necessary.**

1. They’re for more than wisdom.
2. They're about really pushing the boundaries of interpretive understanding.
3. …Linking the town with the gown to create an environment.
4. …New facilities and equipment that enables students to access the best available...

**WHILE YOU WATCH**

**Ex. 1. Answer the following questions:**

1. What is the University of Bolton trying to achieve?
2. What is special about the cities of Oxford and Cambridge?
3. Describe the “drop-in situation”.
4. List some of the facilities and centers on the campus.
5. How many universities in the UK are listed on the Complete University Guide?
6. Which universities took 35th and 36th places with the same score for satisfaction with the student experience in teaching according to the Complete University Guide?
7. Why isn’t the University of Bolton in the top league around research?
8. What is wrong with the old “classical” universities in terms of their approach to teaching?