

Activity 1

Discuss the following questions with your partner.

1. School: 'the best days of your life', so they say. Did you enjoy school? Were your school days the best days of your life? Why/not?
2. Who was your favourite teacher, and why?
3. Who was your least favourite teacher, and why?
4. Which subject were you best at?
5. Did you ever get in trouble at school? What happened?
6. What was the most useful thing you learned at school?
7. Do you think subjects like music, art, drama, physical education, first aid, cooking, (etc.) should be taught in schools? Why/not?
8. To what extent did your education prepare you for the world of work?
9. Job adverts these days often ask for qualities such as 'leadership skills, teamwork and negotiating skills'. Do you think subjects such as these should be taught in schools nowadays? Why/not?
10. Do you think subjects like religion and sex education should be taught in schools? Why/not?

Activity 2

Complete the sentences with the following words.

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1. If you don't know the answer, try to make an guess.
2. 'Did you enjoy the play?'
'Oh, yes! It was the first time I have ever been to the theatre. It was an.....!'
3. He likes watching documentaries because they are He learns a lot from them.
4. She has very tastes in art and music. She is very cultured and refined.

Activity 3

Use the following questions to begin a conversation with your partner.

1. Children in the UK start school at five years old and finish at sixteen. Is this the same in your country? How old do you think children should be when they start (and finish) school?
2. Is there a state education system in your country? Are there any private schools in your country?
3. What are the advantages and disadvantages of private education?
4. What opportunities are there in your country for further education? (For example, universities).
5. How many hours a day do children go to school in your country? What time do they start and finish? Do they go to school at the weekend too?
6. In the UK there are three terms in the academic year – the Autumn/Winter Term, the Spring Term and the Summer Term. There are school holidays in between. The longest holiday is in the summer. In what ways is this organization of the academic year different to that in your country?
7. How big are the classes in your country? Do you think class size affects learning?
8. What are the advantages and disadvantages of educating boys and girls in separate schools?
9. Should children with special needs (e.g. Down's Syndrome) be taught in separate schools?
10. To what extent do you think parents should be involved in their children's education? (For example, helping with homework, participating in organizing school activities, etc.)
11. Do you think there is too much pressure on children these days to do well at school?
12. What do you think should be done to improve the quality of education in schools in your country?

Education

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Activity 4

Go to **EnglishClub.com** and click on the 'TP Homework' icon. Use the information you find there to answer the questions below.

1. Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the TP Homework?
a) Plato b) Socrates c) Marx
2. Why are Bangladesh and Afghanistan mentioned in the TP Homework?
3. What is the answer to the Quick Quiz?

Activity 5

'Should subjects like sex education and religion be taught in schools?'

If you would like to express your opinion on this subject go to **EnglishClub.com** and click on the 'TP Discussion' icon to take part in the forum discussion there.

N.B. Netiquette! PLEASE CHANGE THE DEFAULT SUBJECT LINE TO INDICATE THE OPINIONS IN YOUR POST BECAUSE IN A BUSY THREAD IT HELPS PEOPLE DECIDE WHICH POSTS TO READ!

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