

# British Education

# Introduction

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- 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)

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- 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)

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- 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)

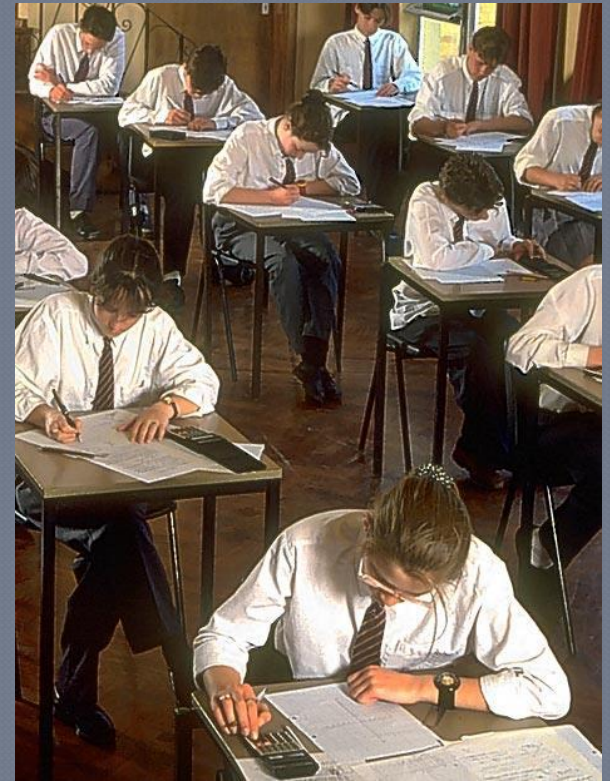
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- 11-16
- Grammar Schools
  - Oldest schools in UK. Top students go these schools
- Comprehensive Secondary Schools
  - Most common type of secondary school (90% of students)
  - Not as much emphasis placed on test scores
- Students may go to “sixth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

# “Public” Schools (Secondary) p. 162

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- 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

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- 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)

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- 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

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



# The “Four” Scottish Universities

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- St. Andrews University



- Glasgow University



- University of Aberdeen



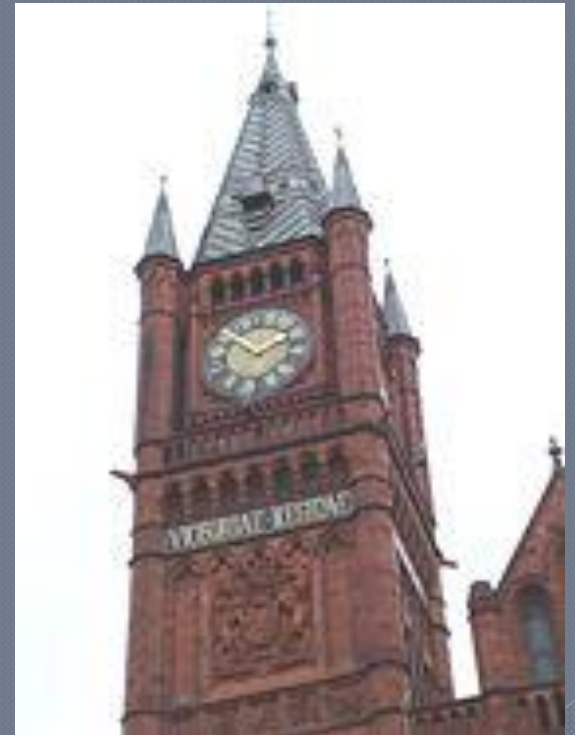
- Edinburgh University



# Middle-Aged Universities

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



# New Universities

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





# The Open University (p. 167)

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- 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

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- 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)