

1 Study plans

Vocabulary

Studying at university



- 1 Work with a partner. How many school or university subjects can you think of?
history, maths, medicine ...

- 2 Match these words with the definitions 1–8.

assignment course lecture notes research term tutor tutorial

- 1 a piece of work that you have to do as part of your studies
- 2 a lesson where a small group of students discuss something with a teacher
- 3 a lesson where a large group of people listen to an expert talking about a subject
- 4 a period of time that the school year is divided into
- 5 the study of something to discover new facts
- 6 a teacher at university
- 7 a series of lessons in a subject
- 8 things that you write down to help you to remember

- 3 Read the text and pay attention to the words in **bold**. Decide if each word is a noun or a verb and what you think the meaning is.

Most students at university are **undergraduates**. They are studying to get a **degree**. There is usually **continuous assessment** of the students' coursework and assignments. The tutor gives a **grade** or **mark** for each piece of work. Students usually have to take exams too. Before each exam, students need to **revise** their notes. If you **fail** an exam, you normally **resit** the exam another day. Of course, you usually fail automatically if you **cheat**. When you **pass** your final exams, you **graduate**.

- 4 Now use a dictionary to check your ideas in 3.

STUDY SKILLS

When you look up words in a dictionary, do not just look at the first meaning that appears. Many English words have more than one meaning and can have more than one form (eg, they can be a noun *and* a verb). Look at the introduction to your dictionary to find out how it gives information about types of word, and also how it shows the pronunciation of the word.

STUDY SKILLS ► page 145

- 5 LISTENING 1.01 Listen to the vocabulary quiz and answer the questions 1–8.

1 *fail*

Grammar

Vocabulary

Speaking

Writing

Present simple, past simple, present perfect simple, present perfect continuous, do and make, life at university, giving personal information, preferences, replying to an informal email

Life at university

- 6 Complete the sentences with a–g.

- 1 Some people don't want to study in their countries. They want to study *a*.
- 2 At university it's usually easy to make new _____.
- 3 When you live away from home, you become more _____.
- 4 Students who don't live at home often live in a hall of _____.
- 5 If you haven't got enough money to pay for your studies you can ask for a student _____.
- 6 At university, there are lots of clubs that organize extra-curricular _____.
- 7 Universities have gyms, laboratories and lots of other student _____.

- a abroad
- b activities
- c residence
- d loan
- e independent
- f friends
- g facilities

- 7a SPEAKING Complete the questions with the words a–g in 6.

- 1 Would you like to study _____ in a different country?
- 2 Would you prefer to live at home or in a hall of _____?
- 3 Is it easy to get a student _____ in your country if you don't have enough money to study?
- 4 Do you find it easy to make new _____?
- 5 Do you do any extra-curricular _____?
- 6 What special _____ for students are there in your school?
- 7 Do you consider yourself to be _____ or do you need other people to do things for you?

- 7b Use the questions to interview your partner.

Reading

1a Work in pairs.

What are the advantages of studying at the university?
What are the disadvantages of moving to another country?

1b Compare your answers.

2 Read the comments. Match the comments with the advantages and disadvantages.

- 1 It's better to study at the university than to work.
- 2 It's better to live at home than to live in a hall of residence.
- 3 It isn't easy to make new friends at university.

EXAM

In reading or state that the exact...

3 Read the choices and match them with the advantages and disadvantages.

1a Work in pairs. Think of answers to these questions.
What are the advantages and disadvantages of studying at the university in your home town?
What are the advantages and disadvantages of moving to another city to study?

1b Compare your ideas.

2 Read the comments from an Internet forum. Match the people below to one of the comments 1-3.

- 1 It's better to study at home.
- 2 It's better to study in another place.
- 3 It isn't better or worse to study at home.

Top Cat _____ Storm
Lotus _____ Sa-Ra

EXAM SUCCESS

In reading activities where you match questions or statements with different texts, remember that the words in the question may not be exactly the same as the words in the text.

EXAM SUCCESS • page 149

3 Read the comments again. For questions 1-10, choose from the four people (A-D). The people may be chosen more than once.

Which person...

- thinks that Anita needs to consider more specific questions before she decides? 1
- bases his/her opinion on his/her experience? 2
- bases his/her opinion on someone close to him/her? 3
- bases his/her opinion on what he/she wants? 4
- talks about problems with concentration? 5
- thinks that the decision of staying at home or moving away is not final? 6
- says that first you need to find out what your university has got? 7
- is happy for his/her family to help him/her? 8
- doesn't feel his/her life has changed much? 9
- wants to experience new things? 10

4 Find words in the text with similar meanings to these words.

- 1 university (colloquial) (Anita)
- 2 the same as (Top Cat)
- 3 the way that two or more people act or behave together (Lotus)
- 4 questions, ideas (Lotus)
- 5 a long time (Storm)
- 6 moments (Storm)
- 7 jobs at home (Sa-Ra)

SPEAKING What about you?

- 1 What do you want to do when you finish school?
- 2 Where do you think it is better to go to university - in your home town or somewhere else? Why?

Student Helpline

The best place for help with university life

You are here: Home > Forums > General University Discussion



28-03-12
Anita

Q: Is it better to go to the uni in your home town and stay at home or to move away to somewhere different? Next year I want to go and study at uni, but I'm not sure if it's better to stay at home and study here or if I should go and live in another city. What do you think?

A



28-03-12
19:27
Top Cat

At the moment I'm doing a microbiology course at the uni in my home town. I decided to stay here because I wanted to be close to my family and friends. But in the end most of my good friends went away to work or study at other universities. Living at home with my parents is OK, but it's difficult to make new friends because most of the other students live in halls of residence and they spend all their time together. Another problem is that I haven't become very independent because my mum and dad still help me with everything. Sometimes I think I'm at school, not at university. Don't be like me!

B



28-03-12
19:34
Lotus

What's better? It depends on you. Nobody can decide for you. It depends on the relationship you have with your parents. It depends on your student loan too because it's usually cheaper to stay at home. Above all, it depends on the course you want to study. Find out which is the best university for your subject. Maybe they don't teach it in your home town. Find out details about the course, the tutors, assessment, etc and compare them with other places. What facilities has the university got for undergraduates? Choosing the right university is a really important decision. It can change your life. Don't make your decision without thinking about the really important issues.

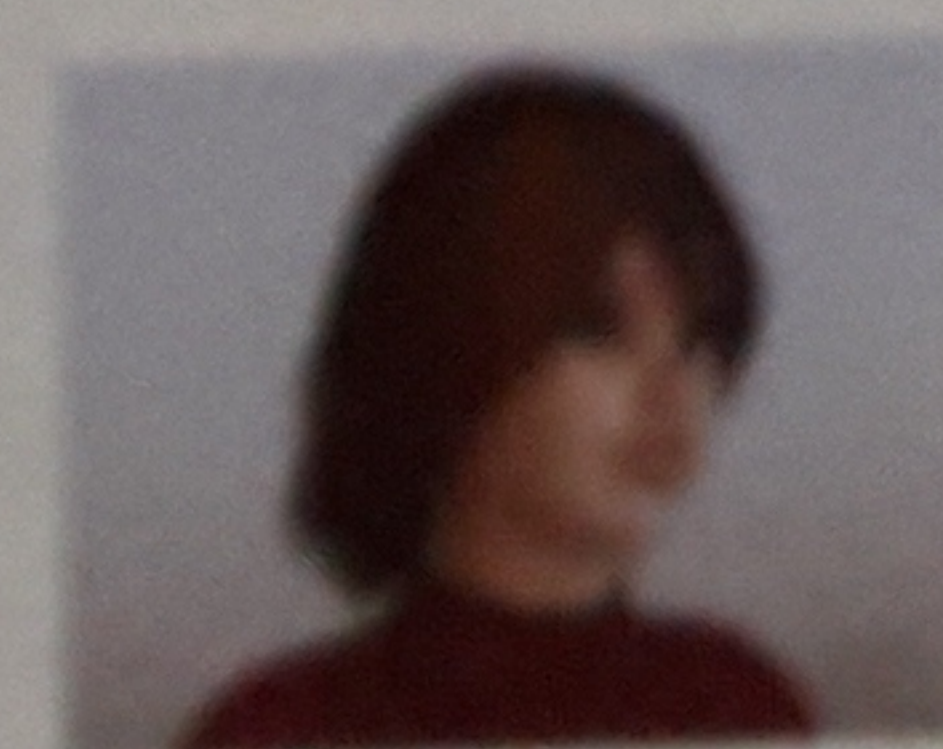
C



28-03-12
19:45
Storm

I've also been thinking about this question for ages, but now I've made my decision. I'm moving away. I've lived in my home town all my life. Now I'd rather study in another city, maybe abroad, and see the world. I want to become independent. You can always go home for the holidays and for special occasions. Remember, at university the summer holidays are really long. And when you finish university, you can decide to go back if you don't like living away from home. But you always make more new friends when you live away from home. You have more time for extra-curricular activities. I love my mum and dad but it's good to be able to come and go when you like without anybody asking where you're going and what time to expect you back.

D



29-03-12
10:16
Sa-Ra

Last year my brother went away to study. He was living in a hall of residence at first, but then he found a house with four friends. He was having a great time but then he started failing his exams. He sees that he needs to study more but it's impossible in the house. His friends are always having parties, making noise and doing everything except studying! He thinks I should study in my home town and live at home because at home it's quiet and you can study. And he says you have more time because you don't have to do chores like the shopping or the washing. I think staying in my home town has lots of advantages. But I don't know if my parents agree!