

## A Subjects

You can **do/study** these subjects at university but not always at school.

**medicine** (to become a doctor)

**engineering** (to become an engineer)

**economics** (to become an **economist**)

**business studies** (to become a **businessman/woman** and **go into business**)

**law** (to become a lawyer)

**architecture** (to become an **architect**)

**psychology** (to become a **psychologist**)

## B Studying at university

Some students go to university because they enjoy studying, others just want a **qualification**<sup>1</sup>. First, however, you have to get good **grades** in your final school exams to **get a place** at many universities. You can then **study for / do a degree**<sup>2</sup>. If you complete the course **successfully**, you get your **degree**<sup>3</sup> and receive a **certificate**<sup>4</sup>. In the UK, most degree courses **last**<sup>5</sup> three years, although some take longer, e.g. medicine or law.

Teachers at university are usually called **lecturers**, and most of the **teaching** is done through **lectures**<sup>6</sup>. The most senior lecturers have the title **Professor**. Students doing **arts** subjects, e.g. English or history, will spend time working in the **library** and writing **essays**<sup>7</sup>.

Students doing **science** degrees, e.g. physics or chemistry, will probably spend a lot of their time working in a **laboratory** (*infrm lab*).



<sup>1</sup> something that you get when you are successful in an exam

<sup>2</sup> do a course at university

<sup>3</sup> (also the word for) a university qualification

<sup>4</sup> a document that shows you have completed a course successfully

<sup>5</sup> continue for

<sup>6</sup> the lecturer talks and the students listen

<sup>7</sup> short pieces of writing on a particular subject

## Language help

noun	verb	adjective
qualification	<b>qualify</b>	<b>qualified</b>
<b>success</b>	<b>succeed (in sth / in doing sth)</b>	(un) successful

## C Postgraduate degrees

When students are doing their first degree, they are called **undergraduates**. When they complete their degree, they are **graduates**. Some graduates **go on to do** [do something in the future] a Master's, e.g. in the UK an MA (Master of Arts) or MSc (Master of Science). These are called **postgraduate degrees**. The longest one is a PhD (Doctor of Philosophy) where students **do research** [make a detailed study of one particular subject] for at least three years.

# Exercises

## 34.1 Complete the sentences.

- To become a psychologist you need to study *psychology* .....
- To become an engineer you need to study .....
- To become a doctor you need to study .....
- To become an economist you need to study .....
- To become a lawyer you need to study .....
- To become an architect you need to study .....

## 34.2 Put the sentences in the correct order.

- |                                     |                                     |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| I did a degree course.              | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| I passed with good grades.          | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| I got a Master's.                   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| I did a postgraduate course.        | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| I did my final exams at school.     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| I became an undergraduate.          | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| I got a place at university.        | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| I got a degree in business studies. | <input type="checkbox"/>            |



## 34.3 Are the sentences about English universities true or false? If a sentence is false, correct it.

- The teachers are all called professors. *False. Most teachers are called lecturers.* .....
- Anyone can go to university if they want to. ....
- Some students go to university just to get a qualification. ....
- Most university degree courses in the UK last two years. ....
- Students go to lectures at university. ....
- If you are unsuccessful, you get a degree. ....
- Students studying for their first degree are called graduates. ....
- Science students have to write a lot of essays. ....
- A PhD is a postgraduate degree. ....
- If you study arts subjects, you work in a laboratory. ....

## 34.4 Complete the text.

Stephen got very good <sup>1</sup> *grades* ..... in his final school exams, and he went to university and got a <sup>2</sup> ..... in economics. He then <sup>3</sup> ..... to do an MSc. The course <sup>4</sup> ..... a year, and at the end of it, he had an offer to go <sup>5</sup> ..... business with a friend. After two years though, he decided to go back to university to do <sup>6</sup> ..... for a PhD. He knows it will be three years' work without much money, but he loves studying, and never went to university just for a <sup>7</sup> ..... that would get him a good job earning a lot of money.

## 34.5 Over to you

Answer the questions. If possible, compare your answers with someone else.

- Do you need to pass exams before you can go to university in your country?
- How long do most degree courses last?
- In England the first degree is called a BA or BSc. What are they called in your country?
- Do you have similar postgraduate degrees in your country?
- Do you get a certificate when you finish your degree?