

8 а **1** урок

Russian and British systems of education



I. Answer the questions

1. When does an academic school year start in Russia?
2. When do Russian children start primary school ?
3. How long do students study in primary school ?
4. What subjects do they study?
5. Are their lessons formal or informal?
6. What school do they go after primary ?
7. What subjects do they study at secondary school?
8. When can Russian students leave school?
9. How many exams do they take when their compulsory schooling is over?
10. How long do Russian students study at high school?
11. How many exams do they have to take in order to enter university?



II. Read the text and find out if you are right or wrong



In Russia children go to school at the age of six or seven. They spend four years at primary school, five years at secondary school and two years at senior school.

School normally starts at 8:30 am and finishes at 3 pm though this may vary slightly from school to school. Young students have 3-4 lessons a day and older students have up to 7 lessons a day. This means that the school week can be either 5 or 6 days long. In large cities where there are a lot of students attending the same school, there are sometimes separate morning and afternoon sessions. There are usually around 20-30 students in a class.

There is a wide range of school subjects for students aged 12-17. These include Russian, Literature, Maths (including Algebra and Geometry) History, Social Science, Biology, Geography, Physics, ICT, Chemistry and

others. English is the main and most popular foreign language although students can also learn Spanish, German or French. Almost all classes involve the use of computers and media technology. Some schools may specialise in certain subjects, Maths and Science, for example. There are also vocational schools that train students in a specialised profession, such as music or dance, alongside their usual lessons.

The school year is usually divided into four terms with three breaks. School starts on 1st September and finishes on 31st May. The summer holiday starts on 1st June and lasts for three months but Year 9 and Year 11 students take their exams in June. The Russian National Exam is an innovation as a final exam for school-leavers. It's a national test combining school-leaving exams and entrance exams to universities.

III. Write out what new information you have found in the text

III. Read the text and find out if the sentences are true or false, correct the false sentences

Education UK style

Going on to further (college) or higher (university) education is quite common in the UK. Most universities and colleges do not have entrance examinations. Students are accepted if they get the necessary grades in their GCSEs or A levels (school-leaving exams).

Many students take a year out (a gap year) and travel round the world or take a part-time or temporary job before they go to university or college.

Most students in the UK do not live at home. They often choose to go and study in another town or city. In the first year, many live in a 'hall of residence' (student accommodation which can be self-catering, or with food provided). After that, many prefer to rent a room or a flat with other students.

A large number of overseas students study in Britain. Most universities and colleges run language courses to help students study academic subjects in English.

Nowadays there is an exciting choice of subjects to choose from. You can even choose to study commercial (pop) music or the environment!



University students are called undergraduates and they spend three or four years studying for their degree, unless they want to be a doctor, which takes seven years.

Students in colleges of further education often take vocational qualifications to prepare them for a particular job they would like to do, such as computing or tourism.

At the end of their course, university students take their final examinations. Students who succeed in passing them graduate with a BA (Bachelor of Arts) or a BSc (Bachelor of Science) degree. The word 'bachelor' means 'a man who is not married'. It was first used many years ago when all university students were men and unmarried. Nowadays, there are as many women as men at universities in the UK, but we still use the word.

Lots of students join clubs and societies when they go to university, such as drama societies and sports clubs. Many students look forward to taking part in 'Rag Week', a time when students raise money for charity.

Nightlife is very important to students in Britain. Universities and colleges often invite pop bands to come and play, and students enjoy partying!

students enjoy partying!

1 Read the text about education in the UK and decide if these statements are true or false. Correct the false statements.

- 1 Students need A levels to go to university.
- 2 Most university students in the UK live at home.
- 3 UK universities do not accept students from other countries.
- 4 Students need to pass their final examinations to get a degree.
- 5 Clubs and societies are very popular with students.

Talking about Russia

- 1 What kind of further or higher education is available in Russia?
- 2 Is there a university in your town? If so, how many students study there?
- 3 How popular is carrying on with your education in Russia?
- 4 How common is it for students to take a gap year?
- 5 Do university students usually live at home or in a hall of residence?
- 6 How long do most university courses last?
- 7 At the end of their further or higher education, what qualifications do students get?
- 8 How useful are these qualifications?



IV. WATCH THE FILM ABOUT BRITISH EDUCATION



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-d3L3F_ELo

H/T Write to your British friend about differences and similarities of Russian and British educational systems (15-20 sentences)