

A – BRITISH AND AMERICAN SCHOOL SYSTEMS

GREAT BRITAIN			age	THE USA		
year/form (=classe)	type of school	exam		Grade (=classe)	type of school	exam
	University	MA/MSc BA/BSc	21-22 20-21 19-20	senior junior	University	Master's Degree BA/BS
Upper 6 th form	6th form colleges	GCE (A level)	18	sophomore (2 nd year)	Colleges for undergraduate students	Associate degree
Lower 6 th form			17	freshman (=1 st year)		
Year 11 (5 th form)	Comprehensive schools (state schools, co-ed (<i>mixte</i>), 85% of GB schools)	GCSE (O level)	16	12 th	Senior High Schools	High School Diploma (graduation)
Year 10 (4 th form)			15	11 th 10 th		
Year 9 (3 rd form)	Grammar schools (state or independent, selective with "11+" entrance exam, generally not mixed)		14	9 th	Middle Schools or Junior High Schools	
Year 8 (2 nd form)			13	8 th		
Year 7 (1 st form)	Public schools (private, very expensive and elitist)		12	7 th	Grade Schools (elementary) (primary education)	
Year 6			11	6 th		
Year 5	Junior or primary schools		10-11	5 th		
Year 4			9-10	4 th		
Year 3			8-9	3 rd		
Year 2	Infant schools		7-8	2 nd		
Year 1			6-7	1 st		
	Nursery schools		5-6		Kindergarten	
			4-5		Nursery schools	
			3-4			

The grey "age" box corresponds to the limit for compulsory school.

GCSE: General Certificate of Secondary Education/GCE: General Certificate of Education

MA/MSc: Master of Arts (*Lettres*)/Master of Science

BA/BSc: Bachelor of Arts/ Bachelor of Science

B - School System Quiz

1. Till what age is school compulsory in Britain and in the USA ? 16 17 18
2. A lot of schools in Britain are state schools but some are also private schools. What is another word for 'private'?
 financial *independent* *expensive* *privatized*
3. At the age of sixteen British students take a test known as: (*several possible answers*)
 O levels *A levels* *GCSE* *GCE*
4. After the age of sixteen students who want to take A-levels study at:
 higher education schools *sixth-form colleges* *A-level classes*
5. You are 15. Which school do you go to in the USA ? In GB ?
6. Which grade or form are you in now ? *10th (year 11)* *11th (year 12)* *12th (year 13)*
7. Your equivalent class in Britain would be:
 5th form *lower 6th form* *upper 6th form*
8. You are 20 and you are at Harvard. How long have you been a student there ?:
 1 year *2 years* *3 years*
9. A 'public school' in Britain is:
 a state school *a private school*
10. Imagine that you are an American student. It is graduation day. What does it mean ?

YOUR SCORE:

9-10 correct answers: Excellent! You know everything about the British school system. Try to remember what you've learned!

6-8 correct answers: Good ! You know a lot about the British school system, but you still need to learn and memorize a few facts.

3-5 correct answers: Not bad, but you need to go over the British School System chart carefully and memorize the main facts

Less than 3 correct answers: Oh, boy! You don't know much, do you? But if you spend 10 minutes learning and memorizing those facts, the next quiz will be great!

C – Pair-work

Using the information in the tables, prepare 4 "true-false" statements and test your partner.