

Secondary Education in England

In England, children start secondary school at the age of 11. In the first two years of secondary school, all the students study the same 12 subjects. They are: English, maths, science, design and technology, information and communication technology, history, geography, a foreign language, art and design, music, citizenship and sport. When students are 14, they can choose the subjects that they like, but some subjects (e.g. maths, English, science, and sport) are still compulsory.

At the age of 15-16, students take national exams called GCSEs (General Certificate of Secondary Education exams). After these exams, about 25% of students leave school and find jobs. The other 75% stay at school. They study two, three or four school subjects and take advanced level exams ('A levels') when they are 18.

Most students in England (about 90%) go to state secondary schools. State schools are free. The other 10% go to private schools. Some of these schools are very famous, and very expensive. For example, it costs about £24,000 a year to study at Eton College!

Adapted from 'Aim High' (student book 1)

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PART ONE (14 pts)

A/-Reading Comprehension (07 pts)

Read the text carefully and do the following activities.

Activity One (2 pts): Answer the following questions:

- 1- Do English children begin secondary school at eleven?
- 2- Do all students leave school after the GCSE exams?

Activity Two (3 pts): Match each idea with the corresponding paragraph.

Paragraph 1	Exams at 16 and 18.
Paragraph 2	Types of secondary school.
Paragraph 3	Subjects at secondary school.

Activity Three (2 pts):

1-Find in the text words that are closest in meaning to the following:

- 1- kids = 2- select =

2-Find in the text words that are opposite in meaning to the following:

- 1- before ≠ 2- cheap ≠

B/- Mastery of Language (07pts):

Activity One (2pts): Supply the punctuation and the capital letters where necessary.

english students have to wear a school uniform but american ones don't

Activity Two (3pts): Reorder the following words to get coherent sentences:

- 1- can go / . / to pre-school classes / in Algeria / Children / at the age of 5
- 2- is / between 6 and 16 / . / Education / compulsory
- 3- the BEM exam / at the end / Students / . / take / of middle school

Activity Three (2pts) : Find in the text four words that have the following sounds:

/ei/ (name)	/ai/ (my)
1-... ..	1-
2-	2-

PART TWO: Written Expression (06pts)

Your English penfriend asked you for information about the middle school system in Algeria to write an article for her/his school magazine. Write her/him a letter about the Algerian middle school system.

Write about:

- The subjects you study
- School regulations (Rights and duties)
- Term exams / BEM

Do Not Sign Your Name.