

Knowledge and skills

Language focus

- Talking about university
- Giving advice

1 School days

- What important lessons did you take away from your time at school?
- Were you a mischievous pupil or a goodie-goodie?
- Were your school classes streamed? In other words, did you have an A, B and C class for subjects like Maths, depending on how good you were?

Useful language

- *I can still see ...*
- *I can vaguely remember ...*
- *There was this awful time when ...*
- *My earliest memory of school is when ...*



2

Friends and mentors

One of you has been told that they need to pull their socks up and study harder. Give that person advice.

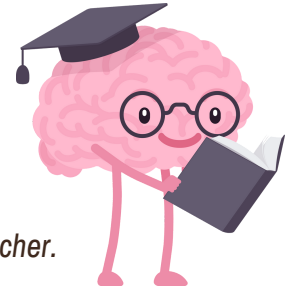
Useful language

- *Them: I never know how to get started.*
- *You: If I were you, I'd start by making a study plan.*

- *Them: Everybody in my class seems to know more than me.*
- *You: You could always take some extra lessons with a private teacher.*

- *Them: I find it difficult to concentrate.*
- *You: Why don't you try studying in the library?*

- *Them: Sometimes I wonder if I should drop out of the course.*
- *You: You've just got to keep your head up and take things one day at a time.*



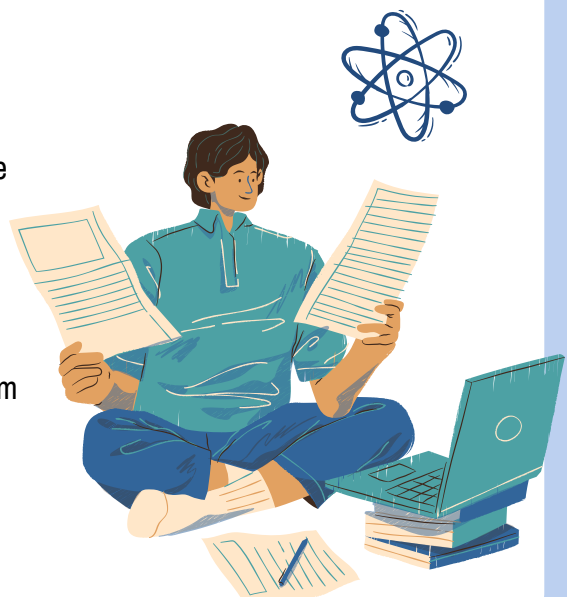
3

How to study a university degree and survive the experience ...

Sometimes there are different ways of managing your university workload. The secret is knowing when to choose one way or another.

Compare the following.

- Taking a morning timetable or an afternoon one
- Writing something straight off or rewriting it several times
- Doing group projects or working on your own
- Memorizing several texts or analysing just one
- Jotting down new ideas on paper or writing them on the computer
- Starting to revise for an exam three weeks in advance or pulling an all-nighter just before it



4 Life skills

The World Health Organization has defined life skills as those that help people “make informed decisions, solve problems, think critically and creatively, communicate effectively, build healthy relationships, sympathize with others, and manage their lives in a healthy and productive manner”.

Together, agree on the life skills that you think all students should have when they finish university.

5 Discussion

- Does your country provide a good public education system?
- How are special needs students educated?
- What are the benefits of state education versus private education?
- What are the benefits of doing a university degree when you are a bit older?

