



EDUCATION



Ještě nevíš, co budeš dělat po úspěšném složení zkoušky? Příklad se za námi bavit a studuj jazyk se **statusem studenta**. U PELICANA navíc získáš ISIC a druhý jazyk zdarma. Více informací i přihlášku k **pomaturitnímu studiu** najdeš na stránkách www.skolapelican.com.

Schools in the UK

England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have different education systems. However, between the age of three and four all children in the UK attend nursery, which is not mandatory. Education is compulsory for everyone between the ages of 5-18 in England and 5-16 in the rest of the UK. Children start primary school when they are four or five years old where they learn reading, writing and arithmetic. They go to secondary/high school when they are 11 or 12. There are different kinds of secondary schools in the UK: comprehensive schools; grammar schools and private schools (known as public schools), such as Eton College. Only 7% of school pupils study at public schools because they cost thousands of pounds. In England, Wales and Northern Ireland, pupils sit GCSE exams when they are 16 years old. If they pass these exams, they can go to sixth-form college where they study for A-Levels until they are 18. Some pupils go to Further Education college where they receive vocational training, e.g. hairdressing or engineering. In Scotland, pupils sit National 5 exams when they are 15/16 years old and Higher exams when they are 16/17 years old. Some pupils choose to study for Advanced Higher exams when they are 17/18. Exams in the UK are graded using a letter from A (excellent) to E (very bad). After finishing school, pupils who pass their A-levels or Higher exams might go to university. Others choose to go to college, get an apprenticeship where you can learn a trade or even find a job straight away. Unlike in the Czech Republic, all school pupils in the UK must wear school uniform. This is usually a shirt and tie, formal trousers, a pinafore or a skirt, smart black shoes and either a school jumper, cardigan or blazer.

Schools in the USA

In the USA, children start their education with kindergarten between the ages of five and six. Their compulsory education starts with elementary/grade school which they attend for 5 years/grades. Pupils start the school day by reciting the patriotic *Pledge of Allegiance*. Most children go to public schools without charge but some go to private schools, which they must pay for. Students are graded on a system of A-F; with A being the best, and F meaning fail. In grade six students go to Junior High/middle school and in the ninth grade, they change to high school. High school includes four grades: students in their first year are called freshmen, in their second year sophomores, in their third year juniors and finally seniors. This usually lasts until students are 18-years-old, but some states allow children to leave school at 16. When students are juniors, they take the SAT test (Scholastic Aptitude Test). This four-hour test quizzes students on their language, writing, maths and critical thinking skills. The scores on this national test determine whether you succeed when applying to the university of your choice. When they finish school, students in the US have a graduation ceremony in which students dress in long gowns, receive their diplomas and toss their funny flat hats – called mortarboards – in the air. At the end of every school year, students attend a dance, called the prom.

Schools in the Czech Republic

Czech children go to kindergarten between the age of two and six with the last year being compulsory. Then, they start primary school at the age of six and attend for nine years. Most primary schools are funded by the state but there are a few private schools where you pay for tuition. At the age of 15, you can either leave school or continue your education. For those willing to continue, there are many secondary education options. The traditional secondary school (grammar school) prepares pupils for university and lasts four years or longer if the students have enrolled earlier from elementary school. The studies may be focused more on humanities or science. In the final year at secondary school, there is a school-leaving exam, which comprises four subjects: Czech, a foreign language/maths and two electives. Pupils who do not go to a grammar school may attend secondary business schools or agriculture schools. There are also conservatories where talented students can study music or acting. Another option is secondary vocational schools, which train young people to work as bakers, mechanics, bricklayers or waiters, for example.

Universities in the UK



There are many universities in the UK offering bachelor's degrees for either three or four years. After receiving their degree, a person is a graduate and can pursue a master's degree in science or arts. Most people in the UK have to fund part of their university education. Universities are subsidised by the government, but can't survive on the money they get, so they charge tuition fees. In Scotland, the tuition fees for Scottish students are paid by the Scottish Government. The oldest and most famous universities in the UK are Oxford University and Cambridge University. Together they are known as Oxbridge and are extremely prestigious. Both universities were founded in the medieval period and are made up of semi-independent colleges. Each college has its own staff, known as 'fellows'. Most colleges have their own dining hall, library, chapel and accommodation. The fellows teach the students, either one-to-one or in very small groups (known as 'tutorials' in Oxford and 'supervisions' in Cambridge). Other renowned universities in the UK include St. Andrew's University, Glasgow University, Edinburgh University, University College London (UCL), Durham University and Aberystwyth University.

Universities in the USA



There are more than 2,000 universities and colleges in the USA. These include private elite institutions such as Yale, Harvard and Princeton University, known as 'Ivy League schools', and state universities or local community colleges. There you can earn your bachelor's and then master's degree. A bachelor's degree is designed to take four years but some students take longer. Tuition fees in the USA can be extortionate and it can take a long time for people to pay back the money borrowed to cover their education.

Universities in the Czech Republic

Universities in the Czech Republic can be state-run (the Police Academy of the Czech Republic and the University of Defense), public or private. At public universities, students do not have to pay tuition fees unless they wish to study in a language other than Czech. Czech universities offer unique and practical courses, which can boost students' employment prospects when they graduate. The most famous university in the Czech Republic is Charles University in Prague, which is the oldest university in Central Europe. The well-known writer, Franz Kafka, is an alumnus from this institution.

