

Bridge



"It must be nice to study like this."

"The classroom looks very different from ours, but the teaching looks similar."

"On the other hand, I'm not sure you would learn so much."

"This must be somewhere warm."

"I think this is probably an expensive private school."

"Both of these classrooms have desks."

You and a friend both want to spend a year at university in an English-speaking country. You want to go to the same place. You want to be together for at least some classes or social activities. Talk about what is most important to you, such as the subjects you can study, the facilities and the location. Try to agree on what to look for.

Example Dialogue

Lindsay: I want to go to a university in England.

Sam: Me too. So, what's important for us?

Lindsay: It must be somewhere with good nightclubs.

Sam: Ha ha! Seriously though...

Lindsay: I *was* being serious!

Sam: ... it must have a good science programme because I want to major in physics or geology. And I want to study English, too.

Lindsay: Do you mean English linguistics, or English as a second language?

Sam: Oh, as a second language. I don't want to study physics and linguistics; my brain would melt.

Lindsay: Well, I'm sure every university has ESL classes for foreign students. That's no problem.

Sam: What do you want to study?

Lindsay: I'm not sure. Maybe management studies or sociology. And a minor in art.

Sam: Something easy, you mean.

Lindsay: You sound like my mum! I don't want a major that will take up a lot of time. And I want to do art because I really want to be an artist.

Sam: But if you do management studies and art, we won't have any classes together.

Lindsay: Well, we can study English together, and we could join some clubs. What sports do you like?

Sam: I love cycling and hiking.

Lindsay: Me too. So let's try to find a college near some beautiful countryside and join the cycling club and hiking club.

Sam: Where? I only know London.

Lindsay: London is too expensive anyway. I think the north of England would be better. We could try Manchester. It's close to the Lake District.

Sam: And it surely has good nightclubs, too...

Discuss

What subjects do you study at school? Which subjects are your favourites, and why? Do you want to go to university? Why or why not?

Would you like to study abroad? Where would you like to go, and what would you like to study?

What do you know about the school system in the United States? And in the UK? What things are the same as here, and what things are different? What is a public school in the US? Is it the same in the UK?

Choose one English-speaking country and explain the school system there.

Some Useful Phrases

- to learn things by heart
- to play truant
- to fall behind with your studies
- to sit an exam
- school-leaving exam
- to graduate (from university)
- bachelor's degree
- master's degree
- tuition fees
- to major or minor in a subject / to do a major or minor in a subject