

INTRODUCTION

“The ultimate goal of the educational system is to shift to the individual the burden of pursuing his own education.”

John Gardner

Before you watch

Discuss the following questions in groups of four; then share your opinion with the class:

1. When you were a schoolboy/girl did you like to go to school? Why? Why not?
2. What is the main secret of good schools?
3. Do you think that the atmosphere at school is as important as the courses taught?
4. What is the author’s main point about education expressed in the quotation?

Video vocabulary

1. Match the words in italics to the definitions:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| ... 1. <i>complacent</i> | A. cheerful |
| ... 2. <i>persuasion</i> | B. in search |
| ... 3. <i>a boarding (school)</i> | C. becoming smaller and weaker |
| ... 4. <i>serene</i> | D. superior because of privileges, power, etc |
| ... 5. <i>accessible</i> | E. self-satisfied |
| ... 6. <i>worship</i> | F. clear and calm |
| ... 7. <i>lively</i> | G. easy to get |
| ... 8. <i>in pursuit of</i> | H. belief |
| ... 9. <i>declining</i> | I. religious service |
| ... 10. <i>elitist</i> | J. providing food and lodging as well as lessons |

2. Use context clues to get the meaning of the words in italics, match them with the definitions in the column on the right, then make up sentences of your own using each expression.

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| ... 1. Eton is elitist in the sense that it <i>stands for</i> | A. becomes suitable or convenient for |
| ... 2. The original school <i>was designed for</i> seventy poor scholars. | B. moving smoothly |
| ... 3. There is no accident that Eton <i>is located</i> where it is, under the walls of Windsor Castle, because Henry could look down upon his new creation. | C. supports |
| ... 4. Eton had students <i>numbered in</i> hundreds from quite early on. | D. be connected |
| ... 5. Eton has managed <i>to have as extraordinary track record</i> of producing boys who went on to interesting careers. | E. devoted to |
| ... 6. What is really interesting is how Eton <i>adjusts to</i> different ages and different times. | F. to demonstrate excellent results |
| ... 7. It is like the image of the swan, the traditional image of the bird <i>gliding on</i> the water. | G. are inclined |
| ... 8. They <i>tend to</i> be rather different from the more conservative element. | H. is situated |
| ... 9. Henry VII had the idea that education and worship should <i>be woven together</i> . | I. was intended for |
| ... 10. Sometimes people think that Eton is a school that hasn’t change much and it’s locked into an image of history, <i>shackled to</i> its past in some way. | J. increased |

Video on

First watching and listening

Read the following questions then watch the video and answer them. Share your answers with a partner:

1. When was Eton founded?
2. Who founded this school?
3. What was Eton originally designed for?
4. When did it become the largest school in England?
5. Why has it been attractive to many people for almost 600 years?
6. Name some outstanding writers who were educated there.
7. Where is Eton located?
8. What kind of buildings is the school situated in?

Listening and watching for details

1. Watch sequence 1 read the statements below and chose the correct variant:

1. Some people say that Eton is a bastion of excellence because:
 - a. it is the largest school in England and it offers a wide variety of courses;
 - b. it has followed very high standards.
2. Another opinion is that Eton is a self-satisfied, complacent throwback to the past because:
 - a. students only from elite families of society study there;
 - b. it offers obsolete courses and disciplines
3. Form the point of view of Tony Little, the Headmaster of the school, 'elitist' means:
 - a. exclusive and competitive;
 - b. standing for excellence.
4. A lot has been done recently:
 - a. to make school more accessible to a wider range of people;
 - b. to change the academic policy of the school.

2. Watch sequence 2 about the history of the foundation of Eton with the sound off:

A. Concentrate on what is shown in the video and tick the words which best describe the architecture and atmosphere of the place:

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| 1. Gothic style buildings | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7. grand archways | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. cobblestone pavements | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8. red-brick walls with stone dressings | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 3. stone-faced walls | <input type="checkbox"/> | 9. pointed doors and windows | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. wrought-iron gates | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10. carved wooden frames | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. heraldic fragments | <input type="checkbox"/> | 11. Roman sculpture | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. stained glass windows | <input type="checkbox"/> | 12. Ionic columns | <input type="checkbox"/> |

B. Watch the same sequence with the sound on, follow the script as you are watching, fill in the gaps with the missing information:

“Eton was founded in the year 1440 by King Henry VI. King Henry was rather a poor king in many ways. But he was devoted to 1. but also to creating an educational foundation. And he was actually 2. when he founded this school. And I rather like the idea that someone so young had this idea of 3. should be woven together. He designed this school really as a place of pilgrimage, but that has long since disappeared. But this school that he created lives on. The original school was designed for 4. with some priests who would be there. And what was interesting and unusual was that very early on, it was accepted that other students could come from 5. and they would 6. their education. And Eton grew very quickly from that point. It is no accident that Eton is located where it is, under the walls of Windsor Castle, because that is where Henry as the king would have lived and he 7. his new creation, this school, this place of worship. And that’s the connection between 8. It has stayed strong; it has had a strong form for many years. What interests me about the history of Eton is that not only is it one of the oldest schools in England, one of the two or three oldest schools, but because of 9. it became really quite a large school early on. And most schools for many, many years were very small indeed, twenty or thirty students, no more, whereas Eton had students 10. from quite early on”.

3. Watch sequence 3 read the statements below and choose the correct variant:

- In the 19th century Eton became:
 - the largest school in England;
 - the most famous school in England;
 - the most expensive school in England.
- It has been very popular because:
 - after finishing school boys can go on to interesting careers;
 - it is pretty simple to enter university;
 - instructors of various political persuasions teach there.
- People who graduated from this school tend to be in their political persuasion:
 - very conservative;
 - rather liberal;
 - very reserved.
- According to Tony Little's opinion, no oldest institution could have survived without:
 - having a strong sense of its traditions;
 - turning to its past all the time;
 - changing all the time.

After you watch

Discussion

- In the video Tony Little, the Headmaster of Eton, says that Eton is elitist because "it is seen as a bastion of excellence". What does 'elitist school' mean to Russian people? What connotations from your point of view does the word 'elitist' evoke in Russian society and English society? Are they the same?
- The main reason why Eton stays successful is that it has been changing throughout all times. Do you support this opinion? What are the secrets of success of the oldest Russian schools and institutions?
- What factors usually influence more on the formation of the reputation and image of such schools as Eton: the site it is located; the person who founded it; the idea it was created for; a very strong sense of traditions; courses which are taught; faculty, or something else?
- Why did Tony Little when describing Eton compare it to the traditional image of the swan? What is this image associated with for the English? Can you think of any Russian traditional images like that?

PART 1: TRADITIONS. BECOMING A STUDENT

"Eton is a full boarding school committed to providing a broadly-based education designed to enable all boys to discover their strengths, and to make the most of their talents within Eton and beyond."

(From "The aims of Eton", www.etoncollege.com)

Before you watch

Discuss the following questions in groups of four; then share your opinion with the class:

- Did the school you went to have any traditions? What are they like?
- What does the application process to a prestigious school include in Russia?
- What are the main advantages of going to a prestigious school?
- What is the main aim of Eton College expressed in the quotation?

Video vocabulary

1. Match the words in italics to the definitions:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| ... 1. <i>bizarre</i> | A. a loose robe |
| ... 2. <i>to abolish</i> | B. to make a wrong or bad use |
| ... 3. <i>current</i> | C. ability to do smth well |
| ... 4. <i>curriculum</i> | D. insistent |
| ... 5. <i>to abuse</i> | E. to ban |
| ... 6. <i>a gown</i> | F. course of study in a school |
| ... 7. <i>aspiration</i> | G. undeveloped qualities that can be developed |
| ... 8. <i>pushy</i> | H. strange |
| ... 9. <i>skill</i> | I. now passing |

... 10. *capabilities* J. desire

2. Use context clues to get the meaning of the words in italics, match them with the definitions in the column on the right, then make up sentences of your own using each expression.

- | | | |
|-----|--|--|
| ... | 1. The procession of boats <i>is a throwback</i> to the 18 th century. | A. strong influence |
| ... | 2. You can have <i>a profound</i> sense of that gathering of people stretching over many years. | B. reversion to an ancestral type |
| ... | 3. <i>We run services</i> at Eton College Chapel. | C. win fame, success |
| ... | 4. We test at the age of eleven and it is open to anyone up to this age to register and <i>apply</i> . | D. were secured a place |
| ... | 5. At the age of 13 they <i>are seeing</i> entrance exams. | E. have |
| ... | 6. Some children <i>were booked</i> in from the moment they were born. | F. very hard to enter |
| ... | 7. Eton is a very <i>competitive</i> place. | G. deep |
| ... | 8. Boys who wear special gowns are called magicians; they <i>are on the top of everything</i> . | H. are taking |
| ... | 9. We require the headmaster of the previous school to write <i>a letter of reference</i> . | I. ask for admission |
| ... | 10. Eton has had <i>a marked impact</i> on the world. | J. statement about a person's character and abilities. |

Video on

First watching and listening

Read the following questions then watch the video and answer them. Share your answer with a partner:

1. What do Etonians celebrate on the 4th of June?
2. What events do they usually have on this day?
3. How are boys who are rowing in the old fashioned boats dressed?
4. When was Eton College Chapel built?
5. At what age do boys start the College?
6. At what age are they interviewed and tested?
7. What disciplines does the test involve?
8. Do they have any Russian students now?

Listening and watching for details

1. Watch sequence 4, read the statements below and choose the correct variant:

1. House captain is allowed:
 - A. to plant vegetables in his back garden;
 - B. to have a goat in his garden;
 - C. to punish students in his garden.
2. King George III became famous because:
 - A. Great Britain lost the American colonies during his reign;
 - B. His prime Minister was a former student of Eton;
 - C. He donates a lot of money to Eton.
3. Etonians have a lot of events on the 4th of June every year:
 - A. Fireworks;
 - B. The procession of people dressed in 18th century clothes;
 - C. The procession of boats.
4. They row in the old boats:
 - A. along the Thames at the back of Windsor Castle;
 - B. along the Thames at the back of the college;
 - C. along the Flood Relief Channel.
5. There is a very strange tradition: while the boys are rowing:
 - A. they throw flowers to the people watching them;
 - B. they all stand up and place the oar in front of them;
 - C. they recite poetry.

The World of Eton

VIDEO ACTIVITY BOOK

2. Watch sequence 5:

A. Follow the script as you are watching, correct factual mistakes in the paragraph:

There used to be such things as “fagging” where older boys would basically *1. teach the course* and tell young boys what to do. So it’s sort of *2. peer tuition really* And it got *3. introduced* obviously. So you can tell any younger boy to do whatever you like for you, which obviously was abused, and it went horribly wrong. So *4. XV century and XVI century* public schools went, you know, one nice basis. And someone said, ‘What was prison like when you were there?’ And you said, “Well, I went to *5. church*, so it was OK. Nothing compared to that.”

B. Answer the following questions:

1. Why does Eton Chapel play such an important role in the life of students?
2. Is this place designed specifically for religious purposes?
3. What sense does this place give to Etonians?

C. Watch sequence 5 with the sound off: Place a tick beside the words which can be used to describe the exterior and interior of the College Chapel.

- Beamed ceiling
- Arcaded and vaulted interior
- Gilded statues
- Plasterwork ceiling
- Pointed windows with stained glass
- Oak benches
- Oak panels
- Marble floor
- Glazed tile floor
- Carved wooden fireplace

3. Watch sequence 6 about the application process and fill in the table:

	Old system	Nowadays system
Age when parents secure a place at Eton		
Age when boys are tested		
Age when boys start at Eton		
Age when boys finish Eton		

4. Watch sequence 7 where Petr Reznikov describes entrance exams to Eton. Read the questions and place a tick beside correct variants:

1. What disciplines and skills does the test to Eton include?

- Latin
- English
- Algebra
- Mathematics
- Verbal Reasoning
- Quickness of mind
- Sense of humour
- Social skills

2. To be accepted to Eton boys have to go through several stages of the application process. Put these stages in the correct order.

- Boys take common entrance exams for all public schools
- They interview a boy on extra curriculum
- They offer a boy a test

- They require a letter of reference from the previous school
- They test social skills

3. Boys are given a conditional place when they go through:

- The first 3 stages of the application process
- The first 2 stages of the application process
- The first 4 stages of the application process
- All the stages of the application process

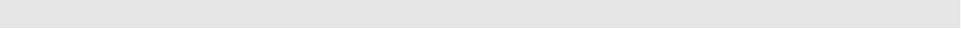
4. If some boys are accepted into the King's Scholar position, it means that:

- Their education is paid for
- They wear special gowns
- They are from the royal family
- They passed 7 very hard exams

After you watch

Discussion

1. The test to Eton involves verbal reasoning, non- verbal reasoning, Mathematics, English and quickness of mind. But Pert Reznikov said that “they are checking their capabilities not the knowledge but their ability to think”. Can you support the opinion that the ability to think is more important than knowledge?
2. Why are the so-called social skills included in the entrance test to Eton? What do you understand by social skills? Are they tested in Russian schools?
3. Do you agree with the idea expressed in the video: “If you come from an environment where people can be prime minister, or winner of an Olympic medal, or winner of the Nobel Prize..., it gives you the aspiration to believe you can do any of these things yourself”? Why? Why not? Give your reasons.

4. The traditional festival for all Russian students is St. Tatiana's Day, the 25th of January. Do you know why Russian students started to celebrate on this date? What events take place during the celebration?
- 

PART 2:
LANGUAGE. FASHION. PUNISHMENT.

"If a man empties his purse into his head, no man can take it away from him. An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest".

Benjamin Franklin

Before you watch

Discuss the following questions in groups of four; then share your opinion with the class:

1. Did you wear a school uniform? Did you like it? Why? Why not?
2. What kinds of punishment were used in your school for misbehaving, impolite or absent-minded pupils? Did the system work effectively?
3. Are there any other ways except for punishment to keep academic discipline and school routine?
4. Do you agree with the idea expressed in the quotation?

Video vocabulary

1. Match the words in italics to the definitions:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| ... 1. <i>commitment</i> | A. fixed and regular way of doing things |
| ... 2. <i>a freshman</i> | B. duty |
| ... 3. <i>intrusion</i> | C. expelling |
| ... 4. <i>detachable</i> | D. preventing from leaving |
| ... 5. <i>a tailcoat</i> | E. pledge |
| ... 6. <i>a waistcoat</i> | F. student at his first year at college |
| ... 7. <i>routine</i> | G. that can be unfastened and taken apart |

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| ... 8. <i>chore</i> | H. men's coat with divided tapering skirt |
| ... 9. <i>detention</i> | I. close-fitting sleeveless garment worn under a jacket |
| ... 10. <i>expulsion</i> | J. entering without invitation |

3. Use context clues to get the meaning of the words, match them with the definitions in the column on the right, then write sentences of your own using each expression:

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. The funny thing is that if you are a young teacher and you don't know all these words, boys are very quick <i>to sense you out</i> . | A. Tough |
| 2. Sometimes people say if we wished to somehow <i>leap into</i> the modern age and show the world what a new, lively place we are, then we should just wear ordinary clothes. | B. To understand who you are |
| 3. If you ask the students themselves, in very large majority they would wish <i>to keep</i> the uniform. | C. Adjust to |
| 4. When somebody comes late with his homework it's <i>irritating</i> because I like to mark them all at the same time. | D. Disorders |
| 5. When I started here as a boy <i>it was still the case</i> that there was physical punishment. | E. To wear |
| 6. If somebody is late – <i>it messes up</i> my routine, so they have to get up early. | F. Behave properly |
| 7. This punishment usually works wonders: very quickly boys <i>get into line</i> . | G. Well-dressed |
| 8. The school uniform is pretty practical; it's quite <i>hardwearing</i> , so it's an easy thing to wear. | H. Annoying |
| 9. The dark suit is very <i>smart</i> and it creates a particular formal atmosphere in the classroom, which shows dual respect. | I. a bad grade |

10. If you do a bad piece of work, you get *a rip*, which is symbolic of a bad piece of work, so your teacher will rip the top. J. It was true

Video on

First watching and listening

Read the following questions then watch the video and answer them. Share your answer with a partner:

1. What are you usually given when you are first at Eton?
2. What do students do outside chambers or during the breaks?
3. Why is it important for young teachers to know the words used in Eton?
4. Do Etonians like to wear the uniform?
5. What is the standard Eton uniform for an infantryman?
6. Who wears a Windsor collar and a bow tie?
7. What are boys usually punished for?
8. What is the bill?

Listening and watching for details

1. Watch sequence 8, on Eton vocabulary:

A. Match Eton words with the definitions in the column on the right:

a. Division	1. Homework
b. Beak	2. A break
c. Chamber	3. A lesson
d. EW	4. A teacher

B. Is this kind of language used to prevent other people from understanding what's going on?

C. Why was the word 'lesson' called so?

2. Watch sequence 9 on fashion in Eton, read the questions and place a tick beside correct variants:

1. What items are depicted on the Eton coat of arms:

Three lilies

Three lions

Oak branches

A crown

A lion

Fleur-de-lis

2. Students at Eton like to wear this particular uniform because:

It's quite hardwearing and tough

It's very good at making people anonymous in the street

It's a very good defense against teachers

It's a very good defense against tourists

It enables everyone to feel part of this community

Boys look very smart in it

It's quite convenient

It's quite cheap

3. The standard Eton uniform for boys consists of:

A normal tie waist

A bow tie

Windsor collar

A tailcoat

A waistcoat

Trousers

- A straw hat
- A white shirt
- Shoes
- A t-shirt

4. Teachers at Eton have to wear:

- Windsor collar
- A white suit
- A black suit of any type
- A waistcoat
- A bow tie
- A hat

3. **Watch sequence 10 devoted to punishments, read the statements below and choose the correct variant:**

1. Physical punishment:

- A. is still used at Eton
- B. is not the case anymore

2. A student gets a rip when:

- A. he does a bad piece of work
- B. he gets top of the class

3. A tardy book is usually given for:

- A. academic misbehavior
- B. general misbehavior

4. If one is given a tardy book, he has to:

- A. get up earlier in the morning to sign this book;
- B. write down several papers in this book

5. "Close-gating" is a form of internal punishment for:

- A. being late with homework
- B. coming completely drunk on Saturday evening

6. If a boy has "close-gating", he has to:

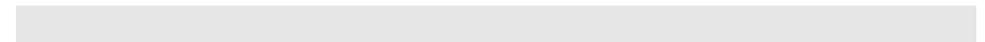
- A. tidy up one of the classrooms for two hours
- B. stay a school and sign into the school office every hour

After you watch

Discussion

Answer the following questions; share your answers with a partner:

1. Do you agree with the idea expressed in the video: "it (Eton suit) creates a particular formal atmosphere in the classroom, which shows dual respect? They respect us, we respect them as well. And that creates the Eton atmosphere of academic learning"? give your reasons.
2. Language, fashion, festivals, ways of punishment create a special atmosphere in Eton. Is it the same in Russian schools? Can you think of any factors that influence this atmosphere?
3. Petr Reznikov said that minor punishments for academic misbehavior "work wonders and students very quickly get into line". Did it happen in your school? Share your experience and give some examples.
4. Do you think it is necessary to use a kind of unique language at school by both teachers and pupils? Why? Why not? Support your opinion.



PART 3: LIFESTYLE. WHAT IS ETON.

“The man who can make hard things easy is the educator.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Before you watch

Discuss the following questions in groups of four; then share your opinion with the class:

1. What school did you go to: coeducational or single-sex school?
2. What are the advantages of the single-sex school? What about the disadvantages?
3. Have you ever done social services as a schoolboy/girl to help your community? What did you do?
4. Do you support the opinion expressed in the quotation?

Video vocabulary

1. Match the words in italics to the definitions:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ... 1. <i>to distract</i> | A. meeting |
| ... 2. <i>assembly</i> | B. unbelievable |
| ... 3. <i>a laptop</i> | C. to draw smb's attention from smth |
| ... 4. <i>the premises</i> | D. to prosper |
| ... 5. <i>to monitor</i> | E. a computer |
| ... 6. <i>spectacular</i> | F. recently |
| ... 7. <i>to thrive</i> | G. to give a higher position |
| ... 8. <i>to promote</i> | H. to supervise |

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ... 9. <i>incredible</i> | I. buildings with the land |
| ... 10. <i>the other day</i> | J. attracting attention |

2. Use context clues to get the meaning of the words in italics, match them with the definitions in the column on the right, then make up a sentence of your own using each expression:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| ... 1. I think most people accept the tradition, and it doesn't <i>bother</i> most people. | A. Have a holiday |
| ... 2. In the 1720's Henry Wharton <i>donated</i> his spectacular collection of books. | B. Love for |
| ... 3. Very often you can work 12 hours per day, and you work 6 days a week including Saturdays and if you are lucky, you can <i>get a Sunday off</i> . | C. Not to mention |
| ... 4. Although now they <i>brought in</i> a new law, which means that we can only have two pints maximum with a meal. | D. Irritate |
| ... 5. The government's <i>being all tight about</i> alcohol, and we have to put finger prints in. | E. Isolated |
| ... 6. On one level Eton College is a hotel operation of 1,300 rooms. And that's quite a big thing to run anywhere, <i>let alone</i> the educational side of it. | F. Being strict |
| ... 7. We are fortunate in having former students here who clearly have <i>an affection for</i> the school. | G. introduced |
| ... 8. It's the spark that ignites <i>a passion</i> , a longing for more knowledge, for greater understanding. | H. Supports |
| ... 9. Eton isn't <i>the cut-off</i> , removed institution that sometimes people might believe, which is rather more the stuff of legend, I think, than reality. | I. A very strong feeling |

- ... 10. Eton *encourages* individuality and if you like to do something, then do it and pursue it to the greatest potential.
- J. Gave as a present

Video on

First watching and listening

Read the following questions, then watch the video and answer them. Share your answer with a partner:

1. Are the majority of schools both in the state and private sector coeducational or single-sex?
2. Do most Etonians like the idea of an all-boys-school?
3. Are boys allowed to be in contact with their friends and family all the time?
4. How many divisions did Roger Grenville have?
5. What was his extra-curriculum activity?
6. Do beaks (teachers) work long hours at Eton?
7. How many students study at Eton?
8. What gifts have they received from their former students?

Listening and watching for details

1. **Watch sequence 11 on advantages of a single-sex school, follow the script as you are watching, fill in the gaps with the missing information:**

“A good school is good for many reasons. And whether it is single-sex or coeducational, that’s not one of them. But one of the things I do notice in a single-sex school, in a boys’ school, is that the quality of standards in everything that is done here is 1.
..... Not just in academic work an sports, but also 2.
..... And I think there is an argument that when boys, teenage boys, are able to focus on what they do within the community of the school without 3.
....., they willingly give more than they would otherwise do. People work 4.
..... in all kinds of areas. That’s to give an example, also that in my last school, in subjects like English literature, most of the students when they

became aged seventeen to eighteen and you could choose subjects...most of the students would be girls, and 5 the students would be boys. It developed a certain kind of pattern according to 6.
..... whereas here the study of English literature is a normal thing. Boys do it. It’s not an issue. So, there are some advantages. There are disadvantages too, one can argue. Both systems work very well. But I think there is a place for 7. It is a minority now in England. The vast majority of schools in the state sector and in the private sector are coeducational. So, it is only 8. now that remain single-sex.”

2. **Watch sequence 12:**

A. Roger Grenville had a busy day. Put his activities in the correct order:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| He woke up at 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| He did his homework | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| He had supper | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| He had another couple of divs | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| He was interviewed | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| He did social service | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| He had three divs | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| He had lunch | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| He had breakfast | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| He had orchestra | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| He had chambers | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| He had two divs more | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| He went to chambers and had assembly | <input type="checkbox"/> |

B. Answer the following questions:

1. What does Roger do to help the community?
2. When does he usually have social services?
3. Is he given any other options besides doing social services?
4. What do his inter-curriculum activities include?
5. What is the legal drinking age?
6. What special rule do Etonians enjoy?
7. What new law was introduced recently and why?

3. **Watch sequence 13:**

A. Follow the script as you are watching, correct factual mistakes in the paragraph:

“It’s a big operation, a complicated business simply to run. We have 1,300 students here. Each boy has his own room. So, if you like, on one level Eton College is a hotel operation of 1,300 rooms. And that’s quite a big thing *1. to cope with*, let alone the educational side of it. So it is a big operation, but it is also highly stimulating, and the reason I think Eton and institutions like it will survive is that as long as people are infused by *2. owe and respect*, being part of a community in which so many good things happen, places like Eton will *3. be popular* And I think there’ll always be that need. It doesn’t matter what *4. methodology* we have, what distance learning, what computers; there is still *5. powerful influence* you get from being with people who are just committed to what they’re doing and just so good at what they’re doing. And I talked to boys who’d been students of Eton, and asked them what they remember about their time at Eton. Was it the privilege of it, the uniform, the sports they played, or the fact that they did very well and went to a good university? Sure, they did but it tends not to be that. Very often it is the memory of *6. the place where Eton is situated*”

B. Read the questions and choose the correct variant:

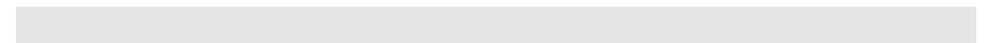
1. What did one Etonian boy who is 35 years old now value most at Eton?
 - A. Italian Baroque Architecture of the College;
 - B. The enthusiasm of the teacher;
 - C. Extra curriculum activities
2. The College has been able to grow and develop throughout centuries because of
 - A. the close connections with the Royal family;
 - B. the gifts donated by many former students;
 - C. a specific academic atmosphere.
3. One of the main jewels at Eton now is:
 - A. its Library;
 - B. College Chapel;
 - C. the staff of the College.

4. The basis of college library is:
 - A. Percy Shelly’s collection;
 - B. Thomas Hardy’s collection;
 - C. Henry Wharton’s collections
5. Visitors at Eton are amazed by the fact that:
 - A. Tourists can visit the College;
 - B. It is a cut-off, removed institution;
 - C. The College is located inside the town and it isn’t isolated from the rest of the world.
6. The great thing about Eton according to Roger Grenville is that it not only provides education but also it:
 - A. enables boys to discover their strength and individuality;
 - B. supports the importance of teamwork;
 - C. fosters tolerance and integrity.

After you watch

Discussion

1. In Russia the majority of high schools are coeducational nowadays. What are the advantages of this system?
2. On the site of Eton College it is said that one of the aims of the College is “to engender respect for the importance of teamwork and the contribution that each boy makes to the life of the school and the community”. Do you agree with the idea that academic life is as important as the social services one by the boys to help the community?
3. Do you agree with the idea expressed in the film that “good education is the spark that ignites ... a longing for more knowledge, for greater understanding?” Support your point of view.
4. In the film it was said that Eton boys remember not the privilege, or uniform, or subject, or sports but “one particular teacher with a burning enthusiasm for some subject”. Is it true about your school years?



PART 4: RUSSIAN IN ETON. TO BE ETONIAN

Languages as well as cultures stored in them are means of communication but at the same time they are a barrier, a fence separating people and a shield protecting their national identity and keeping their diversity."

Svetlana Ter-Minasova

Before you watch

Discuss the following questions in groups of four; then share your opinion with the class:

1. Do you think Russian now is a popular foreign language to be taught and studied at colleges and schools abroad? Why? Why not?
2. What does interest in learning this or that foreign language depend on?
3. Why do you think most English speaking people call Russian "an intellectual challenge"?
4. What is the main point expressed in the quotation?

Video vocabulary

1. Match the words in italics to the definitions:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| ... 1. <i>challenge</i> | A. interest |
| ... 2. <i>arrogant</i> | B. likeable, satisfactory |
| ... 3. <i>to recruit</i> | C. to communicate |
| ... 4. <i>to keep in touch</i> | D. to make space for |
| ... 5. <i>dramatic</i> | E. behaving in a proud, superior manner |
| ... 6. <i>curiosity</i> | F. process by which we became aware of changes through senses of sight, hearing, etc. |
| ... 7. <i>decent</i> | G. a fierce argument about smth |

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ... 8. <i>to leave room for</i> | H. to get a sufficient quantity |
| ... 9. <i>controversy</i> | I. exciting |
| ... 10. <i>perception</i> | J. invitation to compete |

2. Use context clues to get the meaning of the words in italics, match them with the definitions in the column on the right, then make up a sentence of your own using each expression:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ... 1. With the fall of the Berlin Wall, interest in learning Russian <i>declined</i> dramatically. | A. chosen |
| ... 2. It is sometimes said that over the centuries, Eton boys have shown a remarkable <i>knack of</i> spotting where the power is, where things change. | B. became lower |
| ... 3. Russian is subsequently at Eton <i>picked up</i> again and now is strong. | C. offer |
| ... 4. Eton doesn't have a problem with financing, so we have managed <i>to sustain</i> the number of students in the last 7 years. | D. to fulfill one's duties |
| ... 5. French obviously has about seventy, Spanish has about forty, so, you know, Russian is not far behind and <i>it's catching on</i> . | E. to keep up |
| ... 6. I want <i>to underline</i> my own personal commitment to broadening the access to this school as much as we can plausibly make it. | F. cleverness enabling one to do smth skillfully |
| ... 7. If a boy aged eighteen is not able to deal with the range of things that the world will <i>throw</i> at him, and then he has not taken advantage of his education. | G. is becoming popular |
| ... 8. Having a badge of being an Etonian <i>raises the stakes a little</i> . | H. to stress out |

- ... 9. I certainly want *to do my bit* to help make this school as good as it can be. I. to be true
- ... 10. It used *to be the case* that if you go to Eton, you're guaranteed Oxbridge – Oxford and Cambridge – and then you're guaranteed a great job. J. lives up to one's reputation

Video on

First watching and listening

Read the following questions then watch the video and answer them. Share your answer with a partner:

1. How many students study Russian today at Eton?
2. Why did Roger Grenville choose Russian as his foreign language?
3. Do boys who study Russian at Eton have any activity besides regular classes?
4. What did boys from an Etonian society in Moscow do to thank Petr Reznikov for teaching them Russian?
5. Where do the boys who studied Russian at Eton work now?
6. Why does Tony Little feel a commitment to Eton?
7. Did any other members of his family study at Eton?
8. What does 'public school' mean in England?

Listening and watching for details

1. Watch sequence 14: and answer the questions:

A. read statements below and choose the correct variant:

1. It was cool to learn Russian in the 60s and 70s because:
A. the Soviet Union was an unknown and mysterious country;
B. the Soviet Union experienced an economic boom during that period.
2. Russian has become popular again among Etonians because:
A. it's well taught and it's very melodious;
B. it's interesting and Etonians see a lot of opportunities in modern Russia.
3. Today they have more students at the senior level:

- A. studying German than Mandarin;
B. studying Russian than German.

4. In Britain today the number of students doing Russian is declining because of:
A. economic reasons;
B. political reasons.
5. Schools which cannot recruit more than 10 students for Russian classes:
A. drop it
B. ask for financial support.

B. Describe the interior of Petr Reznikov's office and classroom. What kind of items connected with Russian culture and life are shown in the video? Are there any items which were made by the boys who study Russian?

2. Watch sequence 15 and answer the following questions:

1. What activities are offered to the boys who study Russian at Eton?
2. How many students at Roger Grenville's study Russian?
3. Why did he say that it's 'huge for a single language'?
4. What do the boys who studied Russian at Eton do to keep in touch?
5. Why do Etonians find Russian quite exotic?

3. Watch sequence 16 on what it means to be an Etonian:

A. read the statements below and put a tick beside the correct variants:

1. Tony Little feels a commitment to College because Eton
changed his expectations;
paid all his fees
helped him to survive in the 70s;
opened new opportunities;
replaced for him his family
2. If a boy goes to Eton, he is guaranteed:
A great job
To become a non-public school boy
To acquire a privileged position

The World of Eton

VIDEO ACTIVITY BOOK

- Oxford or Cambridge
- To be accepted to state schools

B. Follow the script as you are watching, correct factual mistakes in the paragraph:

“Public school is a funny thing, because you thin “public” means the same as in the United States but in England public school means *1. comprehensive* school. So they only seemed to take public school boys, so there was this whole thing about how *2. state schoolboys* are being pushed aside to leave room for normal state education people who are *3.more active* And occasionally, they were roused because people from public school were blatantly cleverer than these people from state school. And obviously it’s fair; you shouldn’t *4. distinguish* state people from public school people, but you should *5. solve the problem* So, anyway, it’s still hard to guarantee university now, especially with all that controversy. But, yeah, you have got an advantage, but the advantage, I think, is not being an ‘Etonian’. The advantage is coming to a school which has *6. a prestigious position*, which then allows you to be what you turn out to be. So, the theatre capabilities...you know, a guy who left a few years ago called Eddie Redmayne, he’s about twenty-two, and he’s already making a film with Angelina Jolie and Robert DeNiro and directing it, and it’s coming out in a coupe of years. So it’s *7. the knowledge* which the gives you. It’s not, “I’m an Etonian, *8.give me this opportunity,*” It’s, “I went to Eton, so I was able to do all this, and here I am, and I can do this.” So they see what you can do, and they think “Wow, that’s amazing!” And then they find out that maybe you’re an Etonian.”

C. Follow the script as you are watching, fill in the gaps with the missing information:

“If a boy aged eighteen is not able to deal with the range of things that the world will throw at him, then he 1, and we haven’t taught him very well. Sometimes the world outside has an image that and Etonian will behave in a certain way, 2, or full of himself, or will be disinterested in other people. And I say to all our eighteen-year-olds just as they leave: if any of you ever behave in that way, you’ll 3 You deserve all the opprobrium, all the critical comment that you will receive. And I will have no time for you. But if you show yourself to be a decent human being, a person concerned for society, the good citizen that the vast majority of them are, then not only will you be of use to people, you 4 And I think that having 5 an Etonian raises the stakes a little. People expect more of you, and they expect different things from you.”

After you watch

Discussion

1. In one of the interviews it was said that Russian has become popular again at Eton because it is taught well and because “Etonians now see opportunities in modern Russia”. What kind of opportunities was Tony little talking about?
2. Russian people have always demonstrated a profound and strong interest in studying foreign languages, for example, in the 18th century it was German which was in great demand so it was very popular, in the 19th century – French, today it is English which has become lingua franca. Why do the majority of Russians study English today? What are the main areas for that from your point of view?
3. Do you agree with the idea expressed in the video: “But if you show yourself to be a decent human being, a person concerned for society, the good citizen that the vast majority of them are, then not only will you be of use to people, you will be celebrated as well.” Why? Why not? Give your reasons.
4. Do you support the opinion that we cannot be competent in the language if we do not also understand the culture that has shaped and informed it; we cannot learn a second language if we do not have an awareness of that culture, and how that culture relates to our own first language/first culture?

The World of Eton

VIDEO ACTIVITY BOOK