3.C. **Schools in England** (p.30)

**LANGUAGE AND CULTURE NOTE - SCHOOLS**

Students often say public school instead of state school. A public school in Britain, despite the name, is in fact a very exclusive private school. The term started in the nineteenth century to describe a school that was publicly managed as opposed to privately owned by teachers. The most famous public schools are Eton (attended by Princes William and Harry) and Harrow, for boys, and Cheltenham Ladies’ College and Roedean, for girls. The students often live at the school during term time. The schools put a strong emphasis on discipline, sport and religion. In the USA, however, public school is the same as state school.

* Ex.1/p.30

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| Nursery | 2 years | Not compulsory |
| Primary | 6 years | Compulsory |
| Secondary | 5 years | Compulsory |
| College | 2 years | Not compulsory |

**CULTURE NOTE - COLLEGE**

College in the American school system means university. In England the term has several meanings. Some universities, notably Oxford and Cambridge and a few of the other older universities, have a collegiate system, whereby the university is made up of separate colleges.

* Ex. 2,3/p.30
* Ex.5/p.30

“Hi, my name's Nick and I go to Abingdon School. It’s a big private school near Oxford, in the middle of England. It’s a very old school - about 700 years old. There are about 800 students here, and about100 teachers. There are only boys - there aren’t any girls. Some boys live at home and just come to school for lessons, like in a normal school, but I live in the school during the term. I go home for the holidays of course. All the boys wear a uniform – that’s special clothes. The uniform is a dark blue jacket, light blue shirt, grey trousers, black shoes and socks, and a tie. We work very hard but I like my school. I want to do A-levels and then go to university.”

“Hi, I'm Stephanie and I'm at Oakland School in London. It’s a state secondary school in the east of London. It’s a mixed school, for boys and girls. There are about 600 students in the school, and some of them come from different countries - there are lots of Pakistani, West Indian, Indian and Chinese students here. There are 89 teachers. I come to school five days a week. Lessons start at 9 and finish at 4. We wear a uniform at my school. I don't like the uniform – it’s a green T-shirt or sweatshirt and a grey skirt - trousers for the boys, of course. School’s not bad, but I want to leave after my GCSEs and get a job.