

Lesson one : Preview words for study ”

1. *primary* “اصلی / عمده / نخستین
2. *tuition* حق تدریس / تعلیم / شهریه
3. *statistics* آمارشناسی / جامعه آماری / آمار
4. *population* سکنه / مردم / جمعیت
5. *afford* تهیه کردن / از عهده برآمدن / استطاعت داشتن
6. *rural* رعیتی / روستایی
7. *relevant* وابسته / مناسب / مربوط
8. *reflect* برگرداندن / منعکس کردن / بازتاب دادن
9. *contrast* هم سنجی / مقایسه / تقابل
10. *egalitarian* مساوات طلبی / تساوی گرایی
11. *consider* تفکر کردن / ملاحظه کردن / رسیدگی کردن به
12. *preparatory* آمایشی / تدارکی / مقدماتی
13. *comprehensive* کامل / فراگیر / جامع
14. *private* شخصی / پوشیده / خصوصی
15. *determine* تصمیم گرفتن / تعیین کردن
16. *equipment* موارد ضروری / تجهیزات
17. *discipline* نظم و انضباط
18. *possible* شدنی / ممکن / امکان پذیر
19. *Vocational* حرفه‌ای / شغلی
20. *entire* بی عیب / درست / تمام
21. *examination* رسیدگی / معاینه / بازرسی
23. *opportunity* نشانی / جمال / فرصت

24. **decide** عزم کردن / تصمیم گرفتن
25. **national** = **ethnic** قومی / ملی
26. **structure** ساخت / ساختار
27. **attend** رسیدگی کردن / توجه کردن
28. **reason** استدلال کردن / دلیل و برهان
29. **Connection** اتصال
30. **Agriculture** کشاورزی / زراعت

Education: A Reflection of Society

[A] Visit schools anywhere in the world, and you will probably notice a number of similarities. There are students, teachers, books, blackboards, and exams everywhere. However, a school system in one country is not identical to the system in any other country. It cannot be exactly the same because each culture is different. The educational system is a mirror that reflects the culture. Look at the school system, and you will see the social structure and the values of its culture.

Kenya

[B] Kenya, a developing country on the east coast of Africa, has a rapidly growing population. The economy is based on agriculture (especially the sale of tea leaves and coffee beans) and tourism. Visitors from another country might be startled by one statistic about education in Kenya. They might be surprised to learn that about 90 percent (%) of all students who finish primary school- elementary school-don't continue on to secondary school. One reason is economic. Education in Kenya is free only through primary school; students must pay tuition in secondary school, and many people can't afford this. Also, far from cities, in rural areas, children need to quit school to work on their families' farms. The other reason is social. Some rural tribes (such as the Maasai) don't want their children to have a formal education because they don't see its relevance-its connection to real life.

Japan

[C]In contrast, the Japanese value education highly. They place such importance on it that 99 percent of all students complete not only primary school but also high school. Public schools are all both free and egalitarian; all students are considered equal and learn the same material. For social reasons, it's important for a student to receive a university degree-and a degree from "the right university." To reach this goal, students have to go through "examination hell."

There are difficult exams for entrance to all universities, to many of the better primary and secondary schools, and even to some kindergartens! Japanese students need great discipline; in order to make time for their studies, they need the self-control to give up hobbies, sports, and social life. Results of these exams affect the entire family because there is high status, or social position, for the whole family when the children have high test scores.

Britain

[D] In the United Kingdom (Britain), the educational system reflects the class system. All state schools—primary, secondary, and university—are free, and the first nine years are egalitarian; all students learn the same material. At age eleven, students take an important national exam. After this, they attend one of three possible secondary schools: college preparatory, vocational (for job training), or comprehensive (with both groups of students). However, 7 percent of British students attend expensive private schools. These are students from upper-class families. Half of the students at Oxford and Cambridge universities come from such expensive secondary schools. Although all universities are free, only 1 percent of the lower class goes to university. Because graduates from good universities get the best jobs, it is clear that success is largely a result of one's social class.

The United States

[E] Education in the United States is more democratic than in many countries, but it also has serious problems. Public primary and secondary schools are free, and almost 80 percent of all Americans are high school graduates. Students themselves decide if they want college-preparatory or vocational classes in high school; no national exam determines this. Higher education is not free, but it is available to almost anyone, and about 70 percent of all high school graduates attend college or university. Older people have the opportunity to attend college too because Americans believe that "you're never too old to learn."

However, there are also problems in U.S. schools. In many secondary schools, there are problems with lack of discipline and with drugs and crime. In addition, public schools receive their money from local taxes, so schools in poor areas don't have enough good teachers, or laboratory equipment, and the buildings are often not in good condition. Clearly, U.S. education reflects both the best and the worst of the society.

Conclusion

[F] It is clear that each educational system is a reflection of the larger culture: its economy, values, social structure, and problems. Look at a country's schools, and you will learn about the society in which they exist.

Drill 1

Find the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the synonym of each word in the left-hand column. Write the letter in the blank.

ابتدایی - اولیه	1. primary	(a) pertinent
مرتبط - مربوط	2. relevant	(b) initial
روستایی	3. rural	(c) settle
تعیین کردن	4. determine	(d) rustic
امکان پذیر	5. possible	(e) junction
ارتباط	6. connection	(f) practical

Drill 2

Find the word or phrase that is closest in meaning to the antonym of each word in the left-hand column.

.....	1. comprehensive	(a) disappear	ناپدید شدن
.....	2. attend	(b) selective	انتخابی
.....	3. primary	(c) ultimately	نهایتاً
.....	4. entire	(d) Unattainable	غیر قابل دسترس
.....	5. possible	(e) break	شکستن
.....	6. connection	(f) briefly	به طور خلاصه

Drill 1

1. B

2. a

3. d

4. c

5. F

6. e

Drill 2

1. b

2. a

3. c

4. f

5. d

6. e