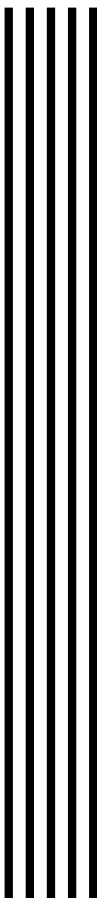


Министерство образования и науки Украины
Севастопольский национальный технический университет
Гуманитарный факультет



**THE SYSTEM OF EDUCATION IN THE USA =
СИСТЕМА ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ В США**

Методические указания
к практическим занятиям по дисциплине
«Английский язык»
для студентов 2-3 курса
направления 6.020303 «Филология»
специальности 7.02030304 «Перевод»
дневной формы обучения

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The System of Education in the USA = Система образования в США: методические указания к практическим занятиям по дисциплине «Английский язык» для студентов 2-3 курса направления 6.020303 «Филология» специальности 7.02030304 «Перевод» дневной формы обучения / Сост. ст. преподаватель кафедры ТПП Петрунина Ю.В.. – СевНТУ, 2014. – 16 с.

Цель методических указаний – систематизировать знания студентов о системе образования в США.

В методических указаниях содержатся тексты, посвященные различным составляющим образовательной системы США. После каждого текста следуют упражнения на закрепление изученного материала, а в частности – новой лексики. Также даются тесты для проверки полученных знаний, ключи к тестам прилагаются.

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I. EDUCATION IN THE USA

1. Read the text and mind the differences in system of education in the USA and in Ukraine:

Education in the United States is provided by both public and private schools.

Public education is universally available, with control and funding coming from the state, local, and federal government. Public school curricula, funding, teaching, employment, and other policies are set through locally elected school boards, who have jurisdiction over individual school districts. State governments set educational standards and mandate standardized tests for public school systems.

Private schools are generally free to determine their own curriculum and staffing policies, with voluntary accreditation available through independent regional accreditation authorities. 88% of school-age children attend public schools, 9% attend private schools, and nearly 3% are homeschooled.

Education is compulsory over an age range starting between five and eight and ending somewhere between ages sixteen and eighteen, depending on the state. This requirement can be satisfied in public schools, state-certified private schools, or an approved home school program. In most schools, education is divided into three levels: elementary school, middle or junior high school, and high school. Children are usually divided by age groups into grades, ranging from kindergarten and first grade for the youngest children, up to twelfth grade as the final year of high school.

There are also a large number and wide variety of publicly and privately administered institutions of higher education throughout the country. Post-secondary education is divided into colleges and graduate schools.

2. Answer the following questions:

1. What kinds of education exist in the USA? 2. What institutions control public schools? 3. What is the main function of locally elected school boards do? 4. What does state government set? 5. Do private schools have their own curriculum? 6. Can American students be homeschooled? 7. What levels is education divided into? 8. Over what age is education compulsory in the USA?

3. Define whether the following statements are true or false. Correct the false ones:

1. Only federal government controls and funds public education in the USA. 2. The majority of school-age children attend private schools. 3. Education is compulsory over an age range starting between eight and ten and ending somewhere between sixteen and eighteen, depending on the

state. 4. Elementary school is the first level of public education. 5. Children are usually divided by age groups into grades. 6. Institutions of higher education are privately administered in the USA.

4. Find in the text English equivalents of the following words and phrases:

государственное образование; финансирование; частные школы; домашнее обучение; учебный план; начальная школа; ВУЗ; школьный комитет устанавливает; посещать учебное заведение; средняя школа; разделяются на классы по возрастной категории; старшая школа; высшее образование; образовательный стандарт.

5. Retell the text using new vocabulary.

6. Express your own opinion on the system of education in the USA. What are the main advantages and disadvantages?

II. PRIMARY EDUCATION

1. Read the text and mind the differences in primary education in the USA and in Ukraine:

Historically, in the United States, local public control (and private alternatives) have allowed for some variation in the organization of schools. Elementary school includes kindergarten through fifth grade (or sometimes, to fourth grade, sixth grade or eighth grade). Basic subjects are taught in elementary school, and students often remain in one classroom throughout the school day, except for physical education, library, music, and art classes. There are (as of 2010) about 3.6 million children in each grade in the United States.

Typically, the curriculum in public elementary education is determined by individual school districts. The school district selects curriculum guides and textbooks that reflect a state's learning standards and benchmarks for a given grade level. Learning Standards are the goals by which states and school districts must meet adequate yearly progress (AYP) as mandated by No Child Left Behind (NCLB). This description of school governance is simplistic at best, however, and school systems vary widely not only in the way curricular decisions are made but also in how teaching and learning take place. Some states and/or school districts impose more top-down mandates than others. In others, teachers play a significant role in curriculum design and there are few top-down mandates. Curricular decisions within private schools are often made differently from in public schools.

Public Elementary School teachers typically instruct between twenty and thirty students of diverse learning needs. A typical classroom will

include children with a range of learning needs or abilities, from those identified as having special needs of the kinds listed in the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) to those that are cognitively, athletically or artistically gifted. At times, an individual school district identifies areas of need within the curriculum. Teachers and advisory administrators form committees to develop supplemental materials to support learning for diverse learners and to identify enrichment for textbooks. Many school districts post information about the curriculum and supplemental materials on websites for public access.

In general, a student learns basic arithmetic and sometimes rudimentary algebra in mathematics, English proficiency (such as basic grammar, spelling, and vocabulary), and fundamentals of other subjects. Learning standards are identified for all areas of a curriculum by individual States, including those for mathematics, social studies, science, physical development, the fine arts, and reading. While the concept of State Learning standards has been around for some time, No Child Left Behind has mandated that standards exist at the State level.

2. Make research and find information about the following:

a federal law called "No Child Left Behind" (NCLB); adequate yearly progress (AYP); the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA).

3. Answer the following questions:

1. Are there any variation in the organization of public schools in the USA? 2. What stages does elementary school include? 3. Do students remain in the same classroom throughout the school day? 4. What institution determines the curriculum in public elementary education ? 5. What does the school district select? 6. What are Learning Standards? 7. Who plays a significant role in curriculum design? 8. How many students are there usually in class? 9. What are the main functions of committees formed by teachers and advisory administrators? 10. What basic subjects are taught in elementary school?

4. Translate into Russian the following words and expressions:

organization of schools; elementary school; kindergarten; fifth grade; to remain in one classroom throughout the school day; curriculum guides and textbooks; school district; to reflect a state's learning standards; to districts impose more top-down mandates; school governance; to play a significant role in curriculum design; teachers and advisory administrators; to post information about the curriculum and supplemental materials on websites; basic arithmetic; physical development; the fine arts.

5. Retell the text using new vocabulary.

III. SECONDARY EDUCATION

1. Read the text and mind the differences in secondary education in the USA and in Ukraine:

As part of education in the United States, secondary education usually covers grades 6 through 9 or 10 through 12.

Middle school and Junior high school include the grade levels intermediate between elementary school and senior high school. "Middle school" usually includes sixth, seventh and eighth grade; "Junior high" typically includes seventh, eighth, and ninth grades. The range defined by either is often based on demographic factors, such as an increase or decrease in the relative numbers of younger or older students, with the aim of maintaining stable school populations. At this time, students are given more independence, moving to different classrooms for different subjects, and being allowed to choose some of their class subjects (electives). Usually, starting in ninth grade, grades become part of a student's official transcript.

Senior high school is a school attended after junior high school. High school is often used instead of senior high school and distinguished from junior high school. High school usually runs either from 9th through 12th, or 10th through 12th grade. The students in these grades are commonly referred to as freshmen (grade 9), sophomores (grade 10), juniors (grade 11) and seniors (grade 12).

Generally, at the high school level, students take a broad variety of classes without special emphasis in any particular subject. Students are required to take a certain minimum number of mandatory subjects, but may choose additional subjects ("electives") to fill out their required hours of learning.

The following minimum courses of study in mandatory subjects are required in nearly all U.S. high schools:

- Science (usually three years minimum, normally biology, chemistry and physics)
- Mathematics (usually four years minimum, normally including algebra, geometry, and trigonometry, and frequently pre-calculus, statistics, and/or calculus)
- English (usually four years minimum, including literature, humanities, composition, oral languages, etc.)
- Social sciences (usually three years minimum, including various history, government/economics courses)
- Physical education (at least one year)

Many states require a "health" course in which students learn about anatomy, nutrition, first aid, sexuality, drug awareness and birth control. Anti-drug use programs are also usually part of health courses. In many

cases, however, options are provided for students to "test out" of this requirement or complete independent study to meet it. Foreign language and some form of art education are also a mandatory part of the curriculum in some schools.

Many high schools provide Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) courses. These are special forms of honors classes where the curriculum is more challenging and lessons more aggressively paced than standard courses. AP or IB courses are usually taken during the 11th or 12th grade of high school, but may be taken as early as 9th grade.

2. Answer the following questions:

1. What grades does secondary education usually cover? 2. What are the main levels of the secondary school? 3. Are students given more independence in secondary school if compared to elementary? Prove your opinion. 4. What are "the electives"? 5. How are the high school students called depending on the grade? 6. When do students take a broad variety of classes? 7. What mandatory subjects should be studied at high school? 8. What is a "health" course? What topics do the students cover during this course? 9. Are foreign languages a mandatory part of the curriculum in all secondary schools? 10. What are Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) courses? When are they taken?

3. Translate the following words and word combinations:

high school; school populations; с целью; a school attended after junior high school; табель; freshmen; to fill out their required hours of learning; перемещаться из кабинета в кабинет; a "health" course; начиная с 9 класса; mandatory subjects; углубленное изучение определенных предметов; the electives; физическая культура; social sciences; обязательная составляющая учебного плана drug awareness; the curriculum is more challenging.

4. Retell the text using new vocabulary.

IV. HIGHER EDUCATION

1. Read the text and mind the differences in higher education in the USA and in Ukraine:

Higher education in the United States is an optional final stage of formal learning following secondary education, often at one of the 4,495 colleges or universities and junior colleges in the country. In 2008, 36% of enrolled students graduated from college in four years. 57% completed their undergraduate requirements in six years, at the same college they first

enrolled in. The U.S. ranks 10th among industrial countries for percentage of adults with college degrees.

Like high school, the four undergraduate grades are commonly called freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior years (alternatively called first year, second year, etc.). Students traditionally apply for admission into colleges. Schools differ in their competitiveness and reputation; generally, the most prestigious schools are private, rather than public. Admissions criteria involve the rigor and grades earned in high school courses taken, the students' GPA, class ranking, and standardized test scores (Such as the SAT or the ACT tests). Most colleges also consider more subjective factors such as a commitment to extracurricular activities, a personal essay, and an interview. While colleges will rarely list that they require a certain standardized test score, class ranking, or GPA for admission, each college usually has a rough threshold below which admission is unlikely.

Once admitted, students engage in undergraduate study, which consists of satisfying university and class requirements to achieve a bachelor's degree in a field of concentration known as a major. (Some students enroll in double majors or "minor" in another field of study.) The most common method consists of four years of study leading to a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), a Bachelor of Science (B.S.), or sometimes another bachelor's degree such as Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.), Bachelor of Social Work (B.S.W.), Bachelor of Engineering (B.Eng.) or Bachelor of Philosophy (B.Phil.) Five-Year Professional Architecture programs offer the Bachelor of Architecture Degree (B.Arch.)

Professional degrees such as law, medicine, pharmacy, and dentistry, are offered as graduate study after earning at least three years of undergraduate schooling or after earning a bachelor's degree depending on the program. These professional fields do not require a specific undergraduate major, though medicine, pharmacy, and dentistry have set prerequisite courses that must be taken before enrollment.

Some students choose to attend a community college for two years prior to further study at another college or university. In most states, community colleges are operated either by a division of the state university or by local special districts subject to guidance from a state agency. Community colleges may award Associate of Arts (AA) or Associate of Science (AS) degree after two years. Those seeking to continue their education may transfer to a four-year college or university (after applying through a similar admissions process as those applying directly to the four-year institution). Some community colleges have automatic enrollment agreements with a local four-year college, where the community college provides the first two years of study and the university provides the

remaining years of study, sometimes all on one campus. The community college awards the associate's degree, and the university awards the bachelor's and master's degrees.

Graduate study, conducted after obtaining an initial degree and sometimes after several years of professional work, leads to a more advanced degree such as a master's degree, which could be a Master of Arts (MA), Master of Science (MS), Master of Business Administration (MBA), or other less common master's degrees such as Master of Education (MEd), and Master of Fine Arts (MFA). Some students pursue a graduate degree that is in between a master's degree and a doctoral degree called a Specialist in Education (Ed.S.).

After additional years of study and sometimes in conjunction with the completion of a master's degree and/or Ed.S. degree, students may earn a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) or other doctoral degree, such as Doctor of Arts, Doctor of Education, Doctor of Theology, Doctor of Medicine, Doctor of Pharmacy, Doctor of Physical Therapy, Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine, Doctor of Podiatry Medicine, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, Doctor of Psychology, or Juris Doctor. Some programs, such as medicine and psychology, have formal apprenticeship procedures post-graduation, such as residencies and internships, which must be completed after graduation and before one is considered fully trained. Other professional programs like law and business have no formal apprenticeship requirements after graduation (although law school graduates must take the bar exam to legally practice law in nearly all states).

Entrance into graduate programs usually depends upon a student's undergraduate academic performance or professional experience as well as their score on a standardized entrance exam like the Graduate Record Examination (GRE-graduate schools in general), the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT), or the Law School Admission Test (LSAT). Many graduate and law schools do not require experience after earning a bachelor's degree to enter their programs; however, business school candidates are usually required to gain a few years of professional work experience before applying. 8.9 percent of students receive postgraduate degrees. Most, after obtaining their bachelor's degree, proceed directly into the workforce.

2. Answer the following questions:

1. Is higher education obligatory in the United States? 2. How many institutions of higher education are there in the USA? 3. What ranking does the U.S. have among industrial countries for percentage of adults with college degrees? 4. How many undergraduate grades are commonly in the colleges? How are they called? 5. What do admissions criteria involve?

6. What subjective factors do the colleges consider while admitting the students? 7. What Bachelor degrees do you know? 8. What are the community colleges? What degrees can they award? 9. When the graduate degree can be obtained? 10. Do graduate and law schools require experience after earning a bachelor's degree? 11. Can young people proceed directly into the workforce after obtaining their bachelor's degree?

3. Find in the text English equivalents of the following words and phrases:

высшее образование; зачислить в ВУЗ; занимать 10-е место; подавать документы для поступления в ВУЗ; средний балл учащегося; результаты выпускных экзаменов; учитывать такие субъективные факторы, как; получить степень бакалавра; профилирующая дисциплина; переводиться в университет; соглашение об автоматическом зачислении; степень магистра; приступать к работе сразу после получения степени бакалавра.

4. Translate into Russian the following words and expressions:

an optional final stage of formal learning; to complete one's undergraduate requirements in six years; to apply for admission; competitiveness and reputation; admissions criteria; class ranking; commitment to extracurricular activities; to achieve a bachelor's degree; to attend a community college; to continue one's education; to have automatic enrollment agreements; to lead to a more advanced degree; internship; to legally practice law; a student's undergraduate academic performance; to gain a few years of professional work experience; to receive postgraduate degree; to proceed directly into the workforce; major.

5. Retell the text using new vocabulary.

V. HOME SCHOOLING

Read the text:

In 2007, approximately 1.5 million children were homeschooled, up 74% from 1999 when the U.S. Department of Education first started keeping statistics. This was 2.9% of all children.

Many select moral or religious reasons for homeschooling their children. The second main category is unschooling, those who prefer a non-standard approach to education.

Most homeschooling advocates are wary of the established educational institutions for various reasons. Some are religious conservatives who see nonreligious education as contrary to their moral or religious systems, or who wish to add religious instruction to the educational curriculum (and

who may be unable to afford a church-operated private school or where the only available school may teach views contrary to those of the parents). Others feel that they can more effectively tailor a curriculum to suit an individual student's academic strengths and weaknesses, especially those with singular needs or disabilities. Still others feel that the negative social pressures of schools (such as bullying, drugs, crime, sex, and other school-related problems) are detrimental to a child's proper development. Parents often form groups to help each other in the homeschooling process, and may even assign classes to different parents, similar to public and private schools.

Opposition to homeschooling comes from varied sources, including teachers' organizations and school districts. The National Education Association, the largest labor union in the United States, has been particularly vocal in the past. Opponents' stated concerns fall into several broad categories, including fears of poor academic quality, and lack of socialization with others. At this time, over half of states have oversight into monitoring or measuring the academic progress of home schooled students, with all but ten requiring some form of notification to the state.

1. Answer the following questions:

1. What is home schooling? 2. How many children are homeschooled in the USA? 3. What are the main reasons selected by the parents for home schooling? 4. What is your personal attitude to home schooling? 5. What are advantages and disadvantages of home schooling? 6. What negative social pressures do schools have? How do they impact on students? 7. Is home schooling more personally-oriented if compared to the traditional system of education? 8. What organizations and institutions are against home schooling? Why? 9. What is National Education Association? Does it approve home schooling? 10. Do some states monitor and measure the academic progress of homeschooled students? What for? 11. Would you like your children to be homeschooled? Why?

2. Find in the text English equivalents of the following words and phrases:

быть на домашнем обучении; по моральным или религиозным причинам; нестандартный подход к образованию; приверженцы домашнего обучения; частные школы при церквях; подбирать индивидуальный учебный план; запугивание; иметь пагубное влияние на развитие ребенка; ассоциация учителей; недостаток общения со сверстниками; отслеживать и оценивать успехи в учебе.

3. Translate into Russian the following words and expressions:

Department of Education; to select moral or religious reasons for; religious conservatives; to teach views contrary to those of the parents; to be vocal; unschooling; negative social pressures of schools; students with singular needs or disabilities; to add religious instruction to the educational curriculum; student's academic strengths and weaknesses; a non-standard approach to education; poor academic quality; to have oversight into monitoring or measuring the academic progress of home schooled students; to be detrimental to.

4. Retell the text using new vocabulary.

5. Express your opinion on home schooling. What is your attitude to this approach in education? What are the main advantages and disadvantages of home schooling?

TESTS

Variant I

- Which institutions set educational standards and mandate standardized tests for public school systems:
 - local governments;
 - state governments;
 - federal governments.
- Education is compulsory over an age range between:
 - 5 and 8 to 16 and 18;
 - 8 and 10 to 16 and 18;
 - 6 and 8 to 17 and 19.
- Basic subjects are taught in:
 - elementary school;
 - secondary school;
 - college.
- Curriculum in public elementary school is determined by:
 - federal state;
 - school administration;
 - school districts.
- Public elementary teachers usually instruct:
 - 5-10 students;
 - 15-20 students;
 - 20-30 students.
- Middle school usually covers:
 - 6-8 grades;
 - 8-10 grades;
 - 20-30 grades.

7. Grades become a part of official transcript from:
 - a) 6th grade;
 - b) 9th grade;
 - c) 11th grade.
8. Minimum courses of study required in all high schools are called:
 - a) mandatory subjects;
 - b) electives;
 - c) a health course.
9. AI and IB courses are usually taken during:
 - a) 8-9 grades;
 - b) 10-11 grades;
 - c) 11-12 grades.
10. Community colleges award:
 - a) Bachelor's degree;
 - b) Master's degree;
 - c) Associate's degree.
11. The reasons for home schooling are/ is:
 - a) lack of money;
 - b) moral and religious reasons;
 - c) protest to the system of education.
12. Who monitors and measures academic progress of home schooled children:
 - a) States;
 - b) school teachers;
 - c) church.

Variant II

1. Children are usually divided into grades by:
 - a) sex;
 - b) nationality;
 - c) age.
2. Public school curricula, funding, teaching, employment, and other policies are set through:
 - a) school boards;
 - b) school administration;
 - c) federal government.
3. Teachers and advisory administrators form ... to develop supplemental materials to support learning:
 - a) boards;
 - b) committees;
 - c) councils.
4. Learning standards in elementary schools are identified by:

- a) individual States
 - b) Federal State;
 - c) school boards.
5. High School usually covers:
 - a) 9-12 grades;
 - b) 10-12 grades;
 - c) 11-12 grades.
6. Physical education is a part of:
 - a) mandatory subjects;
 - b) electives;
 - c) a health course.
7. The U.S. ranks ... among industrial countries for percentage of adults with college degrees:
 - a) 1st;
 - b) 6th;
 - c) 10th.
8. An undergraduate study usually lasts for:
 - a) 4 years;
 - b) 5 years;
 - c) 6 years.
9. Students attend community colleges for:
 - a) 1 year;
 - b) 2 years;
 - c) 3 years.
10. Entrance into graduate programs depends on:
 - a) performance during undergraduate study;
 - b) working experience;
 - c) transcript grades .
11. Who is against home schooling:
 - a) teachers and school districts;
 - b) students;
 - c) clerics.
12. How many children are homeschooled in the USA:
 - a) 10 millions;
 - b) 5 millions;
 - c) 1,5 million

KEYS**VARIANT I.**

1.b; 2. a; 3. a; 4. c; 5. c; 6. a; 7. b; 8. a; 9. c; 10. c; 11. b; 12. a.

VARIANT II.

1. c; 2. a; 3. b; 4. a; 5. a; 6. a; 7. c; 8. a; 9. b; 10. a; 11. a;
12. c.

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Заказ № _____ от « ____ » _____ 20 ____ . Тираж _____ экз.
Изд-во СевНТУ