

Module 3: Teacher Guide

Aim: Students will learn about the different aspects of university and student life, from accommodation and studying to sports and societies.

Lesson

Show of Hands

Ask students the questions on the slide and encourage discussion about friends/family who have been to university, students who are considering university and what a university is.

What is a University?

- Students go to university to study for a degree- the qualification you gain from university
- Many professional jobs require a degree e.g. Doctor, Vet, Teacher, Lawyer, Physiotherapist etc.
- University is also a place for research and inventing- If you hear on the news about studies into new treatments for diseases, technology breakthroughs etc. they may well have been researched at a university.

Why go to University?

Talk about your own personal experience of why you decided to go to university, as well as the reasons on the presentation.

Studying

University is much more independent than at school. You have much more free time and much of the learning can take place outside of the classroom- talk through examples.

Accommodation:

- **Halls of Residence:**
 - Universities have accommodation specifically for students to stay in
 - Choose between: Single/mixed sex flats, en-suite/shared bathroom and catered/self-catered
 - Most students live in Halls of Residence for their first year, it's a great way to meet new people and a very social atmosphere
- **Private Rented:**
 - Most students move out of Halls of Residence after first year and into private accommodation
 - You can choose who you live with, it could be people you've lived with previously, friends from your course, sports teams etc.

Accommodation:

What is University?

• **Staying at Home:**

- Some people prefer to stay at home and commute to university as they would to go to school, college etc.
- This can be a cheaper option as there may be less rent and bills to pay
- There are plenty of opportunities to meet people on your course, at societies etc.

Societies:

- Societies are clubs run by students for students
- They are a great way to meet people with similar interests to you and make new friends
- Students can also create new societies and receive funding from their Student Union for events and activities

Sports:

- There are lots of opportunities to play sport at university
- You could play at elite level and compete against other universities around the country, put together a team with course mates or take up a new sport as a complete novice
- Most universities have gym facilities for students to use at a discounted price

Volunteering:

- There are lots of volunteering opportunities at university
- They are a great way to gain experience, develop skills and boost your CV. Volunteering could help you stand out when you come to apply for a job.
- Opportunities include: Student Ambassador (working for the university on a flexible basis), Radio/TV stations, Student Newspaper, Student Mentor, charity work etc.

Activity 1: Graduate Board Game

- Divide students into groups of approx. 4
- Students will move around the board collecting social, study, finance, living and career cards- each will give the students a real-life university scenario
- When all the cards have been collected, the first person to cross the 'start' square is the winner

Activity 2: Get it Together

- Using the social, study, finance, living and career cards collected in Activity 1, students are to rank the cards in order of what is important to them, using the template on the slide
- Ask students to feedback to the group which issues are most important to them and why, encourage discussion about the pros and cons of the different options

What Next? Terminology

- In pairs students are to create a story about university using the Higher Education Terminology cards.
- Students are to attempt to keep the story going for as long as possible

Optional Homework Task: Students to design their own university and create a poster.