

WARM UP

1 Answer the following questions.

- 1 What would you like to do when you finish high school?
- 2 Are there any career advice services run by your school?
- 3 In your opinion, is it more important to study for a specific job after high school or choose subjects which interest you and widen your cultural knowledge?
- 4 Do you find your teachers or your family more helpful when trying to decide what to do with your future? Why?

GLOSSARY

flagship: *rappresentativo*
premises: *sede*
hub: *fulcro*
achieved: *raggiunto*
requirements: *esigenze*
surrounding: *circostante*

* The word **campus**, which refers to the grounds a university or college is built on, including its libraries, lecture halls, halls of residence and other facilities, comes from the Latin word meaning 'field'. The term was first used in the 18th century to describe part of Princeton University, at that time called the College of New Jersey.

MORE ABOUT...

Oxford University is one of Britain's most famous college campuses, whose stone buildings, are greatly admired for their architectural elegance and tradition which date back to the 11th century. It is in central southern England in the city of Oxford, about 80 km northwest of London. The whole campus is full of stunning archways and quad labyrinths which give it an air of sophistication, and one of the most important buildings is the Radcliffe Science Library constructed in the 1750s.

www.ox.ac.uk



College Campus*



City of Westminster College, London

The new City of Westminster College Campus is a perfect example of how architectural design has been used to create a contemporary and inspiring environment which encourages new teaching and learning methods. Its innovative design not only provides more open spaces for formal and informal learning and interaction compared to traditional colleges in Great Britain, but it also offers state-of-the-art facilities for both students and staff, which make it a flagship campus. The facilities, which emulate real-life work environments and the spaces provided are an inspiration to the students who are not confined to learning within traditional classroom walls. The college offers a variety of courses and it has a diverse student population with over 45% of students speaking English as a second language. Situated in the centre of London, this modern building was built on the site of the old premises which had insufficient space and required extensive renovation work. The new building has simple

geometric forms and at the heart of the scheme is a dynamic inner atrium full of natural light, which gives a sense of unity and flexibility to the college. This central galleried space is the hub of the building, where students can meet and interact in the bright open, and indoor spaces it provides. **These** then lead to adjacent areas providing academic and practical teaching facilities, an open learning centre, meeting rooms and seminar spaces.

Apart from its own unique identity, it was also essential for the Campus to reach out to the city and the rest of the community. This has been successfully achieved by its award-winning Danish architects, who have succeeded in designing a building which is sensitive to the requirements of its surrounding urban environment. It provides areas for the local community, such as an exhibition hall, a theatre and a café, thus creating harmony and flexibility. The building has also been designed to be sustainable and energy efficient, with low maintenance costs.

www.e-architect.co.uk/london/city_westminster_college.htm

READING COMPREHENSION

2 **FCE** Choose the most appropriate option (A, B, C or D) according to what is written in the text.

- In the first paragraph the new building is described as...
 - promoting traditional learning methods in an innovative environment.
 - being an example of innovation and modern ideas for future buildings.
 - having authentic work places where students can learn skills.
 - teaching to a majority of students who are not mother-tongue English speakers.
- What does 'These' (in bold in the text) refer to?
 - The students on the campus.
 - The geometric forms of the building.
 - The spaces created by the atrium.
 - The meeting rooms where students interact.
- What else is said about the campus and its surroundings?
 - It is out of reach of the city.
 - The local people are easily offended.
 - It caters only for the needs of its students.
 - It supplies the local community with facilities.
- Which of the following sentences is not true about the Campus?
 - The ultra-modern facilities are only available to students.
 - Traditional colleges in Britain do not have as much space as this one.
 - The architectural design of the building should help students learn more easily.
 - This new structure has fitted in well with the local community.

VOCABULARY

3 **FCE** Read the text below and follow the example filling in the gaps by transforming the word you find at the end of each line.

Wellesley University, Massachusetts was the *creation* of Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. This liberal arts college for women has a unique sense of (1) _____ probably due to its (2) _____ location on the edge of Lake Waban near Boston. It is part of a group of campuses known as the 'Seven Sisters' and (3) _____ many other university buildings, it integrates (4) _____ with the natural landscape surrounding it and has both (5) _____ and contemporary features. The campus boasts a rich botanical garden complete with stream and waterfall, the perfect (6) _____ for those who wish to study and feel (7) _____ at the same time.

CREATE
SERENE
PEACE
LIKE
BEAUTY
HISTORY
SET
RELAX

WRITING

4 **FCE** You have had a class discussion about going away to university. Your teacher has now asked you to write an essay on the following statement: 'Everybody would like to go away to university rather than staying at home'. Write your essay (120-180 words).

SPEAKING

5 **FCE** Compare the two photos and say what you think a student would enjoy about going to these two different universities.



Oxford University, England



Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, USA