

OXFORD Acad
vocab
practice

3 Match t

- assign
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- present
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Verb
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b Comp
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6 Write a
some of
nouns,

1 University study

Section 1 Academic study

Words to learn

academic **AWL**
assessment **AWL**
assignment **AWL**
coursework

degree
discipline
dissertation
graduate (v)

graduate (n)
lecture **AWL**
PhD
project **AWL**

research proposal
seminar
submit **AWL**
supervisor

Talking about undergraduate study

A When you start your university studies, you are an undergraduate. You study for your first degree or Bachelor's degree.

When you complete your degree, you graduate, usually at a graduation ceremony, and you become a graduate. You normally receive a BA (Bachelor of Arts) or a BSc (Bachelor of Science), depending on your discipline.



Usage note regional differences

The education systems in different countries can be organized quite differently. Be aware of differences in the language used to describe the system and the way people study.

For example, in the US, you can say that someone graduates from high school, but in the UK, you typically only graduate when you finish your first degree at university.

1 Put these events in a logical order. Some events typically happen at the same time.

- EXAMPLE: You are an undergraduate. 1
- 1 You go to your graduation ceremony.
- 2 You graduate from university.
- 3 You study for your first degree.
- 4 You successfully complete your degree.
- 5 You receive your BA or BSc.

2 a Complete the sentences using words from the box.

graduate graduated graduates graduation undergraduates

- 1 I _____ from Nanyang Technological University with a degree in communication studies last year.
- 2 We're having problems recruiting science _____ to become teachers because of the low pay.
- 3 Many first-year _____ are living away from home for the first time.
- 4 A high percentage of students from the course find a job immediately after _____ .
- 5 Many students now _____ with high levels of debt.

b Mark each of the keywords in 2a as a noun (n) or a verb (v).

Talking about postgraduate study

B If you go on to do a master's degree, you usually start off with a taught programme of lectures and seminars. You have to do a lot of reading and you probably have to complete assignments or coursework which you submit to your tutor for assessment. At the end of your master's, you typically write a dissertation.

"Planning a dissertation and the notion of the dissertation itself is a daunting prospect. However, I realized that the fact that I had never previously completed a project of this scale and did not know where to begin were the reasons why I felt overwhelmed. By attending every lecture and completing the seminar tasks, I built up my knowledge. The project then seemed achievable."

Source: student reflective report