

I study at Óbuda University. It is a nice university in Budapest. It has many faculties and schools. I am in the Bánki Donát faculty of mechanical engineering and I am studying to be a mechanical engineer. The university is very difficult so I have to study a lot at home, too. But I am hard-working so I have good results.

I go to school in the morning, have some lessons and come home in the afternoon. Then I relax a little and continue studying. Sometimes I study until midnight because I am such a conscientious student. But at the weekend I go to parties, get drunk and enjoy life.

The teachers are nice, sometimes strict, but fair. I like and respect all the teachers.

My favourite subjects are mathematics and mechanics. We have frequent tests but I prepare for all of them.

However, school life is not all hard work. We have “Bánki Days”. It is a lot of fun.

I went to primary school in Lópikula Street. After finishing primary school, I went to Eötvös József grammar school. I liked it very much. I had to study much but the teachers were good.

I had a lot of fun with my classmates. I studied a great deal but when I didn't know something in tests, I cheated. I used cheat sheets or asked my classmates for help.

Fortunately the teachers did not notice and I didn't do it very often. Our class was good and we took part in competitions too. There was a good atmosphere in the class and we often helped each other with the homework. I specialized in maths and physics because I wanted to be an engineer. These were my favourite subjects. I like mathematics so much that in primary school I read mathematics books and did mathematics exercises in my free time.

There are three kinds of secondary schools in Hungary. Secondary grammar schools, vocational secondary schools and special schools (for the weaker students). In grammar schools, students study many different subjects and often at a higher level because grammar schools prepare students for university—most grammar school students apply to university. In vocational secondary schools, students learn many general knowledge subjects but not as many as in grammar schools. Vocational secondary schools prepare students for a profession. They do not give full training, just some preparation or “orientation”, so after a vocational secondary school you need additional vocational training to get a vocational qualification. Many students apply to a technical university after a vocational secondary school. Special schools are for students who are weaker and cannot get into a vocational secondary school or a grammar school.

After secondary school, you can go to university. You can study many different things at universities. There is basic training at universities, which usually lasts for three years. After basic training, you can get a Bachelor's degree. Then, you can do a master's course. It usually lasts 2 years. At the end, you can get a master's degree. Some jobs require a bachelor's degree but some jobs require a master's degree. If a master's degree is not enough, you can go to a PhD course, which is usually 3 years. For example, if you want to teach at a university, you will need a PhD degree. I don't think a PhD degree is necessary for someone to be a good university teacher but I did not make this strange rule. ☺

It is difficult for teachers to test the students' knowledge. There are several ways to do this, for example written tests, oral tests, continuous evaluation or a project at the end of the term. In primary school, pupils have written tests several times during a year and sometimes they have oral tests. In some schools, they even have an exam at the end of the year or semester. In secondary schools, students are tested with the same methods. At universities, students

have written and oral exams at the end of each semester. There are some written tests during a semester, too, called “zéhá”.

It is best if we learn new things all through our lives. This is called lifelong learning. You can learn new things in a school or on your own. If you don't go to school, you can read books, look at webpages, instructional videos, or a friend can teach you. If you exercise your mind, you will become senile later.