

EDUCATION

5 LISTENING

a Look at this extract from a TV guide and the photo and answer the questions.

8.00 That'll Teach 'Em

Final part of the six-part series following a group of modern 16-year-old school children in a 1950s boarding school. This week: Exams!



1 What do you think the idea of the programme was? To compare *education today and 50s*

2 Which of these things do you think pupils hated the most?

- the food
- wearing a uniform
- not being able to watch TV
- going for cross-country runs
- not being able to use mobiles
- having cold showers (girls)
- having a lot of homework

3 What do you think the discipline was like? How do you think the children were punished for behaving badly? ↗ caned ↗ stay longer ↗ strict / silence

4 Do you think the pupils did well or badly when they took 1950s exams? *badly. Most failed. Only one passed*

5 4.7 Listen to a TV critic talking about the programme *That'll Teach 'Em*. Check your answers to a. Were you surprised?

6 Listen again and mark the sentences T (true) or F (false).

- 1 16 children took part in the experiment. F 30
- 2 They didn't have to sleep at the school. F boarding
- 3 The uniforms were not very comfortable. T
- 4 They had to stay inside the school grounds all the time. T
- 5 The children weren't allowed to talk during the classes. T
- 6 They really missed being able to use computers and calculators. F
- 7 They thought the classes were boring. F
- 8 Exams today are easier than in the 1950s. F diff, not necessarily easier
- 9 The children failed because they weren't intelligent enough. F exams different <only one passed all subjects>
- 10 Most of the children enjoyed the experiment. T some best marks

7 Do you think school exams in your country are easier than they used to be?

6 SPEAKING

a In groups, each choose one different topic from the list below. Decide if you agree or disagree, and write down at least three reasons.

Private schools are usually better than state schools.

All schools should let children wear whatever they want at school.

Cooking and housework should be taught at all schools.

Physical education should be optional.

Girls study better without boys in the class.

School summer holidays should be shorter.

Boys study better in a mixed class.

b Explain to the rest of your group what you think about your topic. The others in the group should listen and say if they agree or disagree with you and why.

Useful language

First of all...

My first point is that...

Secondly...

Another important point is that...

Finally...