

Do the preparation task first. Then read the article and do the exercises to check your understanding.

Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–f next to the numbers 1–6.

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|---|---|
| 1..... a pupil | a. to not go to school, even though you don't have permission to miss it |
| 2..... a contract | b. a penalty that is given to somebody who did something bad |
| 3..... a punishment | c. a schoolboy or schoolgirl |
| 4..... to play truant | d. not serious or important |
| 5..... trivial | e. to go to a judge because somebody has done something that hurt or harmed you |
| 6..... to take legal action
(against somebody) | f. a document that you sign when you agree to do something |

1. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

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|--|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Pupils are allowed to play truant. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 2. Cheating in exams is not seen as bad behaviour in the UK. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 3. Teachers can hit pupils to punish them in Britain. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 4. Lines and detention can be given at the same time. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 5. Freya MacDonald said 'no' to detention at her school. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 6. All schools in Britain now give parents a home/school contract to sign. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |

2. Check your vocabulary: grouping

Write the words in the correct group below.

writing lines	detention	exclusion	swearing
suspension	hitting	not doing homework	bullying

Bad behaviour	Punishments

3. Check your grammar: gap fill

Write the -ing form of the verb.

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|----------|-------|----------|-------|
| 1. smoke | | 5. write | |
| 2. swear | | 6. hit | |
| 3. cheat | | 7. wear | |
| 4. run | | 8. give | |

Discussion

How is the discipline in your school?

How does your school deal with discipline problems?

Have you ever been punished at school?