



- ▶ Describe the pictures. What kind of post-school option does each one show?
- ▶ What are the differences between the pictured future choices?
- ▶ What are the advantages and disadvantages of each choice?
- ▶ Which of the pictures is closest to your own plans? In what way and why?

DISCUSSION

What is most important about education? Broadening your understanding, preparing for the workplace, or something else? Why?

What do you think are the pros and cons of going straight into further education as opposed to working or travelling?

Have you ever discussed university with people who went there? What about people who took a gap year to travel or volunteer, or went straight into work from school? How have their experiences affected your own thinking?

What are your own plans or hopes? What do you have to achieve to make those into reality? What are your fall-back plans?

JUST IMAGINE

You are going to take part in a school debating competition. The debate motion (= topic) is "Every student should try to go on to further education after school." You don't know which side of the debate you will be on – the people "for" and "against" the subject will be chosen by a coin toss. You need to prepare for the debate by thinking of arguments for both sides. What arguments can you think of for why every student *should* try to go on to further education? What arguments can you think of *against* that?

DATA MINER

23% of EU citizens believe that their education or training did not give them the skills to find a job that matches their qualifications.

The number of Europeans who live and work in another European country doubled from 2003 to 2018, to **4.8%** of the working-age population.

From: *People in the EU: who are we and how do we live?*, a Eurostat publication

QUOTES

"I will get my education – if it is in home, school, or anyplace."

Malala Yousafzai
activist

"When a subject becomes totally obsolete, we make it a required course."

Peter Drucker
educator

"An education isn't how much you have committed to memory. It's being able to differentiate between what you know and what you don't."

Anatole France
poet

WORD BANK

primary, secondary, tertiary education / ongoing education / STEM subjects [science, technology, engineering and mathematics] / academic subjects / a major (subject) / to major in (main subject) / a minor (subject) / to minor in (secondary subject) / remote learning / employment / career / university / college / vocational education / gap year / degree / Bachelor's degree (BA, BSc, etc.) / Master's degree (MA, MSc etc.) / doctorate (PhD, DPhil, MD etc.) / to leave school / to graduate / to pass/fail exams / to drop out / reskilling / upskilling / apprenticeship / a scholarship / (school) fees / a student loan