

School and Uni Study – What's the Difference?

SCHOOL

UNIVERSITY

Most of the day spent in the classroom doing formal study set by the teacher.

Lectures and tutorials only take up part of the day. The rest of your study time you must organise yourself.

The ratio of schoolwork to homework is about two to one (two hours of schoolwork requires about one hour of homework).

Ratio of private study to class work is about one to two/three (one hour in lectures or tutorials requires two to three hours of private study).

You have classes with a teacher on most days of the week. The teachers know you personally. They often follow up if you are not doing homework or submitting assignments.

Lectures and tutorials often occur only once a week. Lecture groups may be very large. No one checks if you have done any study. If you are having difficulties, it is up to you to contact the tutor or lecturer.

Teachers organise your work. They guide your reading and may provide outline notes on the most important points in the subject.

You are required to work independently. You may be given a reading list but you also have to search for relevant material in the library.

Teachers may provide outline notes which emphasise the important points to learn in the subject.

You have to identify and make notes on the main points in lectures and readings.

Teachers set and correct homework frequently. Assignments are given only shortly before they are due.

Assignments are not as frequent but may be much longer. They are usually set at the beginning of the semester.

