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## The impact of the English-speaking countries' education system on the Russian education system

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### Abstract

After the collapse of the USSR and Russia's accession to the WTO, important changes began to occur in the Russian educational system. This is due to the integration in the field of economic cooperation and cultural exchanges between countries, to the leadership of English-speaking countries on the global economic and political stage. All states, including Russia, are obliged to keep pace, to adapt to the ever-evolving world, to embrace the experience of developing the different spheres of life of world leaders. In consequence, the Russian educational system was reformed. The schoolchildren and pupils of today are the future support of our country, they will determine its future economic and political structure, the well-being of the population. Therefore, the state pays such great attention to the education of modern youth, seeks to modernize it, introduces new disciplines that meet the modern needs of society, corresponds to current trends, identifies gifted and talented children, and creates conditions for their full development. What exactly did Russia adopt of anglophone countries and what has been preserved since the Soviet Union. The relevance of this topic is determined by cardinal changes, integration, and globalization of education, the emergence of new ways of teaching and knowledge control, around which a huge number of discussions are flaring up.

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### Keywords

Education, globalization, different education systems, similarities and differences, reforms, the influence of English-speaking countries, innovations, digitalization of education.

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«Не нужно доказывать, что образование – самое великое благо для человека. Без образования люди и грубы, и бедны, и несчастны».

Николай Чернышевский

## Introduction

The Soviet education system in official documents has been called the State education system. From the outset of its creation, the main objective was to prepare children, schoolchildren and students for life in a communist society based on the ideology of the state at the time. The main task of every stage of education in the USSR is to create an ideal member of the workers' community, able to lead his country to a "bright future". These demands of the Soviet educational system were subject to the formation of students in each of the educational disciplines.

What has been the impact of the Soviet educational system on English-speaking countries? To answer this question, it is necessary to study the educational systems of the USSR, modern Russia and the West. There is a need to compare the level of education; the performance of students before and after western countries have started to influence the education system in the Russian Federation. Second, it is necessary to conclude the advantages and disadvantages of the influence of the anglophone countries on the education system in Russia, their necessity or their uselessness.

## Discussion

The children went to high school for 10 years. If the training was not carried out in Russian, the period of study was increased by one year. There was a division: primary schools (grades 1-3(4), 8-year-old schools (grades 1-8), and high schools (grades 1-10(11)).

The school year in schools traditionally begins on September 1 and ends, including examinations and practices, in grades 1-7 on May 30, in grade 8 on June 10, in grades 9-10 (11) on June 25. According to the decision of the Ministry of Education of the Union Republic, in schools with ten years of study, where teaching is not conducted in the Russian language, the academic year may be extended, but not for more than a week.

The lesson lasted 45 minutes, breaks lasted 10-20 minutes, there was also one big break, which lasted 30 minutes. In addition, certain restrictions were set on the maximum number of teaching hours and it was allowed to issue homework only in such a volume that schoolchildren could complete it at a certain time, set depending on the age category of students.

The scoring system was five points (5 – excellent, 1 – very bad), and in some subjects, schools were allowed to place "credited" or "not credited".

In classes 8 and 10 (11), mandatory final examinations are drawn up. In classes 4, 5, 6, 7, 9 (10), by a decision of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of the Union, transfer examinations may be established.

Schools had only one compulsory form of dress.

Based on amateur activity, he was permitted to set up various circles, clubs, and other student associations.

The formation of the USSR was based on the following principles: encyclopedic knowledge achieved through the synchronization of data obtained during the study of each of the disciplines, and as well as versatile development, a huge motivation of students to study and respect for teachers, their professional activities.

The Soviet schoolteacher had a high social status. Teachers were respected and dealt with as valuable and socially meaningful work. Films were made about the school; songs were written, portraying teachers as intelligent, honest and very moral people who need to be admired. Teaching was considered an honor. In Russia, the levels of general education are: preschool, primary (grades 1 to 4), elementary (grades 5 to 9) and secondary (grades 10 to 11).

There are state and private schools.

At Russian educational institutions, the workload is quite high (up to 7 lessons a day, each lesson lasts 45 minutes). The academic year starts on September 1 and ends at the end of May.

In Russia, education can be obtained:

- 1) in organizations involved in education activities;
- 2) outside organizations participating in educational activities (in the form of family education and self-education) [Modern education system in Russia, www].

Educational institutions are allowed to set certain requirements for students' clothing.

From the ninth year until the end of their studies, students take special electives to prepare for the state exams. After grade 9, students pass the OGE, which includes math, Russian language, and two other subjects that can be selected independently. Upon completion of the 11th grade, for admission to the university, it is necessary to successfully pass the Unified State Exam, which includes mathematics and the Russian language as compulsory subjects, as well as those two disciplines that are required for admission to an educational institution.

Many aspects of the present education system provide an opportunity for discussion. The largest number of disputes arise because of the introduction of new state examinations instead of those which existed in the Soviet era.

Today, there is widespread condemnation of the introduction of a single state examination. Teachers do not get tired of repeating that preparation for the unified state exam leads to training, devaluation of oral answers, and poor grades obtained on the exam generate deep stresses in schoolchildren [Sovremennaya sistema obrazovaniya v Rossii, www].

The United States is one of the first countries with respect to the quality of education.

The particularity of the American educational system is that it is not centrally controlled, but at the level of individual states. The federal government only funds publicly funded schools.

The concept of education in the USA is created on the principle of liberal arts, involving a personal choice by students of their life priorities and independent responsibility for their actions. Even by attending school, Americans can study the academic disciplines they will need to get their future profession.

In the United States, the assessment scheme is alphabetical, 5 points. A is the highest point, F is the lowest point. The symbols P (set-off) and N (non-set-off) are also used.

In the United States, there are free public schools and pay-per-view private schools, which have a higher level of education.

In the majority of schools, studies begin in late August-early September, and the length of the school year ranges from 170 to 186 days. The school week in the USA is 5 days. The school day lasts between five and six o'clock. The length of the lesson is 30-45 minutes, the breaks last for 2-5 minutes, the midday break lasts half an hour.

Education at a US school consists of two stages: primary and secondary.

Primary school is mandatory. The study period is five years: from the first to the fifth year. All students are divided into classes based on the IQ level test scores, considering their mental abilities. The program includes subjects such as reading, writing and arithmetic. Less attention is paid to other scientific fields.

Secondary education in the United States is divided into two grades: undergraduate and graduate high schools.

Middle School (College) lasts 3 years, from Grade 6 to Grade 8. Mandatory subjects include English, mathematics, natural and social sciences, and physical education. Also, in secondary school, classes are trained with extensive study of certain subjects.

By the end of the 8th year, students transfer to a secondary school (High School), where they are taught compulsory for all disciplines and independently selected. High school lasts four years, from Grade 9 to Grade 12.

Some schools in the United States have grade 13, the so-called advanced placement program. It may be attended by those who wish to study more deeply the disciplines which will be specialized in the university [Osobennosti sistemy obrazovaniya v SShA, [www](#)].

Upon completion of secondary school, students write the final Scholastic Aptitude Test - SAT I or SAT II. SAT I is passed by those who will enter colleges or universities of secondary level, and SAT II is necessary for those who are going to enter the best universities in the country.

The concept of British education has been in place for some time. Today, it is the standard for quality education.

The education program in the United Kingdom is governed by the state. At the same time, there are both types of public (public) and private (independent or private) schools. Residential schools (Boarding Schools), where students live throughout the school year, are also very common.

In the UK there is a wide variety of types of schools, which differ in forms of education, educational burden and educational profiles, as well as by gender. students' belongings.

The knowledge of the students is evaluated in accordance with the A-U system. Score A – excellent, like a ruler, is very rare. B – very good, C – good, D – normal or not quite successful, E – bad, F – terrible or very bad, N – not certified, U – failure (unclassified) [Sistema obrazovaniya v Velikobritanii, [www](#)].

The school year in the United Kingdom is divided into semesters. It runs from September 1 until June 30.

Elementary school is attended by children aged 5 to 11. At the age of 9-10, the emphasis is on self-study, and attention is given to preparing for GCSE (General Certificate of Secondary Education). Students study basic and a little unusual discipline (e.g., Latin). Significant attention is given to art-related topics. Flow division is practiced, in which a group of students from different classes with a similar degree of capacity is created for a lesson in the subject.

After elementary school, students continue their high school education until the age of 16. The last two years of study are spent on the preparation of the GSCE.

After receiving a secondary school certificate, you can take an academic course and take vocational training at college or secondary school.

Those who want to become university students at the age of 16 begin preparing for the AS qualification exams. In the first year of study, level A1 reviews are taken, and after the second – A2-levels. The AS grades are an introduction to universities in the UK [The future of jobs report, 2018].

#### **Similarities and differences of education systems in the USSR, Russia and English-speaking countries**

<b>Reasons for comparison</b>	<b>USSR</b>	<b>Russia</b>	<b>USA</b>	<b>Great Britain</b>
Grading system	5-point	5-point	5-point, Alphabetic	8-point, Alphabetic

Reasons for comparison	USSR	Russia	USA	Great Britain
Duration of the training	10 (11) years	11 years	12 (13) years	13 years
Length of the academic year	1 September - May/June	1 September - end of May	End of August/beginning of September - beginning of June	September 1 - June 30
Duration of the school week	6 дней	6 дней	5 дней	5 дней
Duration of the school day	6 hours	7-8 hours	5-6 hours	7 hours
School uniform	Single, compulsory in all schools	Not compulsory in all educational institutions	Compulsory in all educational institutions	Compulsory in all educational institutions
Finals	In 8 and 10(11) compulsory final exams	OGE after grade 9 and EGE after grade 11	Final exam	GCSE - after secondary school, A-levels - for admission to higher education
Curriculum development	Centrally	Centrally	Decentralized	Decentralized
Availability of private schools	no	yes	yes	yes
School entrance age	7 years	6-7 years	5 years	5 years
School leaving age	17 years	17-18 years	17-18 years	16-18 years

So, based on the data given in the table, we can conclude what has been preserved in the Russian education system since the days of the USSR, and what has undergone modifications and has become similar to English-speaking countries.

From the Soviet Union, Russia maintained a five-point system for assessing knowledge, the length of the school week, centralized state control over the education system, the age of entry and exit from school. The duration of the academic year remained similar, slightly lower.

The innovations adopted in English-speaking countries have been the abolition of mandatory school uniforms following the example of the United States and the creation of state exams in the final classes in the format of testing. Following the example of the UK, where an increase in the length of the school day was also adopted, the burden on students increased. Moreover, in Russia, as well as public schools, private schools have appeared.

The duration of the training course in modern Russia is also different from that in the USSR, but it does not coincide with the UK or the USA, so it is a compromise a variant between the vestiges of the past and innovation.

## Conclusion

The English-speaking countries did influence the present concept of Russian education. However, it is rather difficult to provide a proper and specific evaluation of this impact. Some of the changes make sense as they help Russia to develop, keep pace, and to be a worthy competitor in the international economic and political sphere. However, other innovations, on the contrary, complicated the learning process and degraded the quality of the knowledge acquired. The Russian education system is not

perfect at the moment, there is still a lot of work to be done to create an ideal concept of education, but now all school students need to realize the importance of quality education and self-education, strive to gain as much knowledge and skills as possible, constantly improve in any field of activity. With the latest information methods, the scientific and educational process has started to take on completely new colors. The Internet has become one of the most important reserves in providing information for graduate students, teachers, as well as for a wide range of people who want to change their Specialty or acquire an auxiliary education in a particular field. Digitization has altered the structure of education, but we cannot say that it has diminished the importance of our previous teaching in the classroom. And, we don't want anything very valuable to be reduced to dust. The best part of analog teaching in the 21st century is that it aligns with the two components: classroom learning and the principles of e-learning. What is the future of the educational system? How will globalization affect the educational concept in our country? These issues are of concern to many people whose professional activities are connected with training.

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## **Влияние системы образования англоязычных стран на систему образования России**

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### **Аннотация**

После распада СССР и вступления России в ВТО стали происходить значительные изменения в российской системе образования. Это обусловлено интеграцией в сфере экономического сотрудничества и культурного обмена между странами, лидерством англоязычных стран на мировой экономической и политической арене. Все государства, в том числе и Россия, вынуждены идти в ногу со временем, подстраиваться под постоянно меняющийся мир, перенимая опыт развития различных сфер жизни у стран – мировых лидеров. Этим обусловлены реформы в российской системе образования. Нынешние школьники и студенты являются будущей опорой нашего государства, именно они будут определять его будущее экономическое и политическое устройство, благополучие населения. Поэтому государство уделяет такое большое внимание образованию современной молодежи, стремится модернизировать его, ввести новые дисциплины, отвечающие современным потребностям общества, соответствующие сегодняшним тенденциям, выявить одаренных и талантливых детей, создать условия для их полноценного развития. Что конкретно Россия переняла у англоязычных стран, а что сохранилось со времен Советского Союза? Актуальность этой темы определена кардинальными изменениями, интеграцией и глобализацией образования, появлением новых способов обучения и контроля знаний, вокруг которых разгорается огромное количество дискуссий.

### **Для цитирования в научных исследованиях**

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**Ключевые слова**

Образование, глобализация, разные системы образования, сходства и различия, реформы, влияние англоязычных стран, инновации, цифровизация образования.

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