

CHOOSING YOUR 'TOP FIVE'

LESSON OBJECTIVES:

- To explore the different university options
- To discuss choosing an appropriate course at uni.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

- PowerPoint slides

WHEN IS THIS RESOURCE TO BE USED?

These activities can be used anytime to suit your students.

We find that form/tutor time is a good opportunity to share advice with students. These resources are designed to fill 20 minutes, and can be used as one-off activities, or as part of a series of activities.

STARTER:

Two truths and a lie activity – Get students to guess which of the statements is a 'lie' (i.e. not true). Read through the information about UCAS, and visit the homepage, to ensure students are familiar with the website.

SUGGESTED TIMES:

2 min^S

MAIN:

Slide 6&7: Talk through the facts – Make sure students are aware that they get up to 5 university choices (point out the exceptions on the slide).

Slide 8: Pair discussion – In pairs, get students to discuss the 4 questions to consider when choosing a course. You may like to talk to your students about the course you studied at university, and why you came to the decision you did. You don't always need to have a career in mind, but it helps to be studying something you enjoy.

Slide 9&10: Information about uni options – There are lots of things to think about when choosing a university and a course. Slide 9 introduces some things to think about. You might like to ask students if they have been to any open days, or visited any universities yet (perhaps with friends or older siblings). Slide 10 offers suggestions for how to choose a university based on entry requirements.

3 mins

7 mins

5 mins

PLENARY:

There's a handout available for students to help guide their decision making. You could give this to students now. Open Days are the best way to get a feel for what universities are really like. You might like to finish the session by looking on the Open Days website to see if there are any open days coming up, and encouraging Open Day attendance: <https://www.opendays.com>

3 mins

EXTENSION:

At the University of Reading we offer a lot of virtual activity to help students feel well prepared about their choices: www.reading.ac.uk/outreach. Students can explore the opportunities online to develop their ideas for their own futures.