

Studying the sciences – sharing experiences

Pre-task:

Have a look at the word cloud below, which consists of science-related terms. Discuss which of the terms are relevant to the area of science that you are studying.

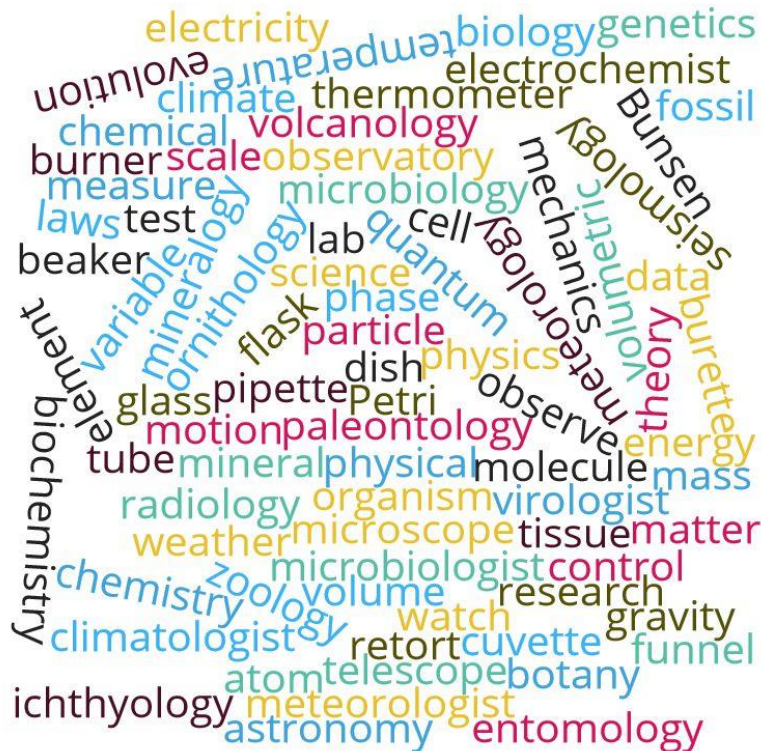


Image 1

Task 1:

Describe to each other your university course, discussing the following questions:

- What does studying your area/branch of science entail?
- In which areas can you specialise? What are you specialising in or what would you like to specialise in?
- Is your subject more theoretical or applied science?
- Does it involve field or lab work?
- What types of lectures does your degree entail? Where are they given? Do you work with special equipment?
- Is it a popular subject at your university?
- What is the ratio of female to male students?



Image 2

Task 2:

Compare the following aspects of science between your universities and/or the countries you come from:

- What is the reputation of science students?
- Are there any schemes to promote women in science?
- Are there any initiatives to support the so-called STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) subjects?
- Are there any universities with a particular focus on the sciences?

Follow-up activity:

Click this [link](#) to read more about the popularity of STEM subjects in the UK and tell your tandem partner in your next session what you have learned or found interesting.

Sources

- Image 1 Created using www.wordclouds.com
Image 2 College of Humanities, University of Exeter
Link 1 <https://www.theguardian.com/higher-education-network/blog/2014/apr/10/more-students-accepted-onto-stem-courses-hefce-report>