

PODCAST ACTIVITY

COLLEGE IN THE USA

*Note: The words "college" and "university" are used interchangeably in the United States.

Vocabulary Notes

Expressions

Pronunciation notes

Audio Transcription

*Do you want to go to college in the United States? There are a few basic **yet** important things that you should know about **attending** a college or a university in the U.S.**

*First, most colleges **require** students to pay **tuition**. While a college education in other countries might be free or offered **at a low cost**, in the United States tuition for a full year of college can cost between \$5000 to \$50,000 a year. Most students have to take out **loans** to pay for their education; however, some financial help is available **through** scholarships and grants.*

~~Between quotations~~ : “Quote-unquote”

LOAN ≠ Low ≠ lawn

Tree people ≠ Three people - Turd ≠ Third

Businesses biggy

Some schools **require** students to live on campus. Students who live on campus live in residence halls or dormitories. They share a room with one or more students. They also share **bathroom** facilities. Students eat **together** in large dining **halls** that provide a wide variety of food choices. Most dining halls are **all-you-can-eat**, so **no one leaves hungry**.

Off James' book. Off = away Outside

Some students live **off** campus in apartment buildings, or they rent houses. Other students live in **fraternity** or **sorority** houses. Fraternities and sororities are college organizations that attract students with special interests in **particular** areas of study; however, the main purpose for fraternities and sororities is activity. They are **well-known** **for** hosting special events, fundraisers, and parties.

Funder <- Fund ≠ found -> founder ≠ finder (find)

The first year of college is called **freshman** year. A freshman is usually 18 or 19 years old and away from home for the first time.

Main year, manner, freshman = fish

Freshman students take general courses intended to **provide** a **solid** foundation for the academic courses that they take in the following three years.

The second year of college is called **sophomore** year. Sophomores take general courses while considering a **narrower focus** on courses that are **related** to a particular **major**. A major is the main area of study that provides preparation for a career. Majors are offered for many different fields: art, economics, business, education, history, philosophy, architecture, computer sciences, and so on. A large university is very likely to offer a major that can **match a student's interests**.

The third year of college, **junior** year, and the fourth year of college, **senior** year, are focused almost **entirely** on a student's major. By this time, he or she knows which academic area is the best **fit**. After graduation, students can enter directly into a career or they may **attend** graduate school to pursue an advanced degree.

Although it's expensive to attend college, the costs are well **worth it**. Some say this is the best time in a person's life because young people are so **open-minded** and **eager** to take advantage of the opportunities offered by a college education. They meet people who have similar interests

and they learn how to focus on achieving success. Anyone with enough ambition and a strong desire to learn may fulfill his or her academic and personal goals at an American college.