

Научно-исследовательская работа

Английский язык

OXBRIDGE – IN THE HEART OF POSH

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Introduction

The author chose the topic of the Oxbridge union «Oxbridge - in the heart of posh» because the theme of education is one of the most relevant right now. Oxbridge is known for providing its students with the highest quality of education. Education and career path is what concerns me and other people of the twenty-first century.

The subject of the research is Oxbridge and the peculiarities of education in it and to compare two of the most well-known universities Oxford and Cambridge.

The subject also covers the sources of the two universities, to learn more about Oxbridge and how do they teach their students, investigating the advantages and disadvantages of the learning process. The issue is the Oxbridge effect and how it affect the students.

The method of my research is theoretical, gathering information from different resources and analyzing it. Due to the method of my research being theoretical we have explored a lot of websites aiming to learn more about the Oxbridge. The information gathered in this way was taken from the authentic resources.

The author wants to dedicate my work to analyzing the reasons for the creation of the Oxbridge union, the effect that Oxbridge has on society, the unique characteristics of learning there.

The purpose of the work is to study the history of the creation of the Oxbridge union, advantages and disadvantages of studying at Oxbridge, the phenomenon of the Oxbridge effect.

The word «Oxbridge» is a merger of words Oxford and Cambridge. Those two universities are ones of the best in the world.

The colleges of Oxford and Cambridge formed the Oxbridge union together during the Medieval times.

It is basically a set of buildings, which form a small self-enclosed community.

The Oxford Union began in Oxford in 1096, with the aim to spark a light on whatever their intellectual and curious students want to, providing them with the experience, they could not get anywhere else.

The author thinks, students come to Oxbridge to improve their erudition about subjects they are already keen on or to spark interest in a completely new area of knowledge. Oxbridge provides them with the opportunity to explore their chosen topic as it would be taught at university.

The advantageous association of Oxbridge gives its members the opportunities to enjoy meeting their heroes and have conversations with them. The Oxbridge union allows you to use their recreational facilities such as a snooker room, frequent socials and termly Union Ball offer members a vibrant inter-college community.

As far as we know, according to the Oxbridge`s traditions every student can take part in such unique events as matriculation (when you officially join the university), graduation, and formal dinners. This gives students the opportunity to make useful connections for further career growth.

An Oxbridge Academy education travels beyond the classroom, using everything that can make lessons more interesting, Oxbridge students talk about real life problems and how to solve them. Developing critical thinking in students is one of the most important skills to study at Oxbridge.

Inside or outside of the classroom through academics, sports, and community involvement, the Oxbridge is extra-ordinary, interactive, adaptable, relevant, and anything but common. There are also more than 40 clubs which can reflect every student's interest and passions.

It is a captivating educational system that is why the author wrote an essay about it.

Chapter 1 « The reasons for creating the Oxbridge union »

We would like to start with a little comparison between two of the UK's greatest universities.

The University of Oxford supposedly started in 1133. The university is known to be in existence for approximately 915 years ago.

It is one of the oldest British universities' unions and one of the world's most prestigious private students' societies.

Whereas the University of Cambridge was founded in 1209 and has existed for about 813 years.

The University of Cambridge's 13th-century founding was largely inspired by an association of scholars then who fled the University of Oxford for Cambridge following the *suspendium clericorium* (hanging of the scholars) in a dispute with local townspeople.

Oxford University and Cambridge University require students to apply to a particular major or course, which they are interested in, and which cannot be changed.

For the most popular courses, students are also required to sit an admissions test. The University of Oxford is located in Oxford City, on The Thames River, 80 km northwest of London. The University of Cambridge is located in Cambridge, England.

In contrast to Cambridge University, Oxford University is a private university, but it is regarded a national institution.

Like Cambridge, the academic year in Oxford is subdivided into three terms called Michaelmas (October to December; Hilary, January to March; and Trinity Term - April to June).

As far as we can tell, many elements in the history of these two universities are similar: ancient history, they are both located in prestigious areas, impeccable reputation, many educational opportunities that they provide to their students, the same division of the academic year. Both universities are prestigious, elite and authoritative.

The Oxbridge Union was founded in 1823 to promote free speech at a time when Oxford University prevented students from discussing certain subjects. Today, The Oxbridge Union continues to operate as an independent organization.

The term 'Oxbridge' is used to refer to the colleges that make up the ancient universities of the University of Oxford and the University of Cambridge, two of the most prestigious universities in the UK.

Oxbridge's main goal is to provide brilliant and intellectually curious students with a learning opportunity that they could not get anywhere else.

The Oxbridge Union now is giving over 150 courses in five cities: Oxford, Cambridge, Paris, Barcelona and New York.

The union was created to perfectly educate the students and help them develop in the direction they have chosen, combine all the advantages of both universities, create a universal educational platform, a community in which every student could develop their talent to perfection.

Students often have to work extremely hard to get the best grades and have been challenged in an academic and friendly way.

For Oxbridge the next step is to give students access to equal opportunities after they leave, social capital as well as educational capital, so networks, grants for internships.

All of the above are inherent benefits of being educated at Oxbridge.

Chapter 2 « The Oxbridge effect »

The Oxbridge effect has many components. One of them is well-known myths. We need to break some of the most common myths. Debunking misinformation is challenging and important because of the backfire effect, so we will take a look at some myths and core facts.

One of the most common myths is that Oxbridge interview questions are obscure. We understand, what caused this myth to spread. It probably began because someone was asked something vague, unclear as they had it on their personal statement and it escalated to pretty peculiar questions. One of the most important thing for selection is good pre-interview information.

Actually, Oxbridge interviews will focus on medicine, things in your personal statement and things you have studied at school.

Another common myth is that universities communicate students` performance in interview with each other. People assume each University can see where you have applied.

In fact, students should not be nervous if one goes badly, it would not influence their chances at another institute.

Similar myths often arise around well-known educational structures. The rise of the common myths is also a ripple effect, a consequence of Oxbridge`s popularity. Thus we can call such myths a part of the Oxbridge effect.

The Oxbridge effect is also the effect on the society caused by the graduates of Oxbridge.

The Oxbridge effect is the belief that being educated at universities of Oxford and Cambridge can lead to an almost guaranteed acceptance into a career of one`s choice. That is why such myths arise, students are extremely worried, anxious about entering Oxbridge, as this can become a failure or a success of their whole life.

An integral part of the Oxbridge effect is teachers. Educators are the most important factor when we talk about the quality of education and Oxbridge has one of the best qualified specialists.

Actually, the reason why does the Oxbridge effect exists is the students. Successful students have great academic achievements, they write well, they understand the most difficult texts, and they perform the most extraordinary works. Oxbridge students are studying a whole range of subjects at every level. The two universities are well respected in many of the arts and humanities along with medicine, sciences and engineering.

The Oxbridge effect is a collective concept: myths about university admissions related to the student`s anxiety before the admission, the belief that being educated at Oxbridge can lead to a guaranteed successful career path, the best qualified educators, prosperous, hardworking and talented students.

Chapter 3 « Advantages and disadvantages of the Oxbridge union »

In this chapter we would like to talk about the advantages and disadvantages of the Oxbridge union.

One of the most important advantages is that students are surrounded by a huge variety of the smartest and most influential people in the world, so they can get noticed and top employers will hire them in the future.

Oxbridge courses are designed to give bright and enthusiastic students a university-level introduction to topics about which they are passionate. Whether in the classroom, on the stage, or on the field Oxbridge students learn to win with grace, grow from their challenges, and always support each other. Oxbridge is not an extension to school, it has extraordinary methods to teach students, it is very effective

and guarantees students the work of their dreams. Oxbridge graduates have extraordinary skills in the area of writing and discipline of working, this may help them in their future job.

The surroundings are very significant for students. Oxbridge classes take place in world-famous labs and in some of the world's greatest museums and galleries: the Museum of Modern Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Louvre.

Oxbridge spotlights debating skills, writing and inventing skills. During the lessons, students often debate for the sake of science, they solve important problems and develop their critical thinking.

Oxbridge is dedicated to the well-being of its participants, they can establish a nurturing and have a supervised environment in general. Programs take place in secure residences, situated in safe neighborhoods, with 24-hour security and medical support.

Oxbridge offers a broad range of program categories, including educational travel, language immersion, career exploration, study abroad, service-learning, sports, and performing arts travel.

Now it's time to talk about the disadvantages of studying at Oxbridge. Opposite to what most people believe, Oxbridge cannot provide you with high quality education in every subject that you choose. The number of provided professions is limited.

The second problem of Oxbridge is huge gaps in knowledges of their students. On the tutorials some students may think that this was to get rid of the misunderstandings, while others were gaining new knowledge. This rat race may lead to some problems about the student`s role in the future.

Another disadvantage that we would stress about Oxbridge - the entire degree depends on final year exams.

Entry requirements for Oxford and Cambridge – jointly referred to as Oxbridge – are high. As for the admission procedure, it is too hard for newcomers because of the strict deadlines. In most universities, students apply by 15 October, compared to 25 January.

When it comes to exams Oxbridge does not provide the students with any kind of support which makes it even more stressful for students when they apply for the studies in Oxbridge, considering that students should expect a minimum of one essay assignment a week, we can say, that lack of support is a big problem. Some unfortunate students who did not study in private schools and have the averaged level of knowledges are poorly accepted in Oxbridge.

Some feel that its highly accelerated timescale (can you really read and digest three or four books in a week?) places unrealistic expectations on the students and is detrimental to the quality of the finished product. As we have mentioned earlier, students have huge gaps in knowledges between each other. Also, the “sink or swim” system may not be comfortable for some students.

Nothing in this world is ideal, including Oxbridge. Regardless of the advantages and disadvantages of studying at Oxbridge many people still apply there because Oxbridge is portrayed as a university of luxury for successful people.

Conclusion

In conclusion, we would like to sum everything up.

In the research we have compared to each other two of the most prestigious universities in Britain and said why the union of Oxbridge was created in the first chapter.

In the second chapter we have explained what is the Oxbridge effect, the consequences of it and its peculiarities.

In the last chapter we have told about the advantages and disadvantages of Oxbridge.

With all this information we can make our mind up on would we recommend studying there or not.

In point of fact, it depends on how mobile you are when it comes to the question of education. Like we said earlier, you have to be good at reading books and consuming a lot of information. So, if you cannot do that, then you neither need to learn how or just give up and go to the other university.

Oxbridge has those unique advantages that other universities do not have. If you are hardworking enough, not afraid of challenges, determined to reach heights in your chosen career path, then Oxbridge is just for you.

We believe that despite Oxbridge`s disadvantages, you should overcome all the difficulties on your way to get the highest quality education, because it will be the beginning of your professional success.

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