

## A Thinking about the topic



Alan



Maria



Ning

- 1 You're going to hear Alan (English) interviewing Maria (Russian) and Ning (Chinese) about universities in their countries. Before you listen, make a note of three or four topics you think Alan will ask about. Compare and discuss with a partner.
- 2 **9** Watch the video. How many of your topics did you hear? Can you remember any other topics?

## B Listening for the main ideas and detail

- 3 **9** Watch Part 1 (00:00–01:45). Choose the correct options in these sentences. Compare with a partner.
  - 1 Maria and Ning *are / aren't* currently studying for a degree at university in the UK.
  - 2 You *have to / don't have to* pay to study at a university in England.
- 4 **9** What can you remember? Decide if these statements are true (T) or false (F). Correct any false ones. Then watch Part 1 again to check. Discuss with a partner.
  - 1 Maria has a degree from a Russian university.
  - 2 All Chinese universities are expensive.
  - 3 Some people who study at English universities take gap years to help them pay.
  - 4 Student numbers are increasing in England.
- 5 What can you remember? Make some notes on what the speakers said about the following. Compare with a partner.
  - 1 a private school
  - 2 state university
  - 3 a student loan

## C Listening for specific information

- 6 **9** Watch Part 2 (01:46–03:52). Check any new vocabulary in your dictionary. Number these words and phrases in the order you hear them.
  - a research
  - b scholarship
  - c Bachelor's degree
  - d grants
  - e postgraduate school
  - f homework
- 7 **9** Watch Part 2 again and answer these questions.
  - 1 What don't you pay for in China?
  - 2 Why doesn't Maria pay for her university studies?
  - 3 What does she say about judges?
  - 4 What do Maria and Ning say about the last two weeks of term?
- 8 **9** Watch Part 3 (03:53–05:44). How many times do you hear these words or phrases? Tick each one as you hear it.
  - 1 accommodation
  - 2 (share/rent) a flat/apartment
  - 3 hall(s) of residence
  - 4 student house
- 9 **9** Watch Part 3 again and complete this table about university accommodation in Russia, China and England.

	Russia	China	England
free accommodation?	Yes, but only if you don't pay for your education.	<sup>1</sup> .....	Doesn't say
type of accommodation	<sup>2</sup> .....	Apartment or <sup>3</sup> .....	<sup>4</sup> .....

- 10 What can you remember? Answer these questions, then compare with a partner.
  - 1 Why do Russian students prefer to rent a flat?
  - 2 What's the disadvantage of renting a flat?
  - 3 Why do most Chinese students choose to stay in university accommodation?
  - 4 Why are many students in England offered accommodation for the first year only?

## D Extension and review

- 11 What impression do you think Alan has of Russian and Chinese universities? How do you know? Discuss with a partner.
- 12 In which of the three countries would you prefer to study? Why? Compare with a partner.
- 13 Which of these activities helped you understand the speakers best?
  - thinking about the topic before listening
  - listening for repetition of key words and phrases
  - listening for tone of voice to identify attitude