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Auszug aus:

Private education in the UK - Leistungskursklausur

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Inhaltsübersicht:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arbeitsblatt mit Aufgabenstellung• Erwartungshorizont mit Leistungsdifferenzierung

PART A

Private Education in the UK

INTRODUCTION: the text is based on a newspaper article from the UK outlining the effect private schools, called public and/or independent schools in Britain, have on British society as a whole.

The Importance of Going Private

by Andreas Schmidt, 2020

5 Private education in Britain is marked by being extremely socially exclusive. Between 6% and 7% of the school population in the UK go to these schools, confusingly named *public schools* or *independent schools*, and the families sending their children there are mostly affluent. Pupils from every rung of the social ladder can be found at private schools; however in the top 1% of rich families in Britain the proportion of children attending private school rises to over 60%. The reason for this
10 is simple: the high cost. Less well-off families often need to rely on scholarships and bank loans to be able to send their children to such schools. Pupils at private schools, therefore, are rubbing shoulders with¹ those from similarly privileged backgrounds.

Evidence for this privilege can be found in statistics. Many people in prominent social positions were
15 privately educated. Starting with judges (74% privately educated) to MPs (32%), the figures show us of a society in which private education translates into access to a life of privilege and influence. “The dogged persistence of the British ‘old boy’”² is how a 2017 study describes the traditional dominance of private-school alumni³ in British society.

20 Looking at over a century of biographical data from *Who’s Who*, the annual guide to the composition of the British elite, shows the full extent of the link between schooling and social position. From the 1830s to 1920s, around 50-60% of those holding elite positions in British society went to private schools; between the 1930s and 1960s, the proportion was still 45-50%. In the 21st century the share of the privately educated has remained similar at around 45%. An education at the schools in
25 the prestigious Headmasters’ and Headmistresses’ Conference (HMC) still translates to a 35 times higher chance of getting into the *Who’s Who* than having gone to a state school. Furthermore, attending the historic crème de la crème of schools, the so-called Clarendon Schools (Charterhouse, Eton, Harrow, Merchant Taylors’, Rugby, St Paul’s, Shrewsbury, Westminster, Winchester), mean a 94 times higher likelihood of joining the elite compared to an ordinary state-school educated person.

30 Not convinced, well let's have a look at some of the movers and shakers in British society in the last 20 years or so: prime ministers Tony Blair, David Cameron, Theresa May and Boris Johnson have all been to a prominent public school; in other words, they were privately educated. Even the leader of the Labour party opposition to first Theresa May and then Boris Johnson, Jeremy Corbyn, enjoyed
35 a private education. Jeremy Paxman and Paul Dacre, two bright stars in the British media scene,

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