

BBC South Korean schools



BEFORE YOU WATCH

1 Tick the boxes next to the words or phrases you associate with school and learning.

- | | |
|--|--|
| • test and exams ☐ | • pressure ☐ |
| • scores ☐ | • hard work ☐ |
| • creativity ☐ | • extra lessons ☐ |
| • long hours of study ☐ | • time to relax ☐ |

2 **SPEAKING** List the three things that are most important to you at school. Then compare your answers with a partner.

WHILE YOU WATCH

3 20 Watch the first part of the video (up to 1:38) and answer the questions.

- How does Hye-Min feel about her school day?
- How many hours does she study every day?
- What time does she have dinner, go to bed and get up in the morning?
- What does her mother think about Hye-Min's daily routine?

4 **SPEAKING** Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the South Korean education system. Think about:

- the standard of education
- young people's health

5 20 Watch the second part of the video (01:38 – 03:11). Does anybody mention the ideas you discussed in Exercise 4?

6 Match 1–8 with a–h to make collocations.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 education ☐ | a her dreams |
| 2 extra ☐ | b investment |
| 3 achieve ☐ | c system |
| 4 huge ☐ | d a high price |
| 5 suicide ☐ | e lessons |
| 6 test ☐ | f scores |
| 7 under ☐ | g rate |
| 8 pay ☐ | h a lot of stress |

7 Complete the sentences with the collocations in Exercise 6 in the correct form.

- When they finish their regular classes they go to private school in the evening for _____.
- This _____ has transformed Korea.
- It's the only thing she can do to _____.
- The _____ is the highest in developed countries.
- _____ may be important in the age of industrialisation but not any more.
- But people have been _____ and young people have _____.
- The South Korean _____ is one of the best in the world.

8 20 Watch the whole video again. Who says the sentences in Exercise 7: Hye Min's mother, Professor Lee or the presenter?

AFTER YOU WATCH

9 **SPEAKING** Discuss the questions in small groups.

- What do you think you can learn from South Korea's education system?
- How would a South Korean student manage in your school?

I think a South Korean student would do great in my school because ...