

Comparative Analysis of Secondary Education System Between China and Britain

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Abstract: In the course of the development of secondary education in the world, the educational system is constantly being reformed and improved, but there are still great differences between the western educational system and the Chinese educational system. This paper tries to analyze the characteristics between Britain and China from the following aspects: curriculum, class system, the form of homework and examination. The strength of a country ultimately depends on the education quality and the cultivation of quality depends on the quality of education system.

Keywords: Secondary Education System; China; Britain; Comparative Analysis

1. Introduction

Education is the foundation of a nation. In the course of educational development in different countries, the secondary educational system is constantly reforming and improving. Secondary education system varies from country to country. This paper analyzes secondary education system between China and Britain, aiming to discover some similarities between them, advantages and disadvantages of each. It firstly points out the complexity of education systems and then a comparative analysis of the characteristics of two education systems. Finally, it points out the existing problems and disadvantages of the each education system.

2. The complexity of the secondary education system

The British education system has always been bewildering, because there are few laws governing how pupils should love education, and full-time schools are run mainly by local education authorities, teachers' committees and reputable teachers. In the UK, different areas and schools have different methods of education, but the government has laid down three principles that every department and school must abide by. First, all students attend full-time education. Any child can be free at school by the government. Unless his parents send him to a private school. Second, all schools should offer courses on religious education, although parents have the right to refuse to let their children learn these courses. Finally, the law stipulates that all schools must offer some basic subjects, such as mathematics, English, history, geography, technology, music, art, physical education and foreign languages. In addition to the three principles mentioned above, other educational programs are developed by local education authorities or founding schools and teachers themselves.

There are several types of schools in Britain, such as preparatory schools, public schools, grammar schools, etc. Understanding these different types of schools is essential to understanding the British secondary education system. Schools in Britain can be divided into state schools and public schools, which are actually a kind of private school. The national school can be divided into grammar schools, semi-industrial technical secondary schools and comprehensive secondary schools.

The development of secondary school education in China has narrowed the gap with foreign education level to a certain extent and improved the quality of the people, which is in line with China's national conditions and status quo. At the same time, it lets the people pay more attention to their own cultural accomplishment, education has become a commodity, which has played a huge role in national economic development, stimulating the domestic people to carry out cultural consumption and promoting circulation. It is also worth noting that the basic knowledge and skills of Chinese middle school students trained by the Chinese middle school education system are very solid. China comprehensively promote quality-oriented

education, further correct educational thinking, change educational concepts, reform the mode of personnel training, teaching content and teaching methods. Improve the quality of education and teaching in an all-round way to reduce the students' heavy workload and improve the ability and level of quality education in schools and teachers. At the same time, it is necessary to reform and perfect the examination evaluation system.

China has always been establishing a new education evaluation system as soon as possible. The evaluation system of education is not only a matter of the education system itself, but also the evaluation system of the society to education determines the evaluation within the education system. It is necessary to change the evaluation system of education. The most important thing is that the government no longer use "enrollment rate" to evaluate education departments. This point, the government can have the ability in a certain period. For teachers, China comprehensively improve the ranks of teachers. Relying wholeheartedly on the ranks of the people's teachers, building them and attracting more outstanding talents to join them, which aim to improve the overall quality of teachers in an all-round way. In Britain, the school system implements a two track system: public schools provide free education, and private schools generally pay tuition fees by parents. About one in 13 school-age children in the UK goes to private schools (the exact proportion is 7%). Foreign students under the age of 16 generally enter private schools. There are a total of 2400 private schools in the UK, most of which are well-known old schools. The UK has developed a national syllabus - which stipulates the minimum requirements that children should meet at each stage of learning. Public schools must comply with the requirements of the syllabus, while private schools are not subject to this restriction. However, most private schools still teach the contents required by the national syllabus in actual teaching.

It is a common phenomenon in British middle schools to provide individual guidance or centralized guidance to students. When Yingying first arrived in the UK, her English was not very good and her listening was quite difficult. The grade director specially assigned a teacher to sit next to my daughter and accompany her in class. During the pause, homework or after class, the teacher explained the content of the class in simple and popular English and assisted her for half a year until my daughter's listening improved significantly. In addition, English courses are similar to Chinese, with profound contents and complex backgrounds, which are difficult to understand.

3. Different aspects

3.1 Curriculum

The curriculum set for students in British schools is not set in stone. Their courses fall into two categories: compulsory courses and elective courses. Compulsory courses are prescribed by the Ministry of Education, in order to improve the comprehensive quality of students and set courses.

In China, junior high school students learn all compulsory subjects. The main subjects are Chinese, maths and English. Physics, chemistry, sports, geography, biology, politics, history, etc.

Based on the above comparison, the author believes that British curriculum has the following two advantages:

Students have more options beyond the required courses, which will help them develop their interests, discover their strengths and make long-term plans for their future career development.

Students participate in the course selection, which is conducive to giving play to their learning spirit of ownership.

3.2 Class System

English secondary schools also implement class teaching, but their classes are very small, usually 20 to 30 students in each class. One of their classes doesn't always have classes together. Every morning the class of students gather, the head teacher count the name, arrange the relevant matters, and then go to the classroom of his chosen course and the students from other classes together. China should be said to implement large class teaching. A class is less than 50-60 people, up to 80-90 people, a classroom in addition to the basic teaching tools and students. There's not much room left.

When it comes to dividing classes, many schools adopt the following approach. According to the students' overall learning level, they are divided into fast and slow classes.

It is not hard to see that the class system in the UK is closer to the actual situation of students and more in line with the concept of teaching students according to their aptitude.

1. Small classes make students feel more like learning subjects, and help teachers pay attention to each student's learning situation and grasp the teaching progress more easily.

2. It is good for students from different classes to have classes together to exchange different opinions and broaden their thinking.

3. According to the learning level of each course, students are divided into different levels to attend classes, which is more helpful for students to receive the teaching suitable for their own levels.

The British school implements small class teaching, with about 20-30 students in each class, which is a random combination. The "class" in this school is just a dummy. It just gathers in the class every morning before class. The head teacher takes about 10 minutes to call the roll and deploy relevant matters, and then the students go to different classrooms to have classes with students from different classes. Because the grade director divides each course of each student into three different grades: primary, intermediate and advanced, except for the courses of religion, sports, life and art. This is similar to the "fast and slow classes" set up in some middle schools in China, but the difference is that our country divides students into excellent and poor according to their overall learning level; However, British middle schools are divided into different grades according to the learning situation of each course. The purpose is to enable poor students to master basic knowledge, and good students to expand their knowledge, increase the depth and difficulty, and contribute to the cultivation of interest. The teachers of each course,

3.3 The form of homework and examination

Their homework forms in Britain are diverse, including papers, case studies, research, textbook assignments, etc. in addition, teachers will leave students with some extracurricular reading tasks. In addition to textbook assignments, one of the most commonly used learning tools for completing other assignments is the computer. Many assignments can be completed only by checking information on the Internet. For example, survey the profile of the top three beer companies with sales volume in the UK; Analyze the business philosophy and operation of a famous brand beverage company; Communicate with one of your neighbors, talk about his or her occupation, write down your understanding of this occupation. British secondary school students' homework is a variety of forms, mainly can be divided into four categories:

1. Practice homework. Under the guidance of teachers, students complete various experiments, independent observation, independent completion of a piece of work and other hands-on training.

2. Written assignments.

3. Oral and listening assignments.

4. Acting homework. They also have very little tutorial material to go with their textbooks.

From the above we can see that to be a well-rounded person, we should train students comprehensively and evaluate students comprehensively. The variety of homework cultivates students' diverse abilities and flexible forms can attract students' active participation.

4. Disadvantages of each system

Both education system looks perfect on the surface, with so many schools to choose from, but some problems cannot be ignored.

For Britain secondary education system, inequality is the obvious disadvantage. The education system is supposed to provide students with equal opportunities to study. But there is no denying that it still exists inequality. This inequality was first reflected in the premature division of grammar schools and semi-technical secondary schools, which has been criticized since both are free, with many critics arguing that a single Eleven Plus test does not determine a pupil's academic potential. This division divided the pupils into several grades, with those from good family backgrounds taking advantage, so the Ministry of Education began to create a new type of school, the comprehensive high school. The movement to abolish this unequal division has begun and is well advanced. The movement has the support of many teachers. Now 93 percent of

students are enrolled in state schools. More than 90% of the students are in comprehensive secondary schools.

For Chinese secondary education system, First, the invariable teaching concept is exam-oriented education which serves for the high school entrance examination and the college entrance examination; So far there are many school teachers, parents and students keep students' scores in mind, hanging in the mouth, as the only standard to evaluate students and teachers. Second, the invariable teaching content is for the middle school entrance examination, college entrance examination and preparation of the test content; Many schools and students learn the same old textbooks, the same subjects, the same content, the same teaching methods. Third, The unchanging teaching mode is an exam oriented education mode implemented for the high school entrance examination and the college entrance examination. All students study for college entrance examination. From kindergartens to primary schools to secondary schools, they rush to enter the ivory tower that everyone dreams of. Moreover, teacher centered, encyclopedic teaching content, cramming knowledge, spot level teaching method. Coupled with the Soviet military management, although this kind of education can select the right talents under certain circumstances, it is more likely to lead to deception, and even this kind of education with a single way out will often kill many talents.

5. Conclusion

Throughout the world educational system , there is no immutable educational system. This is the inevitability of historical development. In contrast, British secondary education seems to care more about people's practical abilities and creativity in their problem-solving. They give students more space for physical and mental development, and students have enough time, energy and opportunities to get in touch with the outside world, the environment they live in and the society they are closely related to. Whether it's a part-time job, a project assignment, or a team activity, these will have a huge impact on students' adult life. The British government hopes that every school in Britain can finally give full play to its own characteristics. They believe that the education system needs to be changed to fully develop the individual potential of students, rather than forcing students to adapt to the structure of the education system. China's education system has been undergoing gradual reform and progress.

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