

SCHOOL

Your schooldays

- Which of the following words best reflect your school days?

popular

big fish in a small pond

self-discovery

fear

anxiety

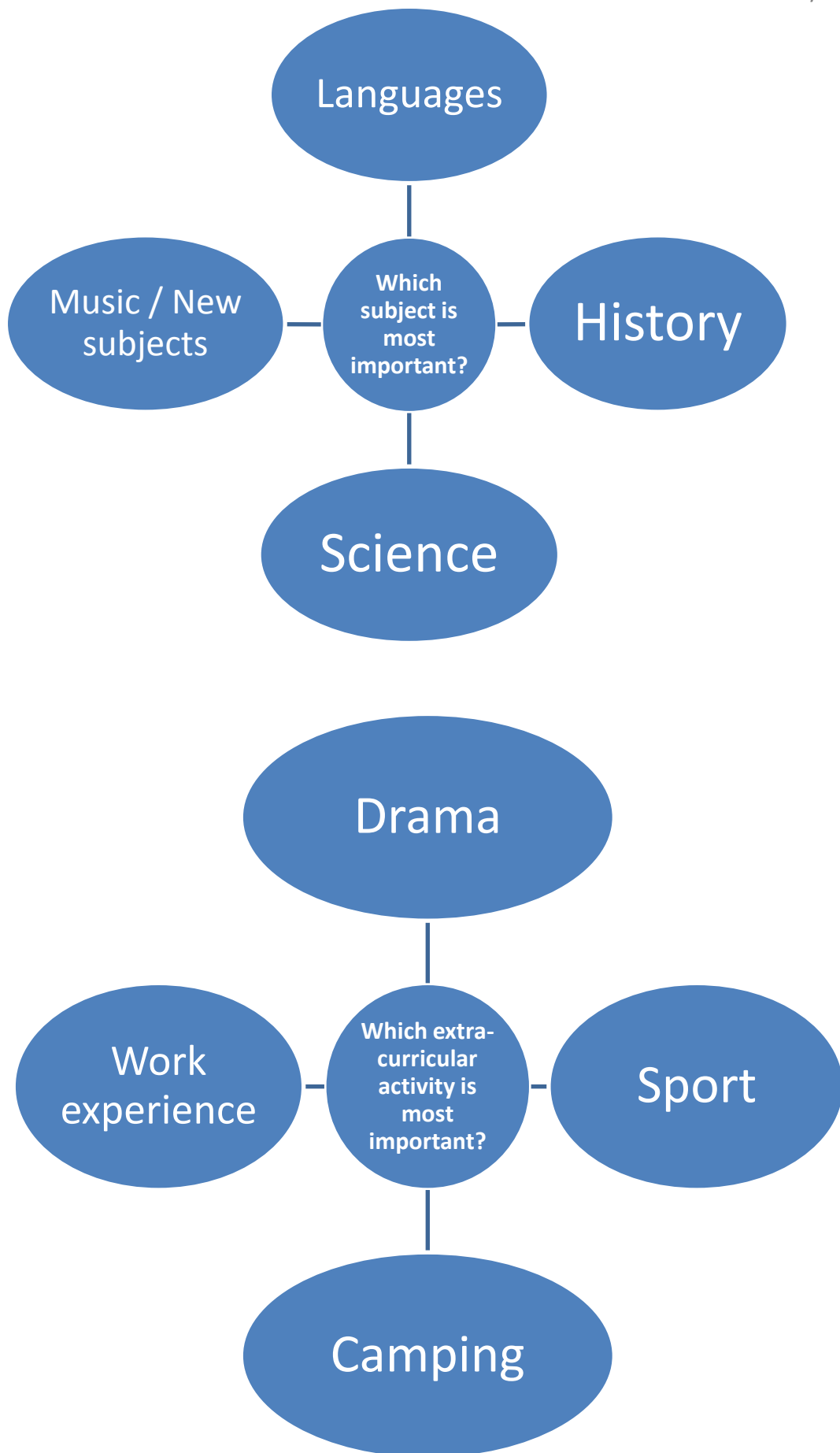
prison

isolation

well-behaved

got into trouble

- What did you do during playtime at school? How has playtime changed since you were a child?
- How did your experience of school change when you moved from primary to secondary?
- What's the most important thing you learnt at school?
- Do you have a favourite teacher that you remember?
- If you could go back in time, what would you do differently?



Bullying

Discuss the following questions in pairs:

- What springs to mind when you hear the word 'bullying'?
- How do you recognise when somebody is being bullied?
- Is bullying an invisible problem?
- Why do people bully other people?
- Is it worse to be bullied as a child or as an adult?
- What mental health problems might bullied children have?
- How might bullying affect an adult's life?
- What do schools do when a bullying incident is reported?
- What can parents do about bullying?
- What does society need to do to stop bullying?
- What advice would you give somebody who was being bullied?
- Should bullied children just learn to deal with bullies?
- How can we teach bullies that their actions are wrong?
- What questions would you like to ask a bully?

How would you respond to the following questions and comments from a child who was being bullied:

- 'Is it my fault?'
- 'Should I tell someone?'
- 'Should I fight back?'
- 'I feel alone.'
- 'I don't feel safe.'
- 'I feel like nothing's ever going to change.'

Rate my teachers

- **Would your students ever describe you in any of the following ways?**
 - Nasty, uptight, strict.
 - If you are disrespectful, s/he will lay down the law.
 - A little disorganised and forgetful.
 - Huge ego.
 - It's her way or the highway, especially when she's wrong.
 - She's an incredibly nice teacher – so nice that if you do something bad in her class, you feel bad.
 - He annoys me, but he can teach.
 - She has no control over her class.
- **How do you think your students would describe/rate you, if they were asked?**

ROLE PLAY: 'I have a question for you, Miss/Sir.'

STUDENT	OLD-FASHIONED TEACHER	MODERN TEACHER
Asking questions in class	Discipline	Mentoring
Making mistakes	Standardised content	Student engagement
Atmosphere in the classroom	'Chalk and talk'	(Inter)Active classroom
Teaching styles and methods	'The three Rs'	Digital resources
Fairness and discipline	Memorisation	'Flexible Friday'
Respect, trust, pride	Classroom layout	Classroom layout
Results vs Learning	Relationship with students and parents	Relationship with students and parents
Relationship with students and parents	Praise	Praise
Student stress and bullying		
Sex education		
World of work		

Debate

Are single-sex schools a good idea?

Consider ideas such as: discipline, distractions, bullying, results, socialisation and interaction, equality of opportunity, maturity, learning speeds, childhood and teenage experimentation and self-discovery...