

3 Match the words in the box to their descriptions.

assignment coursework dissertation project task

- 1 a long piece of writing on a particular subject written for a university degree _____
- 2 work that students do during a course of study, not in exams _____
- 3 a piece of work which involves several parts, e.g. reading, research, writing a report, preparing a presentation, etc. _____
- 4 a short activity, such as reading something or completing an exercise, which may be one part of a larger piece of work _____
- 5 a piece of work a student is asked to complete and submit as part of course, for example, an essay or a report _____

c Doing a PhD

At undergraduate level, everything is generally organized for the student. When you undertake a **PhD** though, you have to take responsibility for managing your own learning. Of course, you will get help from your **supervisor**, from other **academics** in the department and from your fellow students, but ultimately, it's down to you to develop your **research proposal**, to decide what's required and to carry it out.

The overall university framework for research students ensures that they all progress through their studies in a similar way, but there are differences between disciplines. In the sciences, supervisors are often managing a laboratory, and as a PhD student, you may be recruited to work on a project as part of a larger research team. In contrast, in the humanities and social sciences, students often come up with their own research topic and the role of the supervisor is just to offer general advice and supervision.

4 Do the pairs of words have a similar meaning (S) or a different meaning (D)?

- 1 a PhD student – a postgraduate student ____
- 2 a supervisor – a lecturer ____
- 3 an academic – a student ____
- 4 a research proposal – a research project ____
- 5 a discipline – a subject ____

5 a Find verbs in the texts in this unit which collocate with the nouns in the table. Use the glossary on pp.129–144 to help you if necessary.

Verb	Noun	Verb	Noun
<i>study for</i>	a degree	3 _____	a lecture, a seminar
1 _____	a degree	4 _____	a dissertation
<i>complete</i>	coursework, an assignment	5 _____	a PhD
2 _____	coursework, an assignment	6 _____	a research proposal

b Complete the sentences using the correct form of verbs from the table in 5a. Sometimes more than one option is possible and some verbs are used more than once.

- EXAMPLE: He **completed** his law **degree** in 2005 and graduated from the University of Melbourne.
- 1 Some students _____ their **assignments** online, but also give their tutor a hard copy as backup.
 - 2 Students need to manage their time to _____ all their **coursework** before the deadline.
 - 3 Students are expected to _____ at least 80% of **lectures**.
 - 4 He's currently _____ his **dissertation** on contemporary South African cinema.
 - 5 Students participate in group discussions to help them _____ a **research proposal**.
 - 6 The department welcomes applications from students who wish to _____ a **PhD** in classics.

6 Write a short paragraph describing your own past, present or planned studies. Try to use some of the vocabulary in this unit. Think carefully about which verbs to use with different nouns, e.g. *complete a project*.