

## Similarities and differences between education in Belgium and Zambia.

SIMILARITIES	DIFFERENCES
There are different topics (= vakken) and different paths (= studierichtingen).	School starts at 7:30h and ends at 15:20h.
There are different teachers for topics.	Periods (= lesuren) last for only 40 minutes.
Examples of topics: Bemba, biology, chemistry, crafts, English, economics, geography, history, integrated science, mathematics, physics, religion, social studies, sports, tailoring, ...	Not every school has different paths.
There are departments of science, languages, ...	All schools have school uniforms.
Teachers use syllabi (= jaarplanningen) and term schemes (= trimesterplanningen).	Secondary education starts at grade 7 up to grade 12.
Pupils get tests during the term (= trimester).	There's a high level of authority and respect for teachers, deputy heads and head masters.
Some teachers implement group exercises and practicals.	Education is mainly based on reproduction of theory and definitions.
Each grade (= jaar) has a planning for sweeping the classroom.	There aren't beamers or smartboards.
Schools have sports teams.	A school year starts in January and ends in December.
There are boarding schools (= internaten) for boys and girls.	Pupils have one month of vacation in April, August and December.
There are exams and school reports at the endings of each term.	Tests are very theoretical and based on reproduction.
Departments have meetings to share ideas and concerns to improve their education.	An intern is considered as a full teacher. They do have a mentor, but (s)he is only there for the intern to ask questions. They do not observe your lessons or evaluate your teaching practice.
The school has a library, a laboratory, a teacher room, offices, a dining hall and some sports fields.	There are two break times during a school day. One starts at 10:10h and ends at 10:30h. The second one starts at 13:10h and ends at

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	14:00h.
Interns (= stagiaires) have mentors.	Every day teachers need to get their lesson plans checked by the head of department.
Teachers are able to retrain themselves, but they'll have to do teaching practice (= lesstage) while they're actually already teachers.	Every Friday, teachers need to make a 'records of work' scheme for the past week and get it checked by the head of department.
There are private schools and government schools.	Private schools are very expensive while government schools are (almost) free or at least have much lower costs than private schools.
Teachers make lessons plans which include objectives for their lessons, methods, lesson phases, learning activities and learning points.	Teachers need to keep a file with all their records and lesson plans.
During the weeks of examinations there are no classes scheduled.	Pupils have a notebook, but textbooks are only available at school. They don't have one themselves.
Physical punishments are forbidden by law.	Although physical punishments are forbidden, teachers still apply them when pupils come in late for class, misbehave, can't answer a question correctly, had bad grades on their tests, or didn't complete a task.
Teachers are paid by the government.	Any moment, pupils can get called out of class to do shores around the school domain, such as cleaning or cutting grass. Sometimes a class does this as a task, other times these shores are punishments for latecomers.
In college or university, there are two terms each academic year.	When pupils are called out of class for shores because of late coming, they may refuse and ask to do their shores during break time. But this

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	hardly happens because for the high level of authority for teachers.
	Pupils have to write notes in their notebooks to study the theory.
	A bond between teachers and pupils is rare. Boundaries and authority are more important than to be a trustworthy person for pupils.
	School starts at the age of 7 (grade 1). Nursery school (= kleuterschool) exists but is not obliged. Above all nursery school is very expensive.
	When a teacher is absent, no other teacher will stay with this class to observe them. But there is the possibility for teachers to take over these periods if they'd like to teach their topic instead.
	Examinations do not only contain questions of one term. They also contain questions of previous terms or grades.
	Beside the examinations, pupils of grade 12 need to write papers for every topic.
	Pupils do not get the chance to look into their exams to see where they went wrong.
	Teachers don't revision subjects, and do not make a scheme of the subjects which pupils need to study for the examinations.
	One week before the examinations start, teachers hand their examinations to the deputy head. During the weeks of examinations, the deputy head is responsible for printing all the examination papers for every grade.
	During the weeks of examinations, each day one teacher is

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	responsible for distributing the examinations from grade 1 to grade 8, and one teacher is responsible for distributing the examinations from grade 9 to grade 12.
	During the weeks of examinations, there is a schedule for teachers who are monitoring the grades. But unlike in Belgium, this is almost never the teacher who teaches the subject on which the grade is writing their examination.
	When a pupil is absent during a test or examination, the pupil will not get a second chance to retake the test or examination. Their absence will be noted as a zero on their results.
	Pupils do not get their results at the ending of each term. They need to wait for it until the next term starts.
	Not every pupil can go to college or university. Pupils need to apply at the institution and get permission first.
	Every pupil needs to pay their per term to study at college or university. The amount depends for each study.
	A bachelor degree takes 4 years to complete, and it's about 12 000 Kwacha each term to study for a bachelor degree as a teacher. K 12 000 x 8 terms = K 96 000 / 12 (rate 2016) = € 8000