

Schooling in Hungary after 1989

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25th Anniversary of the Fall of Communism
Cleveland Hungarian Heritage Society
Hungarian Museum in the Galleria

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Outline

1. 1949-1990
2. Pioneer movement in Hungary
3. Change of the regime – 1989
4. Foreign language issues
5. Today's Hungarian Educational system
6. Pedagogical concepts developed by Hungarians

1a) 1949-90

Situation of education changed radically because of the invasion by the Soviet Union

- ✓ every field of education controlled
- ✓ policy determined by the government
- ✓ Russian language is compulsory,
other foreign languages restricted
- ✓ no religious education
- ✓ practical training stressed

1b) 1949-90

- ✓ national campaign for the eradication of illiteracy
- ✓ opening of secondary schools and universities to women and to young people of modest origin
- ✓ 8-year-long elementary schools
- ✓ 16 years of age limit of compulsory education
- ✓ introduction of polytechnic education
- ✓ written and oral entry examination

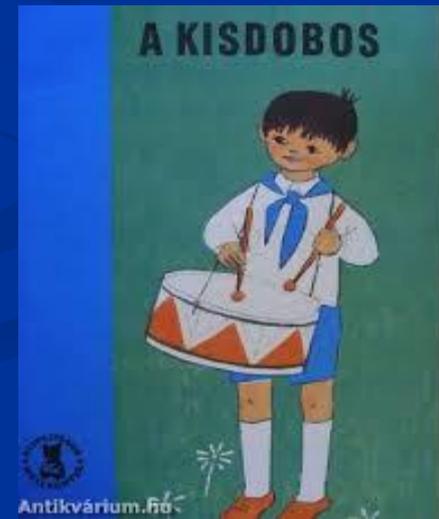
2a) Pioneer movement in Hungary

- ✓ organization for children operated by the communist party
- ✓ modeled on the Scout movement
- ✓ children enter into the organization in elementary school and continue until adolescence
- ✓ a typically red or blue kerchief or necktie is the traditional item of clothing worn by a pioneer

2b) Pioneer movement in Hungary

The 6 points - the law of the little drummer's life (age 7-11)

1. The Little drummer is a faithful child of our Hungarian homeland.
2. The Little Drummer loves and respects his/her parents, teachers.
3. The Little Drummer studies diligently and helps his/her companions.
4. The Little Drummer always tells the truth.
5. The Little Drummer is clean, tidy and punctual.
6. The Little Drummer lives so as to be worthy of the Pioneers' red neckerchief.

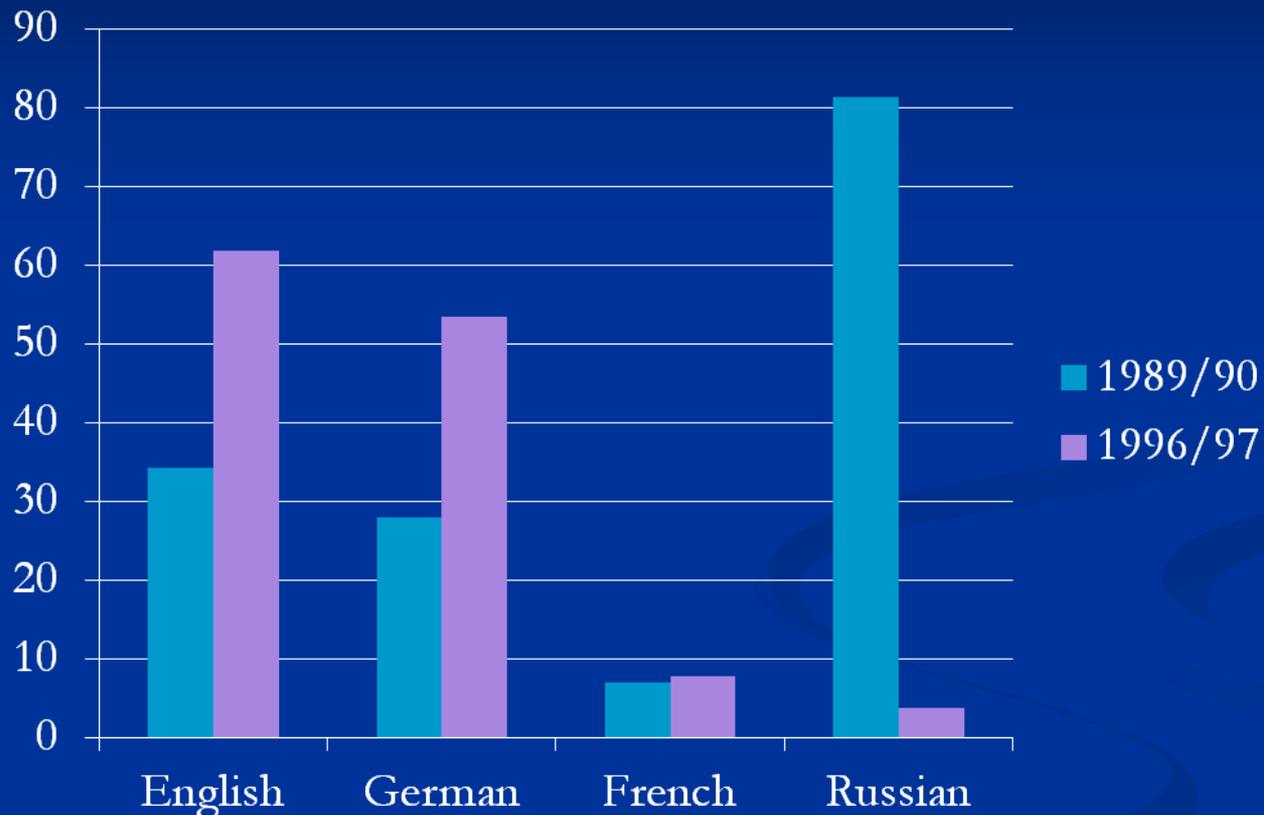


3. Change of the regime - 1989

Act of Education (1993)

- ✓ right to study
- ✓ more independence from the state
- ✓ formed on the basis of Anglo-Saxon patterns
- ✓ learning Russian isn't compulsory any more
- ✓ wide range of foreign languages
- ✓ right proportion between arts and science subjects
- ✓ school age: 6-18
- ✓ skill development, life-long learning

4. Foreign language issues



Percentages of pupils for four main foreign languages in high schools

Source: Statistics of the Hungarian Ministry of Education

5a) Today 's Hungarian Educational System

Age	U.S. Grade	Hungarian Class (<i>osztály</i>)	Primary and Secondary Educational Paths		
6/7	1	1	Lower Elementary School (<i>általános iskola alsó tagozat: 4 years</i>)		
7	2	2			
8	3	3			
9	4	4			
10	5	5	Upper Elementary School (<i>általános iskola felső tagozat: 2 or 4 years</i>)		
11	6	6			
12	7	7			
13	8	8			
14	9	1	Vocational School (<i>szakmunkás-képző: 2-3 yrs; vocational training</i>)	Secondary Vocational School (<i>szakközéiskola: 4 years; general & vocational training</i>)	Secondary Grammar School (<i>gimnázium: 4 or 6 or 8 years; general theoretical training</i>)
15	10	2	Skilled Worker Certificate (<i>szakmunkás bizonyítvány</i>)	Matura or Secondary School Leaving Certificate (<i>érettségi</i>)	Matura (<i>érettségi</i>) 2005: introduction of the two-level maturity exam (higher level exam coinciding with entrance exams to universities, colleges)
16	11	3	Labor market		
17/18	12	4	Labor market	1 additional year (optional)	1 additional year in the case of Bilingual Secondary Grammar Schools (<i>kéttannyelvű gimnázium</i>)
18/19		5		Technician (<i>technikus</i>)	Matura (<i>érettségi</i>), in some cases I.B.

5b) Today's Hungarian Educational System

Age	Hungarian Grade (<i>évfolyam</i>)	Higher Educational Paths		
18/19	1	Accredited Higher Vocational Training Courses (<i>felsőfokú szakképzés: 2 yrs</i>) Certificate (<i>felsőfokú szakképzést igazoló bizonyítvány</i>)	College (<i>főiskola: 3-4 years</i>)	University (<i>egyetem: 5-6 years</i>)
19	2	Labor market	Bachelor's (<i>főiskolai oklevél</i>)	Master's (<i>egyetemi oklevél</i>) or "Doktor" (in law, medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine)
20	3			
21	4			
22	5			
23-24	6			
23-24 - 26/27+				Specialized Degree (<i>szakosító oklevél: 1-3 years</i>)
				PhD (<i>3+ years</i>)

6. Pedagogical concepts developed by Hungarians

1. Reform of music teaching in Hungary

world-famous method developed by **Zoltán Kodály**
used since 1945 in Hungary & later all over the world



**new curriculum and teaching
methods**

**new musical compositions
for children**

2. Zsolnai Method

- ✓ new pedagogical methodology system called NYIK (Language, Literature and Communication Programme) for primary schools (1971)



- ✓ affects teaching reading, writing, grammar and composition skills and ability development in a complex way
- ✓ reading comprehension as the starting point of individual learning
- ✓ verbal activities (pronunciation, reciting, story telling)
- ✓ authentic materials

Köszönöm a figyelmüket!

Thank you

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