

A CLASS TO REMEMBER



I remember _____ really embarrassing moment when I was starting to learn _____ English. My teacher's name was Trevor Jones. He was from Cardiff in _____ Wales. He was always making _____ jokes. One day he wrote _____ words "English Cramer" on _____ blackboard.

He asked us if that was correct. Immediately I offered to answer _____ question. I told him _____ E should be changed to _____. Trevor said that was _____ good answer and he changed _____ letter. Then he asked me if I was happy with _____ new spelling. With _____ absolute confidence, I said that it was now correct. Suddenly, _____ other students started laughing. I looked around in _____ confusion. My friend whispered that it needed _____ second M. "Oh, it should have _____ M, too!" I shouted out and Trevor nodded with _____ smile. It was correct. But I still remember _____ terrible feeling of _____ embarrassment from that moment.

STUDYING MATHS

My Uncle Nick began teaching me _____ mathematics and I spent _____ hour every day with him. I liked _____ figures. They amused me. They gave me _____ certain sense of _____ power. I liked to be able to tell _____ people how many gallons of _____ water were used in our town every day, how many hours everyone sleeps in _____ lifetime, how long it would take to cover _____ Mount Everest with _____ cigarette stubs thrown away every week in London. Uncle Nick was _____ excellent teacher. He took care not to bore me with too many theories. Instead, we went through _____ books of _____ puzzles, and we invented _____ puzzles to try to baffle one another. That was _____ education of my dreams!



DO EXAMS MAKE PUPILS LOSE INTEREST?



_____ children could be turned off their favourite subjects for _____ life if they are pushed too hard to take _____ exams, _____ psychologists are warning. _____ study of 11-year-olds found that those who had taken exams to win _____ school places rapidly lost _____ interest in their school work after _____ exams were over.

Other children, who did not take _____ same kind of tests, did not have _____ same experience. In this study, _____ group of researchers measured _____ motivation of children in _____ science, _____ English and _____ Maths. Before _____ exams _____ children all appeared very motivated, but as soon as _____ exams were over, that changed, and their motivation went down. Motivation stayed _____ same among another group who took normal school tests. Researchers think it is possible that some children can be put off _____ subject permanently by an exam.