

Read the text and answer the questions.

Everyone knows that it's often difficult for students to concentrate on their work at school. We asked our readers for some answers.

Alex

Yes – it's a big problem! Last year it was very hard. We had a lot of tests at school and the teachers gave us hours of homework. I worked until 10.30 every night. I didn't have time to go swimming or watch TV. My friends did the same. We didn't get much sleep because we got up at 6.30 in the morning to go to school. We were all very tired in the mornings. I often wanted to stay in bed and not go to school!

One day, five students went to sleep during maths! Our teacher was worried, and she had an idea. She and the other teachers talked about the problem. They suggested a different start time for school – 9.00 and not 8.00. We finished at the usual time, but we had a short lunch and short break times.

At first, we weren't sure about the idea. We liked long break times with our friends. But after a week everyone agreed. It was a good change! We weren't tired, and we could study. The idea was to have the change for only two months until our exams and then go back to the old times. But after two months, they decided to keep the new start time.

We're all happy now because we can stay in bed. The teachers are happy because we don't go to sleep in their classes!

Choose the correct answer.

Why did Alex and his friends go to bed late?

- ☐ They did sports.
- ☐ They did a lot of school work.
- ☐ They watched a lot of TV.

The pupils didn't like the changes in the beginning because

- ☐ they had problems getting to school.
- ☐ they liked finishing early.
- ☐ they wanted more time with their friends.

When did a teacher understand there was a problem?

- ☐ Pupils slept in class.
- ☐ Pupils didn't come to classes.
- ☐ Pupils were late for school.

What time do pupils at Alex's school start lessons now?

- ☐ 8.00
- ☐ 9.00
- ☐ 10.30

What changes did the school make?

- ☐ the number of breaks during the school day
- ☐ the time the school day began
- ☐ the time the school day ended

You will hear Jenna talking to her friend, Nick, about their parents' schools.
You will hear the recording twice.

Choose the correct answer.

Jenna's mum was at school with ____.

- ☐ 200 pupils
- ☐ 500 pupils
- ☐ sixty-five pupils

Her dad didn't go to school on ____.

- ☐ Mondays
- ☐ Fridays
- ☐ Wednesdays

What homework has Nick got for the weekend?

- ☐ English
- ☐ all subjects
- ☐ English and maths

In class Nick likes ____.

- ☐ to sit at desks
- ☐ to be next to his friend
- ☐ to change groups

Nick went to his first school in ____.

- ☐ the USA
- ☐ Japan
- ☐ England

Complete the sentences with these words.

I painted a good picture in my [] lesson today.

My dad was a [] at my school twenty years ago!

Our teacher wrote the explanation on the [].

The teacher asked us to look at a map of Africa in my [] lesson this morning.

Most of our sports lessons are in the [].

The [] for Thursday is great – we've got lots of free lessons!

There are a lot of dictionaries on the [] in our classroom.

gym

timetable

art

board

geography

bookshelf

pupil

Write the sentences in the negative.

Amanda and I took the train to school this morning.

My mum heard the news on the radio this morning.

Our teacher spoke to us in English today.

I did my homework today.

We had a long lunch break yesterday.

Complete the sentences with the correct past simple form of the verbs in brackets.

A: (you / find) your homework last night?

B: No, I didn't.

A: (Where / Tom / go) after school today?

B: To the café.

A: (How long / you / stay) at Kerry's party on Friday?

B: Only an hour.

A: (Mark / message / you) about plans for the weekend?

B: Yes, he did.

A: Were your parents at home yesterday evening?

B: No, . (they / not / be)