

We never use the present tense with born. We don't say I am born. She is born. We say I was born. She was born. We can use future tense: My baby will be born in July. When you are born, you get a birth certificate. You need this to prove you are a citizenship. If you are born in America, you are an American citizen. Some people want their children to be American citizens.

When were you born?

Where were you born?

Where were your children born?

Are any of your children American citizens? Is that a good thing or a bad thing?

When we begin school, we say we "start school". Example: I started school in 1975. I will start school this September.

When did you start school? Where did you start school? When will your children start school?

When you immigrate, you move to another country permanently. If you are a legal immigrant, you get a Resident Alien Card. This is called a green card. A green card allows you to stay here and work.

Did you immigrate to the U.S.? Do you have a green card? Are you here permanently? Are you here just for a few years? The opposite of permanent is temporary. Example: I have a temporary job. It will not last long. I have a permanent job. I am here permanently. I am here temporarily.

If you live in the U.S. for five years, you can become a citizen. Then you will receive a Certificate of Naturalization. You are a naturalized citizen if you were not born here. When you are a citizen, you can get a United States passport.

What country is your passport from? Would you like to be a U.S. citizen? Why?

When you finish one level of school, you graduate. Example: I graduate this May. I graduated last May. I will graduate next May. I graduate from high school next month. I will start college in the fall.



At graduation, you wear robes and a hat. Your name is called. You walk onto the stage. You shake hands. You get a diploma. You smile at your parents.

When did you graduate from high school. Did you go to a graduation ceremony? Did you get a diploma? Did you walk onto the stage?

Americans learn to drive as teenagers. Most Americans get a driver's license at age 16. Some teenagers have cars. They work and save money to buy a car. Sometimes, their parents give them a car. They drive to school and to work.

When did you learn to drive? Do you have a Texas driver's license? Do you own a car? Did you own a car in your home country? Does driving in Texas scare you?

After you graduate, you get a job. You start working. You earn money. You are paid a salary. You work many hours. Sometimes, you work overtime. If you work hard, you get a raise. If you are not a good worker, you get fired.



What was your first job? Did you like your first job? Do you want a job in the U.S.? What kind of job would you like?

When you meet someone special, you fall in love. You love them. You want to live with them forever. You get engaged. An engagement is a promise to marry. You get married. Prince William of England married Kate Middleton last week. Did you watch the wedding on TV?



Did you have a big wedding? How many people attended your wedding? Where was your wedding? What did you wear? What did your spouse wear? Did you have a maid of honor and a best man? Who paid for your wedding? Was there food and dancing at your wedding? Were your parents happy that you got married?

In U.S. weddings, the father “gives away” his daughter. He walks her down the aisle (the path between rows of seats). He hands her to the groom. The groom is the man she will marry. After the wedding, the bride and groom walk down the aisle and out of the church. People throw flowers or rice.

How are U.S. weddings different than those in your country?