



**Read the paragraph below going around the circle, each student reading one sentence. Read it through fast. Then read it through a second time, slower. Teachers: ask for questions.**

School will start next week.  
We will talk about schools today.  
In the U.S., schools include kindergarden.  
Kindergarden is for 5 year olds.  
Kindergarden children learn their letters and numbers.  
They begin to read simple words and sentences.  
Elementary school includes kindergarden through fifth grade.  
After elementary school, children go to middle school.  
Middle school usually includes sixth, seventh and eighth grade.  
In ninth grade, students go to high school.  
Ninth graders are called freshmen.  
Tenth graders are called sophomores.  
Eleventh graders are called juniors.  
Twelfth graders are called seniors.  
Students graduate at the end of the twelfth grade.  
Some go to college.  
Some go to technical schools.  
Some go to community college.  
Some go to work.

**Answer these questions from the paragraph above.**

When will school start?  
What do children learn in kindergarden?  
How many grades are in elementary school?  
How many grades are in middle school?  
What are freshmen?  
When do students graduate from high school?

**Read the short conversations below. Answer the questions.**

take a course

Rob: I want to take a course in art this year. I liked art classes in elementary school. I have not had time in my schedule for art. But this year, I do.

Jo: You are lucky. I would like to take art also. But my mother says I must take an advanced math class. She thinks it will help me get in college. Art class would be more fun.

- 1.What course does Rob want to take?
- 2.Does Jo like art class?
- 3.Why won't Jo take art class?

sign up for

Jess: I signed up for Spanish this year. I need two years of foreign language to graduate. Spanish is easy for me because my grandmother is from Mexico. She speaks Spanish all the time. I learned it when I was a child.

Jan: Did you sign up for the math club? I did. The teacher who leads the club is very nice. He helps us work through hard math puzzles. I like working on hard math problems.

Jess: I did not sign up for math club. I signed up for the ping pong club. I want a club where I can relax. I don't want to think too much after a day at school. Ping pong club is just for fun.

- 1.How many years of foreign language must Jess take?
- 2.What language did Jess choose? Why?
- 3.What club did Jan sign up for?
- 4.List two reasons Jan will like math club.
- 5.What club did Jess sign up for? Why?
- 6.Are you more like Jan or Jess?

register for school

Toni: I registered both children in the elementary school today.

Jill: What grades will they be in?

Toni: My son will be in fourth grade. My daughter will be in first grade.

Jill: My son is too young for school. He is only 3. I will register him in preschool. He will attend preschool for two years. Then he will attend kindergarden.

- 1.What grades will Toni's children be in?
- 2.Did Jill register her son in school?
- 3.Where will Jill's son go?

**Discuss your preschool experience. Use these questions as a guide:**

- 1.Did you go to preschool school?
- 2.Do your kids go to preschool?
- 3.Do you think preschool helps children in school.
- 4.Do you think children should attend preschool before age 4?

**Discuss your elementary school experience. Use these questions as a guide:**

- 1.Did your school have kindergarden?
- 2.How many levels did your elementary school have?
- 3.Did you take art and music classes?
- 4.Did you have physical education(P.E.) classes every day?
- 5.How long was your school day?
- 6.What kinds of games did you play?
- 7.Did you have homework?
- 8.What subjects did you study?
- 9.Did you have a favorite teacher?
- 10.How did you get to school? bus? car? walk? subway?
- 11.What is your favorite memory of elementary school?

**Discuss your high school experience. Use these questions as a guide:**

- 1.How many days a week did you attend?
- 2.How many hours a day did you attend?
- 3.How many hours of homework did you do at night?
- 4.Did you have a tutor?
- 5.What subjects were your strongest?
- 6.What subjects were your weakest?
- 7.Describe your high school?
- 8.Did your high school have sports teams?
- 9.Did you play on any sports teams?
- 10.Did you play in the band?
- 11.Did you play in the orchestra?
- 12.Did you sing in the choir?
- 13.Did you perform in plays?
- 14.Did you have many friends, or just a few?
- 15.Did you date in high school?
- 16.Did you own a car in high school?
- 17.Do you think kids should have cars when they are in high school?