

Vocabulary

Levels:

(BrE): primary school / secondary school / grammar school • / year 7 / university

(AmE): elementary school / middle or junior high school / high school / 7th grade / university or college / grad school

People: teacher / teacher's assistant / school nurse / student / pupil / classmate

(BrE): headmaster / headmistress / deputy head / prefect / head boy / head girl

(AmE): principal / vice principal / class president / freshman (9th grade) / sophomore (10th grade) / junior (11th grade) / senior (12th grade)

Places: in the classroom / lunchroom (AmE) / cafeteria / gym(nasium) / headmaster's office (BrE) / principal's office (AmE) / dorms / dormitories / on campus / at school / boarding school / public / private school / state school

Time expressions: every day / daily / every week / weekly / every month / monthly / once a day / week / month / regularly / every other week / occasionally / from time to time / first thing in the morning / right before lunch / quarter / semester (AmE) / term (BrE) / graduation / timetable (BrE) / schedule (AmE)

Personal Questions

- How often do you have English lessons?
- What time does your school start in the morning?
- Can you tell me about your timetable / schedule?
- When does your term or semester begin and end?
- How often do you have exams?
- How much time do you spend studying?
- When do you prefer to study? When do you usually study?
- How often do you have school holidays (BrE) / vacations (AmE)? When are they?
- How long does it take someone in your country to get a university / college degree?

Pair Discussion

Talk to your friend about how your timetable now is different from when you were at primary school. Ask your partner questions about their past experiences as well.

* You can find a sample dialogue on the September 2016 CD.

Language for comparing times

Did your school...

So did we... / Really? At my school...

That's interesting. We used to...

When I was young / in year four / in elementary school...

I remember when...

I always loved when...

These days / Now I have to...

• Language Point

Be careful when using the term **grammar school** with native English speakers. In British English, it refers to a school for children between 11 and 18 years old who are good at studying (similar to a Czech *gymnázium*). But in American English, a grammar school is an old fashioned word for primary school, and it's for children aged five to twelve.

"First thing in the morning / at 10 o'clock / in the afternoon / every Tuesday / at 7:30..."

"Next month / in June / at the beginning of summer ..."

"Every evening / night / once a week / only when I have time / daily / weekly / every other week / occasionally..."

"Four years / two years in the classroom plus one year of practical experience in the field..."

