

Back to school

WORKSHEET A

Daniel

I quite like going back to school in September as I'm usually bored by the end of the holidays. We live in a tiny village and my friends from school all live a few miles away – sometimes I cycle over to see them and sometimes my mum gives me a lift in the car, but there are still three or four days a week during the holidays when I've got no one to hang out with.

Another good thing about going back this year is that I've chosen the subjects I'm going to study for GCSE and from now on I won't have to do some of the subjects I didn't like, such as chemistry.

John

Going back to work in September will be good. I feel I've had a good break and am looking forward to seeing the kids again. My friends with office jobs are very envious of my holidays – they get about five weeks off a year while teachers, of course, get about three times that.

I teach Year Two; six and seven year-olds, which is a really nice age. They're sweet kids – not like some of the awful teenagers my colleagues have in their classes.

Mark

I don't like the end of the summer holidays. You have six weeks of freedom and then it's back to homework, boring teachers and having to get up at seven in the morning. I can't even sit next to my mates in class – the teachers separate us because they say we mess around too much.

The only good thing is the school sport, because I miss playing football during the summer.

Helen

It's difficult to believe how quickly the summers go by. When I was a kid the six-week holidays seemed like forever – when school finished in July you never thought about September because it seemed too far away.

It's not like that now. As a head teacher I obviously have a lot of school issues to think about before September arrives – I can't just switch off for six weeks.

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WORKSHEET B

Exercise 1

Answer the questions below.

1. On how many days of the week does Daniel not see any of his school friends during the summer holidays?
2. Why are John's friends, who have office jobs, envious of him?
3. Why don't Mark's teachers let him sit next to his friends in class?
4. When Helen was a child, why did she never use to think about September at the beginning of the summer holidays?
5. Daniel mentions two good things about going back to school in September – what are they?
6. How old are the children John teaches?
7. What time does Mark have to get up to go to school?
8. What are the words John uses to describe the children he teaches and the teenagers his colleagues teach?

Exercise 2

Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F), or if the text doesn't say (D).

1. Daniel says he didn't like studying chemistry.
2. Mark is a teacher.
3. John has more than five weeks holiday a year.
4. Helen has longer holidays than John.
5. Daniel doesn't have brothers or sisters.
6. John teaches teenagers.
7. Daniel doesn't live in a big city.
8. Mark enjoys all sports.
9. Helen never thinks about her job during the summer holidays.
10. Daniel's mother drives a car.

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WORKSHEET C

Exercise 3

Fill in the gaps to complete the text.

Daniel

I quite like going back to school in September as I'm usually bored by the end of the holidays. We live in a (1) _ _ _ y village and my friends from school all live a few (2) m _ _ _ s away – sometimes I cycle over to see them and sometimes my mum gives me a (3) _ _ f _ in the car, but there are still three or four days a week during the holidays when I've got no one to (4) h _ _ g _ _ t with.

Another good thing about going back this year is that I've chosen the subjects I'm going to study for GCSE and from now on I won't have to do some of the subjects I didn't like, such as (5) _ hem _ _ _ _ _ .

John

Going back to work in September will be good. I feel I've had a good (6) b _ _ ak and am looking (7) f _ _ _ _ _ d to seeing the kids again. My friends with office jobs are very (8) en _ _ _ _ s of my holidays – they get about five weeks off a year while teachers, of course, get about three (9) _ _ mes that.

I teach Year Two; six and seven year-olds, which is a really nice age. They're sweet kids – not like some of the awful teenagers my (10) c _ _ _ _ _ gues have in their classes.

Mark

I don't like the end of the summer holidays. You have six weeks of (11) f _ _ _ d _ m and then it's back to (12) _ _ _ _ work, boring teachers and having to get up at seven in the morning.

I can't even sit next to my (13) m _ _ _ s in class – the teachers separate us because they say we (14) _ _ ss ar _ _ _ _ too much.

The only good thing is the school sport, because I (15) m _ _ s playing football during the summer.

Helen

It's difficult to believe how (16) _ u _ _ _ ly the summers go by. When I was a kid the six-week holidays seemed like (17) _ o _ e _ er – when school finished in July you never thought about September because it seemed too far away.

It's not like that now. As a (18) h _ _ _ t _ _ _ _ _ r I obviously have a lot of school (19) iss _ _ _ to think about before September arrives – I can't just (20) sw _ _ _ _ _ f _ for six weeks.