

Back to school

WORKSHEET A

Daniel

I actually like going back to school, as I'm usually bored by the end of summer vacation. We live in a small town, and my friends from school all live a few miles away – sometimes I ride my bike over to see them, and sometimes my mom gives me a ride in the car, but there are still three or four days a week during vacation when I don't have anybody to hang out with.

Another good thing about going back this year is that I got to choose more electives, and I don't have to take some of the subjects I didn't like last year, such as chemistry.

John

Going back to work in the fall 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 vacation time – they only get two weeks off a year, while teachers, of course, get about six times that.

I teach the first grade; seven- and eight-year-olds, which is a really nice age. They're sweet kids – not like some of the awful teenagers my co-workers have in their classes.

Mark

I don't like the end of summer vacation. You have a couple months of freedom and then it's back to homework, boring teachers, and having to get up at six o'clock in the morning.

I can't even sit next to my friends in class – the teachers separate us because they say we mess around too much.

The only good thing is school sports, 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, summer vacation seemed to last forever – when school finished in June you never thought about going back because it seemed too far away.

It's not like that now. As the principal, I obviously have a lot of school issues to think about before the kids go back – I can't just switch off for ten 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 summer vacation?
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 going back to school at the beginning of summer vacation?
5. Daniel mentions two good things about going back to school – 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 co-workers teach?

Exercise 2

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

1. Daniel says he didn't like studying chemistry.
2. Mark is a teacher.
3. John has more than two weeks' vacation a year.
4. Helen takes longer vacations than John.
5. Daniel doesn't have any 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 summer vacation.
10. Daniel's mother drives a car.

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WORKSHEET C

Exercise 3

Fill in the blanks to complete the text.

Daniel

I actually like going back to school, as I'm usually (1) _ _ _ _ **d** by the end of summer vacation. We live in a small town, and my friends from school all live a few (2) **m** _ _ _ **s** away – sometimes I ride my bike over to see them, and sometimes my mom gives me a (3) _ _ **d** _ in the car, but there are still three or four days a week during vacation when I don't have anybody to (4) **h** _ _ **g** _ _ **t** with.

Another good thing about going back this year is that I got to choose more electives, and I don't have to take some of the subjects I didn't like last year, such as (5) _ **hem** _ _ _ _ _.

John

Going back to work in the fall 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 vacation time – they only get two weeks off a year, while teachers, of course, get about six (9) _ _ **mes** that.

I teach the first grade; seven- and eight-year-olds, which is a really nice age. They're sweet kids – not like some of the awful teenagers my (10) _ **o**- _ _ _ **k** _ _ **s** have in their classes.

Mark

I don't like the end of summer vacation. You have a couple months of (11) **f** _ _ _ **d** _ **m** and then it's back to (12) _ _ _ _ **work**, boring teachers, and having to get up at six o'clock in the morning.

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

The only good thing is school sports, 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, summer vacation seemed to last (17) _ **o** _ **e** _ **er** – when school finished in June you never thought about going back because it seemed too far away.

It's not like that now. As the (18) _ **r** _ _ _ **c** _ _ _ _ , I obviously have a lot of school (19) **iss** _ _ _ _ to think about before the kids go back – I can't just (20) **sw** _ _ _ _ _
_ **f** _ for ten weeks.