



GUIA N° 3

Dan Baker, 14, grade 9, Alice Deal Junior High, Washington.

My school is totally ordinary and I don't think it's very different from a school in any country. I'm in the 9th grade at Alice Deal Junior High, Washington DC. In the USA, kids start first grade at age six and finish in twelfth grade. From seventh to ninth grade, we go to Junior School.



We don't wear a uniform, but there is a dress code. That means we shouldn't attend school in baggy, skateboarding pants, very short skirts, or clothes with holes in them, and we can't dye our hair crazy colors!

School starts at 8:45 and ends at 3:15. A lot of students stay until 5:30 to play sports or take part in the after-school program; that means you can stay at school to do your assignments or go to the computer lab. We do the same subjects as any school and we also study Spanish because there are a lot of people in the USA who speak Spanish at home. Some schools in Washington DC are totally bilingual in Spanish and English because there are so many Latino students; their families are mainly from Mexico and El Salvador.

We generally have lunch in the school cafeteria; the food is okay.

One of the best things at this school is the field trips. Last week, we went on a biology trip to Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, a national park with a river and lakes; we spent the whole day there and had lunch in the picnic area.

Edna Bailey-Castro, 15, grade 10, The Chapin School, New York. (<http://www.chapin.edu>)

My school is private and there are about 650 girls ranging from kindergarten through grade twelve. It is located on the Upper East Side of Manhattan in New York City. One thing I like about my school is that it is relatively small and all of us form a close-knit community. I participate in community activities and sports, including softball and volleyball; in fact, we were the New York State Champions in volleyball this past year. My school also does an excellent job preparing us academically for college.



I love my school! There are so many cultural and educational opportunities. For example, the Metropolitan Museum of Art is five blocks away, and we often go there to actually experience things we have studied in class.

About the only negative thing I can think of about my school is the fact that I have a long commute back and forth. I live in the Bronx, and I take the subway and a bus to get to my school

1.
 - a. In Dan's school, students are _____ when they start 1st grade.
 - i. five
 - ii. six
 - iii. seven
 - b. Junior School begins when students are in _____ grade.
 - i. seventh
 - ii. ninth
 - iii. twelfth
 - c. Generally, students have lunch _____.
 - i. at home
 - ii. in a restaurant
 - iii. in the school cafeteria
 - d. Edna's school ranges along _____ grades.
 - i. K-9
 - ii. K-12
 - iii. 7-9
 - e. Her school offers cultural _____ extra-curricular activities.
 - i. and recreational
 - ii. and academic
 - iii. academic and recreational

2. Read again and fill in the chart with specific information from the texts and your own.

Student	1	2	You
Name			
Age			
School			
Positive aspects			
Negative aspects			