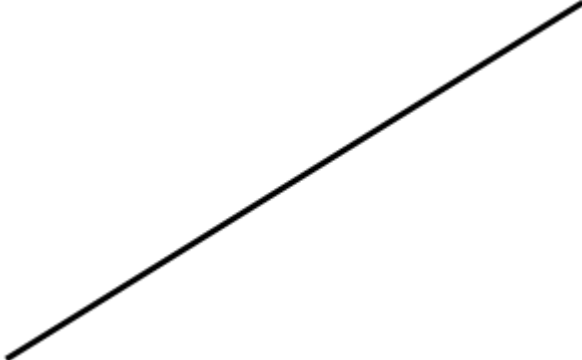


Starting a new school

Task 1. Discuss the following with your partner. Share your number and the reason why you chose it.

How would you feel if: you joined a sports team for the first time? you went to a party and didn't know anyone there? you had to sit next to a student who has just joined your class? you started a new school?	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block; margin-bottom: 10px;">1. Very nervous</div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-right: 5px;">5. Very confident</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-right: 5px;">2.</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-right: 5px;">4.</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">3.</div> </div> 
--	---

We are going to meet some teenagers who have just started a new school. How do you think they feel?

Task 2: Listen to them talking about their new school experience. Match the student to what they say.

Speaker	What they say
Zainab	I felt uncomfortable because people didn't want to talk to me.
Femi	People are always looking at me and I'm often alone.
Hanna	The biggest problem for me was connected to my language skills.
Adam	I received a lot of support and felt welcomed overall.

Task 3: Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

open-minded	refugee	feel left out	stick together	dye
disabled	piercings	relief	lonely	
get an awkward feeling	welcoming	feel out of place	inside jokes	

- a) Mona left her country because of a war and now she is a _____ in Greece.
- b) Mia wants to _____ her hair pink for the school party.
- c) My classmates laugh at their _____, but I don't understand them yet.
- d) My friends and I always support each other and _____ when things are difficult.
- e) After I moved to a new school, I felt very _____ because I was often alone.
- f) I _____ when everyone is wearing the same style of clothes and I'm wearing something different.
- g) It was a big _____ when the teacher cancelled the test!
- h) The students in my class were very _____ and friendly on my first day at school.
- i) Liam has two _____ in his ear, and he wants to get another one.
- j) Sometimes, I _____ when my friends talk about a party that I didn't go to.
- k) I always _____ when I don't know what to say in a conversation. My face goes red!
- l) Our school built a new ramp so that _____ students can easily go to class.
- m) My new teacher is really _____ and listens to everyone's ideas in class.

Talk with your partner:

Have you ever felt left out at school?

Have you ever felt out of place in a social situation?

Have you ever been friendly and welcoming to a new person?

Task 4: Listen to the students describing their experiences again and choose the correct options to answer the questions below.

Speaker 1: Zainab**1. What was the most difficult thing about starting a new school for Zainab?**

- a) She found it difficult to communicate in English.
- b) The lessons were much more difficult than in her last school.
- c) The teachers didn't help her very much.
- d) People didn't know her name.

2. Why did Zainab enjoy maths more than other subjects?

- a) The teacher spoke her language.
- b) Maths concepts are the same everywhere.
- c) Her friend Georgia helped her with maths.
- d) It was her favourite subject at her old school.

3. How did Zainab's relationship with Georgia make a difference?

- a) Georgia helped her with schoolwork and introduced her to teachers.
 - b) Georgia helped her make friends and improve her English.
 - c) Georgia spoke Zainab's first language, making communication easier.
 - d) Georgia gave her English lessons.
-

Speaker 2: Femi**1. What made Femi's experience at the new school different?**

- a) He didn't feel confident talking to people.
- b) The students were friendlier than at his previous schools.
- c) He found it harder to understand the lessons at this school.
- d) The school was much larger, and students already had friendship groups.

2. How does Femi feel when he tries to talk to his classmates?

- a) He becomes nervous because they speak too fast.
- b) He feels nervous because he is very shy.
- c) He feels alone because the conversations are about shared experiences.
- d) He feels sad because they make jokes about him.

3. What did Femi try to do to feel less lonely?

- a) He joined school clubs to meet new people.
 - b) He changed classes to find different friends.
 - c) He tried to sit with different groups outside of class.
 - d) He added his classmates on social media.
-

Speaker 3: Hanna

1. How did Hanna feel before starting her new school?

- a) She felt confident.
- b) She felt angry.
- c) She felt relaxed.
- d) She felt scared.

2. How did the buddy system help Hanna?

- a) She could meet a new group of friends.
- b) It helped her understand where things are at school and make a new friend.
- c) It helped her with her studies.
- d) It helped her to get to know the teachers.

3. What does Hanna still find difficult?

- a) Understanding the past funny stories her classmates share.
 - b) Understanding the lessons.
 - c) Finding a group to sit with during lunch breaks.
 - d) Participating in sports activities with her classmates.
-

Speaker 4: Adam**1. What makes Adam feel uncomfortable at his new school?**

- a) People don't like his personality very much.
- b) The students are too friendly, and he doesn't like talking so much.
- c) He doesn't like the other students.
- d) The students look at him because of his style.

2. How does Adam describe his experience during lunch breaks?

- a) He tries to sit with different groups to meet people.
- b) He uses the time to study.
- c) He focuses on his phone to stop feeling left out.
- d) He talks to teachers about how to make friends.

3. What does Adam miss the most about his old school?

- a) People at his old school didn't judge his clothes and hair.
- b) He could use his phone all the time.
- c) His old teachers, who liked his unique style.
- d) The smaller size of the school, which made it easier to meet people.

Discuss:

Have you ever been in a situation like the characters?

How did you feel, and what helped you?

If not, how would you feel in their situation?

Task 5: Work in groups to make a Welcome plan to help new students who join your school.**Step 1: Discuss:**

What problems do the students have?

How could your school help students like Zainab, Femi, Hanna or Adam?

Step 2: What could your school do to make new students feel happy and included? Write a list of five ideas with your group.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Step 3: Change groups. Each person shares the five ideas from their previous group. With your new group, choose the three best ideas.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Step 4: Write your Welcome plan on a poster. Give it a title and write down the three ideas. You can draw and use colours if you want.

Step 5: Present your Welcome plan to another group and explain why your ideas will help new students.