

Pink Bow Tie After Reading Characters (1)

You might remember the narrator of the story describing the Principal of his school like this:

I see this bloke walking along the street wearing a pink bow tie.

I notice that little purple veins are standing out on his bald head.

Splodge is fiddling with his pink bow tie. His face is turning the same colour. I can see that he is about to freak out. 'What utter rubbish,' he yells.

Which of the following pictures do you think best represents Splodge, the Principal?



Look at the picture you have chosen. Work with a partner. Without showing your partner the picture you have chosen try to describe the picture you have chosen and see if your partner can recognise it. You cannot point to the picture you have chosen, and you can't describe the picture by saying which one it is (e.g. "It's the first/second picture" etc)! Take it in turns to describe your picture.

Pink Bow Tie

After Reading

Characters (2)

Here are some descriptions from the story of three people on the train. Decide which of the pictures below best describe the old lady, the mean guy and the kid.

There is an old lady with a walking stick, grey hair and gold wire-rim glasses. She is bent right over and can hardly-walk.

The old lady is too quick for him, 'No you don't,' she says and shoves him off.

There is also a mean, skinny-looking guy sitting next to me. He looks like he would cut your throat for two bob.

Next to him is a kid of about my age and he is smoking.

He looks at me with a wicked smile.

He looks straight at the kid who is smoking. 'Put that cigarette out,' he says. 'You are too young to smoke.'



Pink Bow Tie

After Reading

Ideal School

What would your ideal school be like? Would it be like your current school, or would it be different? How different would it be?

1.

How big would it be? – How many students would it have ...in the whole school?
...in each class?

How many teachers would there be?

How many classrooms?

How much recreation space would there be?

2.

What lessons would you have that you don't have now?

3.

What lessons would you NOT have that you have now?

4.

What time would lessons start, and when would they finish? How many days of the week would you go to school?

5.

Who would be in charge of the school?

6.

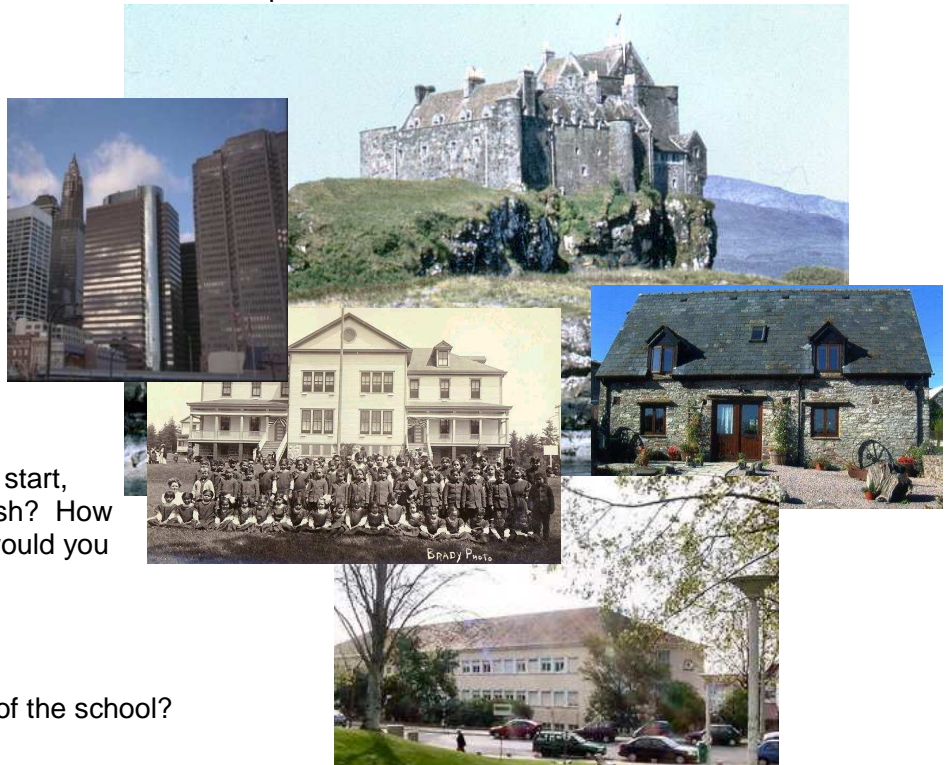
What kind of rules do you think you must have at this school

7.

How would these rules be enforced?

8.

Draw a diagram of your ideal school, indicating all the main areas and what activities would happen in them.



Pink Bow Tie

After Reading

School Rules and Punishments

1.

'Didn't you know it is against the school rules for boys to dye their hair?'

Is it against the rules in your school to dye your hair? For a boy? For a girl? Do you think this rule is a just rule?

Make a list of the things you **cannot** do at your school.

At my school we cannot:

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-



Are these rules just or unjust? Which ones, in your opinion, are unfair, and why?

2.

'I will send a letter home to your parents telling them that you are suspended from school for telling lies.'

I walk sadly back to class. My parents will kill me if I am suspended from school.

What punishments do you have at your school? What happens if you do something you shouldn't do? What happens if you break the rules?

Make a list of some of the things that might happen to you if you break the rules at your school.

Punishments at my school include:

-
-
-
-
-

3. Were punishments at school always the same? Did your parents (or your teacher) have the same punishments at their school that you do now? Probably not – ask them! Look at this list of punishments and decide which ones belong to modern day schools and which ones belong to schools of years ago, and which ones belong to both.

Corporal punishment (being hit, with a hand, cane, stick, belt, slipper etc)

Cleaning the school recreation area

Being told off

Writing lines

Given extra homework



Given detention

Put on report card

Being expelled

Being suspended

Given extra classes

Standing up in front of the whole school

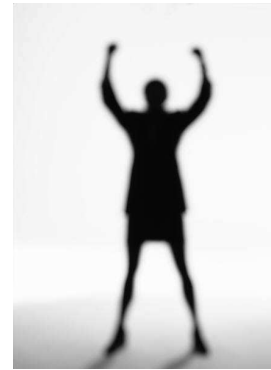
Standing in a corner

Putting hands on head

Standing outside the classroom

Being sent to the Principal

Sending a letter to/phoning parents



Now	Then	Both

4. Are the punishments always fair? Sometimes you might think that the punishment (to you or a friend) is unfair. Look at the following descriptions of rule breaking, and the punishments given. Do you agree with them? If you don't, you must say which punishment you think is fairer, and why.

- a) Jake goes to Dalston High School. It is against the school rules to run in the corridors of the school. Jake did, because he was late for a lesson. A teacher saw him do this and made him stay after school and do some grammar exercises as a punishment.
- b) Emma is a student at Pendleton High School, where it against the rules to drop paper on the ground and leave it there. Emma was caught throwing a wrapper from a chocolate bar on the ground. Her teacher threatened to send her parents a letter saying what she had done.

- c) At Chiswick High School Andrew was punished for throwing a book at a teacher as 'a joke'. He was expelled.
- d) Jonathan, 14, hit Samantha, 12, so hard that she had to go to hospital and have five stitches in a cut above her eye. Jonathan had to write 500 lines which said 'I must not hit girls who are smaller than me'
- e) Teresa, 12, was exposed for bullying many of the younger girls, and making them give her money every week. She was made to stand outside her classroom, in the corridor, for an hour every week, with her hands on her head.
- f) Anthony would never do his homework. His teacher finally decided that she had must punish him, and sent him to see the Principal.
- g) Elizabeth, 15, would swear all the time at her teachers, and her parents had been asked to help. They also swore at the teachers. Elizabeth was suspended until she and her parents agreed that she should stop swearing in school.



5. What punishments would you give students in the following situations?

- Adam was 13 and he came from a poor family who tried very hard to give him all the support he needed at school. Adam was envious of his colleagues who had better clothes and equipment than he, and he used to occasionally steal small things from them, like books, pens and, once, a calculator. He got caught stealing the calculator and admitted that he had taken other things too.
- Edmund and Adrian were the best of friends and they shared everything, including their answers in tests. They had developed a sophisticated system of cheating in school tests and it took some time for the teacher to discover what they had been doing. They had been doing it for years, and no one had noticed until now! They made a mistake, and the teacher caught them. They didn't deny their guilt.
- Two of the older students in the school, a girl and a boy, were reported to be trying to sell drugs to younger children at school. They are caught 'red-handed' trying to sell some cannabis to some 13 year olds.
- Simon, who is 14, is the leader of a small gang of boys who think they are tough. They go around the school threatening smaller students and demanding money and valuables. They say they will hit them if they don't agree. Most of the younger students are too frightened to say anything. Eventually they are reported by a parent whose daughter has just had a new mobile phone stolen by Simon and his gang.