

# USA School System

Spotlight 10, Culture Corner 3

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## Discussion

- Where do you go every day?
- What form are you in?
- How many lessons do you usually have?
- How many subjects do you have?
- What subjects do you prefer?
- What subjects are difficult for you?
- Do you like your school life?

# USA SCHOOL SYSTEM

**Kindergarten**  
(age 5)

**Elementary School**  
Grades 1-6 (ages 6-11)

**Junior High School**  
Grades 7 & 8 (ages 12-13)

**High School**  
Grades 9-12 (ages 14-17)

ninth graders = freshmen  
tenth graders = sophomores  
eleventh graders = seniors  
twelfth graders = seniors

freshman /frefʃmən/ (n) учащийся 9-го класса (в США)

high school /haɪ sku:l/ (n) старшая школа

independently /ɪndɪpɛndəntli/ (adv) самостоятельно,  
независимо

journalism /dʒɜːnəlɪzəm/ (n) журналистика

junior /dʒuːniə/ (n) учащийся 11-го класса (в США)

informal /ɪnfɔːrməl/ (adj) без формальностей, простой

kindergarten /kɪndəˈgɑːrtʃn/ (n) детский сад

range /reɪndʒ/ (n) спектр

school bus /sku:l bʌs/ (n) школьный автобус

senior /siːnjə/ (n) учащийся 12-го класса


sophomore /sɒfəˈmɔː/ (n) учащийся 10-го класса (в  
США)

## Scanning ex.2 p.57

- Scan Part 1 and say what does the American educational system offer?
- Scan Part 2 and say what you think life in an American high schools is like?
- Scan Part 3 and say what sports and extra-curricular activities are there?

# Reading for Details

<b>Subjects</b>	<b>After school activities</b>	<b>Sports, extra-curricular activities</b>



class discussion

Are you aged  
**14 to 17 ?**

Why not spend a year in the USA  
and experience life in an American high school?

**We help you get the most out of your American experience!**

## A 1) **Relax** (relax) and informal teaching style

American schools encourage students to think independently and take part in class discussions. The American 2) **education** (educate) system also offers a great range of subjects, so you could get the chance to study American history, journalism, business studies or drama. Some high schools offer 3) **driving** (drive) lessons too, so you could even get your American driving licence while you're in the USA!



## School life

If you take part in our exchange programme, you'll experience what's unique about an American high school! On a typical day, you might travel to school by yellow school bus, then chat with friends while you put away your coat and lunch in your **4) locker** (lock). You'll then have around five hours of classes! You'll get a report card about **5) twice** (two) a year. Your grades will depend on your performance in class discussions, homework and projects.

## Sports and extra-curricular activities

Sporting activities are a major part of high school life, and your school will expect you to participate! Of course, there's cheerleading and American football, but other popular sports include soccer, basketball and baseball. If you're not the **6) sporty** (sport) type, there are also many other things to do such as join the school newspaper, the debating club or the 'prom' **7) organising** (organise) committee. The prom is an **8) extremely** (extreme) special dance at the end of the school year.

The school year in the United States of America begins in \_\_\_\_\_ and finishes in \_\_\_\_\_. There are \_\_\_\_\_ semesters. They have no school on the following: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, Easter and during \_\_\_\_\_ vocation.

The compulsory subjects are \_\_\_\_\_. The students can also choose the “electives” in such areas as \_\_\_\_\_.

The school year in the United States of America begins in September and finishes in June.

There are three semesters. They have no school on the following: Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter and during summer vocation.

The compulsory subjects are English, Maths, Science, Social Studies and Physical Education.

The students can also choose the “electives” in such areas as Foreign Languages, Fine Arts, Vocational Studies.

# Russian School System

Elementary School: Grades 1-4 (ages 6/7-10/11)

Middle School: Grades 5-9 (ages 11-15)

Senior Secondary School or Vocational School  
Grades 9-11 (ages 15-17)    4 Years (ages 15-19)



# Advantages and Disadvantages

+	-

Imagine that you have to choose a country to study. Put these factors in order of priority from 1 to 12 / 1=the most important/.

- A variety of types of schools.
- The duration of a school day.
- The reputation of a school.
- Teachers.
- Extracurricular activities.
- Multiculturalism.
- School discipline.
- School uniforms.
- Tests.
- The choice of subjects.
- The age children start and leave school.