

School and Schooling

Read the text I.

- We've been studying at our school for 5 years and I think you've got your opinion about it.
- Well, I'm sure our school is a good one. It gives me the necessary knowledge. It helps me to become a well-educated person. As you know, good education develops our intelligence and widens our outlook. Do you agree with me?
- Definitely yes. At every lesson we get to know a lot of useful and curious things about nature, our Earth, and about the history of our country and other countries. It's exciting to know more about the wide world around us.
- And our teachers are skilled. They are strict but kind. They teach us to be clever, hard-working, honest, polite, friendly. They give us good knowledge in different subjects. They try to make the lessons interesting. There are a lot of subjects on our timetable, aren't there?
- Yes, there are. And I like many of them. For example, my favourite subjects are...
- Why do you like these subjects?
It's interesting for me (to do sums, to read and discuss books, to sing and listen to music, to run, to jump, to compete in relay races, to play team games, to speak English, French, German, to learn to make things with my own hands, to learn to cook, to sew, to knit, to embroider, to learn about many things...). What subjects are you good at?
- I'm good at... I'm rather poor at. I have problems or troubles with (Maths, English, History...). But I'm sure I'll make some progress if I try my best...

Reading is a wonderful pastime that gives us an opportunity to learn a lot, to be amused and excited. As for me, I try my best to read as much as possible. Of course, I read the books which are recommended at school - Russian classics and modern literature. As our school specializes in English, we read books by American and English authors. We read some stories in English but oftener in Russian. I have a special liking for reading detectives, adventure stories, and historical novels.

WORK IN GROUPS

1. *Here are different reasons why you go to school. Discuss them and say whether you agree or disagree with them.*

School...

- introduces you to different sorts of people;
- helps you make your own decisions;
- helps you understand yourself better;
- makes you polite and well behaved;
- introduces you to new scientific ideas;
- helps you to **use** your free time sensibly;
- helps you train for a job;
- teaches you moral values;
- teaches you about your country, its history, culture and its present-day place in the world.
-