

Culture in mind

1 Read and listen **K**

- a** Alan Martin is 16 and he's in Year 11 at a British school. Read the text quickly to answer the questions.

- When does school start and finish?
- What does Alan do after school?

- b**  Read again. Match the topics with the paragraphs in the text. Write 1–6 in the boxes. Listen and check your answers.

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| a | Activities after school | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b | Free time between lessons | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c | School clothes | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d | School subjects in Year 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e | Homework | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f | The start of the school day | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- c** **Circle** the correct words.

- He *wears* / *doesn't wear* a uniform at the weekend.
- There is a school Assembly on Monday *mornings* / *afternoons*.
- Brian *likes* / *doesn't like* learning languages.
- Alan's friends *sometimes* / *never* bring sandwiches to school.
- Alan goes to clubs *once* / *twice* a week.
- He *does* / *doesn't do* a lot of homework.

- d** Answer the questions.

- Do girls go to Alan's school?
- Do all British students wear a uniform?
- Does Alan go to school by bus?
- How many subjects does Alan study?
- Where does he eat his lunch?
- How many hours a week does Alan spend on homework?

- e** Is Alan's school day similar to yours, or very different? Discuss this question with a partner or in a small group.



A school in Britain

1 I get up at 7.30 and get dressed for school. My school has a uniform – black trousers and shoes, a white shirt and a black and gold tie. The girls wear the same, or they can wear a black skirt. We also have a black sweatshirt or we can wear a black jacket. Not all British schools have a uniform, but it's common here.

2 I don't live far from the school, so I walk there with my friends, Brian and Gemma. Lots of students catch the school bus or their parents drive them to school. On Mondays we all start the day with Assembly in the school hall at 8.50. The headteacher talks to us and gives us information about school events.

3 This year I've got nine subjects. We all study English, Maths and Science, and then we choose other subjects. My favourites are IT and Art & Design. Brian likes Spanish and Japanese. Gemma is brilliant at Maths, so she goes to an Advanced Maths class.

4 We have 20 minutes for break in the morning and an hour for lunch. Some students bring sandwiches to school for lunch, but my friends and I always eat in the dining room where you can get a hot meal every day.

5 Lessons end at 4 o'clock, but on Mondays and Wednesdays I stay at school until 5 o'clock. I go to the Photography Club and the Athletics Club. There are lots of clubs and activities at our school. Brian belongs to the Film Society and Gemma plays in the school orchestra.

6 At the end of the day I always spend two hours on homework – sometimes three hours. We get lots of homework now. We've got our GCSE* exams in June, so there's always *lots* of work to do.



*GCSE = national school exams (General Certificate of Secondary Education). Students usually take these examinations when they are 16.

2 Write K T

a Answer the questions.

- 1 What time do you usually get up?
- 2 What time do you leave your house?
- 3 What time do the lessons begin?
- 4 What time do you have a break?
- 5 Do you have lunch at school?
What do you eat?
- 6 What time do the lessons finish?
- 7 What do you do after school?
- 8 How much time do you spend on homework in the evening?

b Write a description of your usual school day. Use your answers in Exercise 2a to help you.

Culture in mind

1 Read and listen **K**

a Look at photos 1–4. Can you find these things?

some cereal bacon and eggs
 restaurant food an omelette
 some toast a sandwich
 a take-away fish and chips

b Match the things in Exercise 1a with the headings from an article on British food.

1 Breakfast 2 Lunch 3 Eating out

Read the text quickly to check your answers.

What is British food?



When someone says ‘typical British food’, most people think of fish and chips, roast beef on Sundays, and bacon and eggs for breakfast. But is this what people usually eat? What do the teenagers of Britain eat today? We asked James (15), Sophie (15) and Marcus (16).

Breakfast

James Breakfast for me is a bowl of cereal and some fruit juice. That’s all.

Sophie I never eat a big breakfast. I just have tea and a piece of toast.

Marcus I love bacon and eggs at the weekend, but not on school days. It’s too much.



Lunch

James It depends. At school I have sandwiches. At the weekend I often have pizza or fish and chips – something quick and easy.

Sophie I have lunch at school. It’s usually some kind of meat with vegetables. At the weekend or in the holidays, I like making salads and omelettes for lunch.

Marcus I usually just eat some fruit and perhaps a sandwich and some yoghurt. That’s enough for me.

- c**  Read the text again and listen. Then answer the questions.
- 1 What is a typical British Sunday dish?
 - 2 Does Sophie eat a lot for breakfast?
 - 3 When does Marcus have bacon and eggs for breakfast?
 - 4 Who likes an egg dish for lunch?
 - 5 Why doesn't James eat out very often?
 - 6 Where does Marcus sometimes eat out?
- d** What are the main differences between your eating habits and those of James, Sophie and Marcus?



Eating out

James I live in a very small town and there aren't many restaurants here. But I like Chinese food a lot and we often get a Chinese take-away. My parents sometimes take us out to a restaurant – then it's usually French or Italian food.

Sophie Indian dishes are my favourite food. There are some really good Indian restaurants here, and I often go to one with my friends. I love chicken tikka masala. Actually, that's one of the most popular dishes in Britain these days.

Marcus I'm lucky – I live in London and you can get anything here. I don't eat out very often, but I like Greek food so I sometimes go to a Greek restaurant. Or there's a very good Mexican restaurant near my house.

2 Write K

- a** Write notes in answer to these questions.
- 1 How many meals do you eat every day?
 - 2 What food do you often eat? What don't you eat?
 - 3 Do you eat healthy snacks?
 - 4 How much water do you drink a day?
 - 5 What do you do to keep fit?
- b** Work with a partner. Ask and answer the questions and note down your partner's answers.
- c** Write a paragraph about your partner. Use your notes to guide you. Here is an example.



Carol eats three meals a day. She eats a lot of salad and vegetables, but not much meat. She hates carrots! She doesn't eat a lot of snacks but she sometimes has ice cream or some chocolate. She drinks two litres of water a day. Keeping fit is very important for Carol. She plays basketball once a week. She also swims and rides her bike, and she enjoys going for walks at the weekend.