

An English lesson should be a platform for practising the language. If so, why do we sometimes struggle with inactive students who keep looking at the clock on the wall, waiting impatiently for the bell? Teenagers have a lot to say and all we need to do is to let them express themselves. Teens' voice gives them an opportunity to tell you about their passions, school life and to raise any issues that matter to them most. Developing their language skills is just a nice side effect.

Dąbrowszczak English teachers

THE PHOTO WINNER

The **first** place in the competition for the best photo with a teddy bear goes to **IIB**:-)

When the competition for a photo with our new school teddy bear was announced, every student or class or group of friends wanted to win it. No one knew what the prize could be but the challenge was accepted by the majority of our student community.



Tea time

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We, I mean my class IIB, wanted to take part in it, but we hoped to avoid taking just a typical selfie. Although it was Christmas time and we were tempted to take a Christmas-related photo, we rejected this idea, assuming that it would be too obvious. We started looking for some original, unique ideas which could represent our class better. **Finally, Patricia (thank God for her creativity) came up with a brilliant plan which we decided to realise.**

We decided to arrange a lovely moment of 5 o'clock British tea time.

fresh, strong, lukewarm, herbal, decaffeinated TEA

Wasn't it ingenious if you remember that we are the class where the English language is taught on an extended level? After all, English lifestyle is familiar to all of us. We arranged the chairs close to the blackboard, where „TEA TIME” was written. A nice background – isn't it? Everyone brought a China cup. Adam set the clock so that it could show 5p.m. Some people sat down and the rest stood around the

teddy. Our form teacher was, of course, invited to pose with us. And then everyone got engaged in sipping tea. Justine took a picture in which there is one invisible person - Victor standing behind and holding the bear (this size teddy bear is much heavier than it seems to be!). I do believe that he should be given an extra prize for accepting the fact that he won't be in the photograph:-). The whole situation happened during

the last possible day to send a photo for the competition. We had a lot of fun creating it. As a consequence, we generated an amusing picture, which isn't just a school photo- it's memorable visualisation which will remind us of the time spent together in Dąbrowski High School.
Karolina J IIB

Famous people and tea

“Tea! Bless ordinary everyday afternoon tea!”

Agatha Christie

“You can never get a cup of tea large enough or a book long enough to suit me.”

C.S.Lewis

“I say let the world go to hell, but I should always have my tea.”

Fyodor Dostoyevsky

“Tea to the English is really a picnic indoors.”



IIB

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CHATting BUT IN... ENGLISH?

Imagine sitting in a boring lesson. It's not so difficult, isn't it? You're so bored that you decide to take out your mobile and switch on the Wi-Fi. You want to chat with somebody but nobody is online. You're upset and have no idea what to do. Suddenly, you receive a message from your friend from Taiwan. And then, the rest of the lesson changes into a chatting paradise for you.

Foreign friends online

Penfriending has been growing in popularity over the last years. A lot of teachers advise their students to find a peer student from a foreign country

to keep in touch with him or her. That allows you to live with English all day long and often use the very colloquial kind of language that you won't be taught at school. Moreover, countries from all over the world have different time zones. So, when we're at school, in Taiwan it's the evening and your virtual friend can usually chat with you then.

Letters: is it really old-fashioned?

Another type of penfriending is sending letters or postcards. It's a less popular way of contacting your friends than chatting online. Firstly, it takes a lot of time: you need to write a few words, which seems to be quite

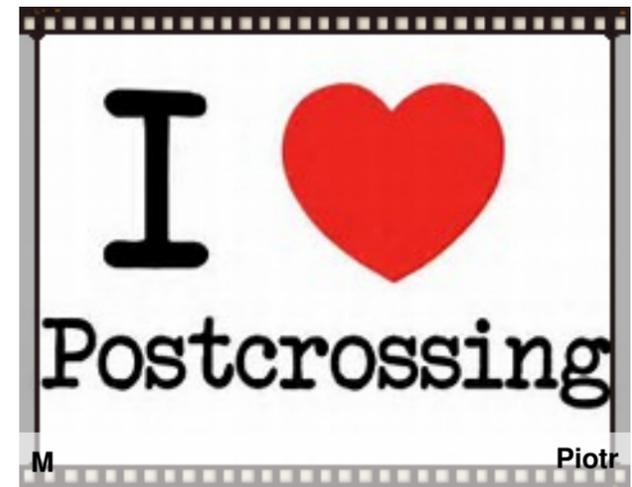
old-fashioned, then you must take the letter to a post office, and queue for a stamp. It might turn out to be too challenging to students who sometimes have no idea how to address the letter. It's also quite expensive to send several letters abroad every month. However, it gives you a lot of satisfaction when you're taking your reply out of the mailbox. For me, the person who has been collecting postcards for five years, it's a great way to exchange them.

How to find a penfriend?

I have found all of my penfriends on the website called postcrossing.com.

This page enables you to send and receive postcards from all over the world – and some of the users want to make friends with you. It's not difficult to befriend a few foreigners. Now I'm writing with students from France, Taiwan, China and Lithuania and I used to do it with a Ukrainian and a Belarusian. Except for making friends, your English teacher will see your progress in the language and I guarantee she /he won't be sad about it. Why not have a go at it, then? Try and I'm sure that you won't regret it.

Piotrek M IB



The truth about being in your FRESHMAN vs. SENIOR year

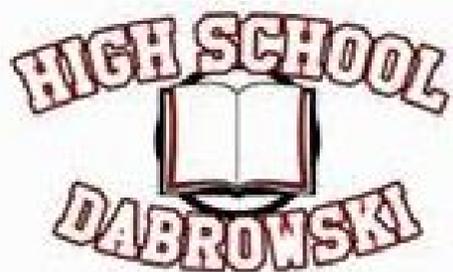
Well, there's no doubt that we all struggle with such problems as back - to - school anxiety which in fact affects us differently depending on our year of school.



Best outfit ever! Our High School Dabrowski sweatshirts.

The first day of high school or any kind of school is also connected with many complexities to deal with like school supplies, waking up, organizing stuff and last but not least, the first day outfit. The approach to these aspects changes in the senior year...

To wear or not to wear?



School supplies

One of the first thoughts that comes to mind while getting into the freshman year is having all the school stuff prepared. How many times have you packed any of those school „kind of must – haves” though you know they're not needed?

On the first day of the senior year you know nothing important happens and so you keep calm and carry on.

Getting up

Freshman students always have their alarm clocks on just in case (even though they barely sleep and wake up before the alarm clock). The more experienced you become, the better

planned your routine becomes – freaking out is out of question. Even if you do oversleep without your alarm clock, you will not get into panic as you used to a year ago. Why lose your head if it will suffice to say: “I'm sorry, I'm late”.

First day outfit

The first day outfit of high school means you have had your outfit planned for months ahead obviously! - to look cute. We all know that first impressions matter and we don't want to be misjudged. Being in the senior year, it's all about simple pieces randomly chucked on you in rush rather than „ deeply considered” look.

That is to say, jeans and a sweatshirt are the only effort you put into the image at school. The only but spectacular: after all, we wear our sweatshirts with the logo of DabrowszczakJ Despite the fact that there are many various aspects and personal feelings related to the first day of school, there is definitely one thing about which only a weirdo wouldn't get excited about – the sound of the bell ringing at the end of a lesson, no matter what year you are in.

Marta M IB

“Freshgirl”

Hobbies change your life for better

One of my hobbies is volleyball. I can say that it's my biggest and most important passion. I have always liked sport. I used to be an active child and I was always on the move, running, playing football, jumping and doing all sorts of physical activities. In my primary school I started taking interest in volleyball. I enjoyed playing it and scoring points for my team made me feel proud. I felt a sense of achievement when I won. In my junior high I started training on a little bit higher level. I had to put much more effort into this sport but it hasn't discouraged me from taking part

in matches. Volleyball means a lot to me. First of all, volleyball gives me a lot of fun. I can spend time with my teammates during the training session. We really cooperate well and we have known each other since our childhood. In my club, I'm the captain so that's an important part of the team. I have to motivate my girls and be sure that everything's gonna be okay. Secondly, volleyball teaches me that hard work pays off. I train three times a week so I need to be well-organized to catch up with my schoolwork, too. I'm in good condition and I'm trying to be fitter and fitter. And finally, volleyball gives me

a lot of good feelings, especially during the game. You must be focused on your match and try not to make any stupid mistakes. After a really hard match the victory tastes the best. I also love watching volleyball on TV. I'm interested in it and I know many clubs and many players from around the world. I'm also representing our school. That's a big honour and I'll do my best to win every match in Dabrowszczak's club colours.

Marysia F IB



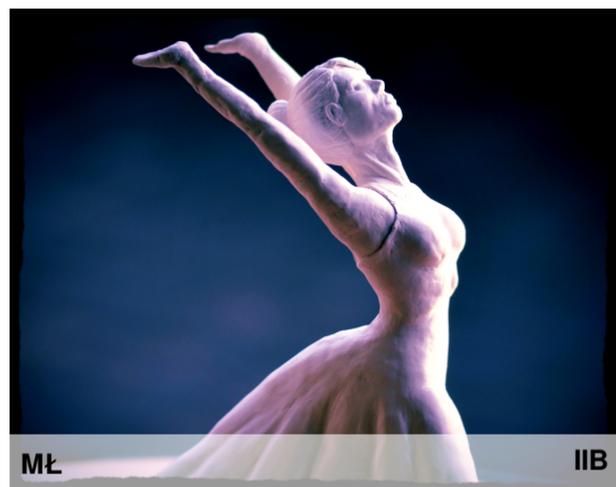
IB

MF



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MŁ

IIB

It is the sculpture that I sent to a national competition. It took me a week to create it. I wanted to give myself a challenging task so I chose a hard figure. When I finished I felt a sense of achievement - no matter if I win or lose, I will always remember working on the tiny sculpture.



MŁ

IIB

It is the drawing that I sent to a school competition about France. I used my favourite markers which produce very intense colours. There is one thing that I must admit - it was finished just before the deadline. But I must also admit that the result was more than satisfying to me.

Am I an artist?

I must say that developing artistic skills is hard when you are a teenager who regularly attends school and has some routine housework to do. I never forget about learning and other school-related activities but it is drawing that I am passionate about. I inherited an artistic talent from my mother, who really has a flair for painting. You could say that it runs in the family. When I was a child I used to draw drawings with coloured pencils. It is hard to define the time when it all started. My passion stems from the fact that in my house there have always been

my mum's paintings on the walls. It gives me inspiration and motivation to work. I have tried my hand at various domains but my favourite activity is painting with special art markers. When I use this technique, all I need is my imagination and a set of pencils. However, I have had several occasions when I tried my skills at painting on the canvas with oil paint. And then I always painted horses - I love these animals. I am actually keen on it but it is time-consuming and requires precision. Drawing makes me feel relaxed but it also gives me a lot of satisfaction, especially when my efforts are appreciated by other people. I sometimes get awards

in competitions and I am never discouraged from sharing my talent with others, even though there are some situations that I don't get anything, despite putting a lot of effort into my work. 2 months ago I decided to take part in a national competition on sculpture and I have just got an invitation to the prize-giving ceremony. I'm excited about the results and feel proud that my work has been noticed by a professional jury. I hope to be among the best:-)

Małgorzata Ł. IIB

Dąbrowszczak - 9 teachers - international courses - PO WER motivation - inspiration - adventure - fun - novelty - change

Memories from a teacher training course in Norwich
On July 17-28, 2017, we participated in the methodological course of professional development **Video and Image in Language Teaching** in Norwich. Practical workshops were conducted by Jamie Keddie, who is known among foreign language teachers for his

love for storytelling, passion for teaching English and a real obsession with You Tube. He is has been using You Tube clips to build stories, in which funny pigs, sneezing pandas, exploding watermelons or falling objects from the sky often appear. Jamie conducted classes not only professionally, but also with a large dose

of humor, proving every day that he loves what he does, he can infect others with enthusiasm and effectively engage them in lessons. The course covered 50 hours, during which we learnt how to use storytelling as a useful teaching strategy. We also had the opportunity to create and edit movies and short clips using

free software. The course was attended by teachers from Spain, Austria, Switzerland and Tunisia, which made it possible for us to familiarise ourselves with the work of linguists from other countries, to compare educational systems and to exchange good practices and experiences related to teaching English. A rich cultural

program including Afternoon Tea or a knowledge quiz typical of British pubs, trips to the historic university city of Cambridge or the seaside resort in Cromer, accommodation with English families, a visit to the lcal theatre to see Jane Eire gave us the possibility of expanding knowledge about the modern life of England.



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Get ready - ready for professional life and education in Europe is fully financed from European funds under the Operational Program Knowledge Education Development (**POWER**)
The project received the funding of PLN **100.197.35**.

The aim of the project is to improve the quality of teaching and management of the institution and to increase the professional competence of the staff by participating in teacher training courses in EU countries.

Training methodological and technological skills, exchange of ideas, experiences with teachers from other cultural backgrounds are intended to contribute to the improvement of the quality of our school's work and better preparation of its students to live in European multiculturalism.



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We change because "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world". *Nelson Mandela*



AW

Bordeaux

Durant les dernières vacances, j'ai fait un stage pédagogique à Bordeaux , au sud-ouest de la France. J'y ai passé deux semaines, du 24 juillet au 4 août 2017. Il y avait plusieurs buts de ce séjour, entre autre : connaissance de nouvelles techniques d'apprentissage, approfondissement du savoir sur la langue française, culture, histoire du pays et de la région, coopération en groupe international et perfectionnement de techniques de travail. Les cours étaient menés par des professeurs présentant de nouveaux outils et méthodes de travail en classe. Les participants apprenaient à profiter des documents authentiques, à utiliser les sources d'Internet et des jeux ludiques pour développer les compétences linguistiques des élèves. Ce qui étaient très important, c'est la possibilité du contact avec les profs venant du monde entier. Comparer les systèmes d'éducation, discuter de la place de langue française , confronter la forme du bac, c'est quelque chose à apprécier. Un atout additionnel, c'était le programme culturel proposé par les organisateurs : des excursions, musées, concerts, visites de la ville de même que de la région Je recommanderais avec plaisir ce genre de stage à chaque professeur de français.
Anna Wdowiak

It was a cool September night. The sun set a few hours ago and all was quiet and peaceful. No one had expected what was going to happen next.

A famous opera singer- Eveline and her younger six-year-old brother- Ben were just coming back home. Their mother requested them not to be late for supper, but, unfortunately, Eveline's performance lasted much longer than she had planned. The girl decided to choose a shorter way leading through the forest to save time. She didn't have the slightest idea that this choice would turn out to be one of the worst decisions in her life.

Eveline was driving for twenty minutes and Ben was snoring quietly on the seat beside her. The way was sinuous and rugged. The forest looked absolutely horrifying at that time. "I should keep calm. Nothing bad will happen to us"- she kept repeating in her mind.

Suddenly, she saw an odd-looking person who was lying next

to the bushes. The strange man wasn't moving. The girl decided to stop the car in order to check the man's condition. She left her brother inside the vehicle and came up to the stranger. It was a boy. His head was slouched forward in an unnatural way and his body was covered in syrupy, purple blood.

She crouched down. Surprisingly, his eyes opened out. Eveline startled. Not long after that she heard menacing whispers, which permeated every aspect of her mind. Then she had hallucinations and her head hurt a lot. After a while everything ceased. The mysterious boy disappeared. The opera singer heard a terrible scream. Somebody was just trying to kidnap her brother! She couldn't allow such a thing. Eveline ran after the kidnapper's tracks until she found Ben.

The girl was welcomed by hostile-looking people. To her amazement, the mysterious boy from the forest was there too. He was alive!

-Our deception has been successful. You're here- said a man.
-I don't understand. Why did you kidnap my brother? Who are you?-she asked.
-We're the trolls, but we don't look the way people usually imagine us, in fact we're entirely different and we have a possibility of harnessing magic. If you cooperate with us, everything will be fine- explained one of them.
-What do you want from me?
- Let me talk: our race was imprisoned in here a few thousand years ago, so we can't abandon the forest. Every day is the same, which bores us terribly. A week ago, a wanderer told us about your magnificent performances. We want your voice so that it will brighten our feasts. If you decide to give us your voice, we'll let you leave.
-All right.

Unfortunately, the trolls didn't abide by the promise. They took her voice away and imprisoned her and Ben in a dungeon. Luckily, the mysterious boy, feeling guilty of their misfortune, set them free. The opera singer has never regained the voice. It is still locked in a case which is hidden in the forest.

THE STORY OF A MAGIC BOOK

It was a warm October afternoon. Although the sun was shining, something wicked was in the air. Caroline didn't expect that this day would cause such an extreme change to her life. The school doors flew open and hundreds of teenagers burst out.

Caroline also stepped out. She looked at a black raven sitting in a leafless tree and headed for home. The girl entered the house, left the schoolbag, grabbed the leash and took the dog for a walk to the nearby forest. Leaves rustled and birds screeched. The dog sniffed and scratched the ground.

Suddenly, an old book appeared before the girl's eyes. She crouched down, picked it up and wiped the front cover. "The Ruby Atlas"- she read silently. Caroline decided to open the mysterious book. As soon as she did it, she lost consciousness.



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When she woke up, she saw an amazing view. It wasn't the world she knew so well. There were hills capped with greenish grass and effuse trees. In one of them she noticed a black raven. Caroline thought she had seen the bird before, but she wasn't sure. Unexpectedly, her dog started barking horribly. An instant later, the girl heard some wolves bay. She got frightened and wanted to get out, but she didn't know how to do it. Then the raven sat down on her shoulder. "Go right along"- it said a hominal voice. She listened to its advice. Caroline had been wandering with the bird for two hours before she found a wooden cottage. She came in. The wizard in a black cloak emerged from the shadows and said: " Don't be afraid of me. Let me explain what's going on here. Books and their heroes live their own life. Once upon a time a bad warlock cast a curse on our book and our story was stopped. It can never come to an end. Everyone of us is confused. You have to help us. If you don't do it, you will never come back home. I'm sorry. I can't do anything to fix that".

What should I do?- she asked.

You have to release the prince from a cave which is charmed. He knows how to break a curse. My dragon's at your command. The raven'll show you the way- the wizard explained. Let's do this- Caroline called out. She kept flying for 3 hours. The girl was really worried that something could go wrong, but, fortunately, everything went according to the original plan. Eventually she released the prince, despite all the adversities. Caroline also found a new friend. Who knows- maybe someone more... It's the most important that she and her dog safely came back home.

The girl sometimes wakes up at night. "I must have been dreaming", she says to herself. In moments like this, she looks at a red rose from the prince which won't wither and can remember everything. Three times a week Caroline transduces into another world. There's a grain of truth in the saying: "Who reads books, he lives twice". Agata P IB



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Get creative – write your poem. See if you are cut out for a poet.

Limericks are silly, humorous poems which consist of 5 lines. There are a few steps to take in order to write a limeric:

- use the same number of syllables in lines 1, 2, 5 and the same number of syllables in lines 3 and 4.
- use their rhyme pattern: aabba

Two weeks ago, I lost my English **coursebook**. I was looking for it in every dark **nook**. The book was taken by my **brother** to teach our lovely **grandmother**. And Filip had to bathe in a local **brook**. (Klaudia K IIB)

When you enter our high **school**, you sometimes feel like **Scooby-doo**. You surely learn good **stuff**. You know who was **Gustaw**. You can see Dąbrowszczak is **cool** (Paulina D IIB)

One day a single girl whose name is **Kate**, fell in love with Simon her **schoolmate**. She chatted him up too **long**, he read her all signals **wrong**. He is a gay - she found it out too **late** (Karolina J IIB)

There were once students from class 1B
Who wanted to learn English for free
They went to Dąberek
And changed into a wreck
As their teachers spent time on a spree.

There were ambitious students studying **Maths**
Their peers tended to call them **psychopaths**
They wanted to **graduate**
To go on the first blind **date**
But after school they followed busier **paths**.

DG - a poet



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Family support

In my school it's hard to make my marks good.
If I do it, Mum is in a great mood.
When she sees me take a book,
She gives me a happy look
And I feel no need for convenience food.

A PERFECT PUNCHLINE

The last year in my brilliant high school
In my opinion is really cool .
I love English and Math
Which help me find my path
As a perfect lifeguard at the pool. (Iza D IIB)

Reflections on Maths

Everybody wants to skip the Maths class
But the teacher said that we wouldn't pass
His jokes are pretty dark
I may get a bad mark
I should pray for myself on Sunday Mass. (Gosia Ł IIB)

Everyone in Dąbrowszczak school knows my IIB class
In our dreams we have good marks but we hardly pass
Our teacher is irreplaceable
Although we often feel miserable
We aren't the Best as Maths is harder than cutting glass. (Maciek Ś IIB)

Maths rocks!

There are not so many types of students in my class
We find learning hard but we always manage to pass
Although we get bad marks in Maths
There are still many career paths
Despite the problems we are still loved by the school mass. (Julka M IIB)

Maths makes us live life to the full:-)

Everyone in my class hates learning Maths.
If we don't want to be psychopaths,
we ought to take a rest
and spend our time best,
so that we can find our proper paths. (Adam S IIB)

Last Friday I impressed my Maths teacher **A**
And I felt happy because he's my preacher **A**
I could do every task **B**
And I didn't have to ask **B**
I am becoming a strange creature. **A**

Weronika & Natalia IB

One day I had a hard exam in Maths
It always gives me a lot of wrath
Every test is like fog
after which I write a blog
Soon I'll join a group of psychopaths.

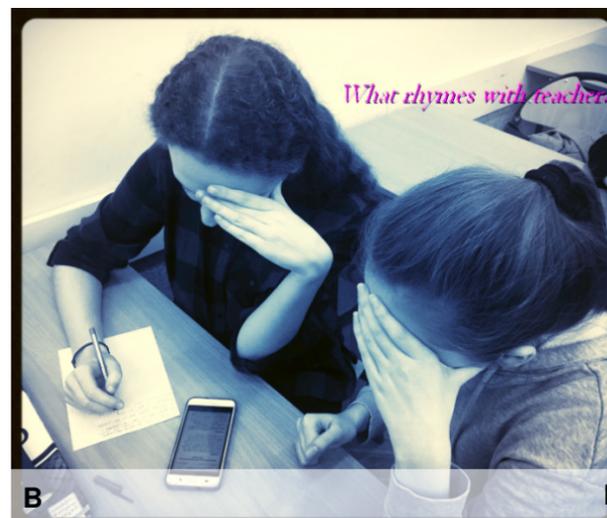
Love is in the air

In our school there was lovely Adrian
Who dreamt of dating a librarian
He kissed her on the cheek
But she chose a IIIA geek
So he married a great Hungarian .

inspired by Adrian's (IIB) comment

written in 15 minutes during an English lesson

Tom was cute and he was Romanian
He spoke German and some Italian
He gave me a ticket for a game of cricket
So I finally chose an Australian
(Natalia F IIB)



B

I