

CLASS A' GYMNASIUM

OWN IT 1-Units 1-3

PART A

Teacher: Jovanna Xenophontos

Read the article about a day in the life of Takashi and answer the following questions.

A day in my life

Hello. My name is Takashi. I am thirteen years old, and I live in Tokyo, the capital of Japan. People also call Japan *Nippon*, or the land of the rising sun because the sun rises first in Japan and then in any other part of the world.



In the morning I always get up at 6.30 and eat breakfast at a table called a kotatsu. A kotatsu is low so you have to sit on mats with your legs under the table. I usually have rice, fish, eggs and pickled vegetables. Then I wash my face, brush my teeth, put on my uniform- a yellow hat and jacket, a blue shirt and a grey skirt- and leave for school.

After breakfast I leave for school. It is a secondary school in the city centre. Our school year starts in April. We start after our 6th birthday and one thing you may find strange is that we have school in the summer, too. We only get one month off at the beginning of March.

I have to go to school Monday-Friday and every other Saturday from 9.00 to 3.30. There are around 30-40 students in a class so it can be crowded. Some of the subjects we do at school are art, music, maths, English, science and Japanese. I believe that writing in Japanese is not a piece of cake. We have to learn 2000 characters called kanji and 2 forty-eight letter alphabets.

When it's lunch time we eat in our classroom. Our teacher eats with us, too. We serve the food to each other, and we eat with chop sticks, of course. Some of the food we eat is fried noodles and rice curry. Did you know that in Japan we eat rice and drink tea with almost every meal?

Before we leave school, my classmates and I have to clean the whole classroom! We pick up paper that falls down, we sweep the floor, and we wipe our desks with a cloth. We even clean the toilets. I wear rubber boots when I do that! All of us help keep our school clean.

After school, I sometimes spend time with friends. As soon as I get home, I do my homework and then it's dinner time. We usually eat at home. We hardly ever go out to restaurants. We cook our own food on a hot plate.. When we finish dinner, I always have a bath and then watch TV. I love CSI

Miami! At about 10 o'clock I go to bed. If I'm not very tired I sometimes read in bed but quite often I go to sleep because getting up in the morning is not easy at all ! After all, early to bed, early to rise!

1. Why do people call Japan "the land of the rising sun?"

2. What does Takashi have for breakfast?

3. What is Takashi's uniform like?

4. How old do Japanese children have to be when they start school?

5. What does Takashi think about writing in Japanese ?

6. What do Japanese people eat and drink with almost every meal? Give two(2) details.

7. How are schools in Japan different from schools in Cyprus? Give three (3) details.

TASK 2 -Questions 8-17

For each question, choose the correct answer A, B or C.

Hi!

My name's Takashi and I come from Tokyo. My 8) _____ work at the city hospital. They are doctors. My brother, Sakishima, is six. He 9) _____ to my school. He is too young. He goes to a different school very near our house but he 10) _____ walks



there. My mother always drives him to school because he isn't old enough to go by himself.

My 11) _____ routine is similar to yours but not exactly the same. Our school system is different too. I love English. It is my favourite 12) _____. I also love sumo wrestling. It is a very 13) _____ sport in Japan- many people like it.

After school, I usually 14) _____ with friends. What do you usually do after school? When I go home, I do my homework, and by 9 o'clock I feel very hungry. We cook 15) _____ and watch TV. CSI Miami is my 16) _____ programme. I try not to be too late going to bed because then it's 17) _____ to get up in the morning.

- 8. A. nieces B. parents C. uncles
- 9. A. doesn't go B. can go C. has got to go
- 10. A. usually B. never C. sometimes
- 11. A. day B. each day C. daily
- 12. A. subject B. theme C. question
- 13. A. healthy B. popular C. frightening
- 14. A. make up B. hang out C. look after
- 15. A. dinner B. lunch C. breakfast
- 16. A. liked B. favourite C. choice
- 17. A. exciting B. easy C. hard

TASK 3- Question 18



Send an email to Takashi telling her about your daily routine and school. Write about 100 words.
