Passage A  
**Letter to A Penpal**

*Tina Yu is a student at Minsheng Junior High School in Taipei, Taiwan. Her school has a link with a secondary school in east London.*

Dear friend from Hill Top School,

Hello! My name is Tina Yu. Nice to meet you. I'm a seventh grader from Minsheng Junior High School.

Here are my answers to your questions:

1. Q: What are your cities like?

A: I live in Taipei. Living in my community is very convenient. There are a lot of trees and parks in Minsheng Community. We also have a lot of restaurants and shops.

2. Q: What lessons do you do in school?

A: We have Chinese, English, PE, Maths, Music, Health Education, Art, Biology, Geography, History, Arts, Civic Education, Economics, and career planning. We also have community activities and club activities.

3. Q:Do you play any sports?

A: Yes, I swim, run, play tennis, play basketball and baseball and I go roller skating.

4. Q: Do you like English football?

A: I know what English football is, but I have never watched a whole game, and I don't know a lot about the rules.

5. Q: How do you travel around your city?

A: Some of us take buses, taxis, the MRT [*Metropolitan Rapid Transit*] to travel around our city. Some of us travel around the city in our parents' car.  
6. Q: What do you do in your spare time?

A: I read novels, watch movies or go out.

7. Q: Do you have a lot of technology in your schools?

A: Yes, we have a computer room and there are TVs and projectors in the classrooms.

I hope to get your letter soon!

Goodbye

Tina Yu

Passage B

**Inside Africa**

Teens Junior No. 138, 2021

On a Saturday afternoon, when you are enjoying ice cream in front of the TV or playing on the computer, what are kids your age doing on the other side of the planet? Are they at school? What do they do for fun every day? Find out here:

**1 Education**

School is expensive for many African kids. Lots of families can't afford school uniforms or exercise

books even if they don't have to pay for school.

For those lucky enough to go to school, they have a lot to learn. Some take two language classes:

English or French, and their native language. There is also math, science, history, social studies, and geography.

Chores take up much of kids' time after school. They have to get water and firewood for the family every day. Then, there's cleaning, washing and helping Mum with the meal.

**2 Daily fun**

It's not all work and no play. Sports are very popular. Sport is great because kids do not need money to play.

Kids can make goals with twigs and their own footballs with plastic and bits of string. They play in the desert dust and the streets of old towns.

There're many football teams for teenagers in Africa. The first kids' football teams were set up

in *Kenya* in 1987.

**Word bank:**

twig n. 嫩枝 string n. 绳子 Kenya （国名）肯尼亚

Passage C

Letter to A Penpal

Dear Friend,

My name is Matt and I'm 12 years old. I live in Richmond, near London, and I go to Hill Top School. My favourite subjects are English, Science, Maths and cooking. I really love my school. I like going to the after-school clubs; my favourite is indoor rowing. I'm also in the choir.

I recently went on a white-water rafting weekend with the Boat Club that I go to on a Thursday evening. We went to Devon, but, unfortunately, I hurt my knee and had to have an operation. I have to be in a wheelchair for the next six weeks.

I would love to find out all about you, so please write back to me.

Matt

**Word bank:**

choir n. 合唱团 white-water rafting n. 白水漂流 operation n. 手术

Richmond （地名）里士满 Devon （地名）德文郡

**Homework:**

Summarize what you know about schools in China, Africa and England based on the 3 passages.   
Write your own opinion about school life. (120+ words)

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