

UNIT 9

SCHOOL MATTERS

Lesson 1. School problems

1a. Work in pairs. Answer the questions: *Why is it important to talk to someone when you have a problem?*

1b. Read the announcement on the school board and check your answers.

Everybody faces problems at some point. If you have a problem at school, talking to someone can help you see things in a different light. Problems you keep to yourself can seem much bigger than they really are. A good place to start is speaking to your parents, teachers or friends.

British students can get free, confidential advice from a Helpline adviser: 080 800 13 2 19. You can also contact them by e-mail, web-chat or text message via the Helpline website.

1c. Who do you usually turn to when you have a problem? Have you got a Helpline adviser at your school?

2a.  Read students' webchat on the Helpline website and match their problems with the pictures.

1



2



3



4



Joe	"I am having huge trouble getting my homework done. I leave it till the last minute or copy someone else's. I know cheating is wrong. My mum and dad don't know anything, but I know they will be disappointed if I tell them. Do you have any advice on how I can organise my homework and what I need for school? I would really appreciate the help, thank you."
Pamela	"I've just started a new school and I feel like I don't belong here. I'm too shy to actually talk to anyone. In the class that I was in before I fit in pretty well and they understood me, but I don't think that's going to happen now. I don't want to be alone for the rest of the school year. Please, help."
Ella	"My classmates bully me because I'm not good at sports. I feel like I don't have any real friends because they're constantly calling me names, and this one boy, that I have to sit next to, enjoys throwing my pens and notebooks off my desk. What should I do?"
Bob	"I'm not an easy student. I often oversleep . I'm late. I skip lessons and I lie about where I am. It was a small bad habit I developed last year but it has gotten way worse this year. This has to stop...but I don't know where to start. I can't cope with it myself."

2b. Match the words with their definitions. There are two words which are synonyms.

1. to oversleep	a) to be able to live, work, etc. in an easy and natural way (with sb / sth)
2. to be disappointed with sth / in sb	b) to feel sad because sb/sth is less good than he / she had hoped
3. to fit in (with sb / sth)	c) to act in a suitable way in order to solve a problem, complete a task, etc.
4. to cheat	d) to sleep longer than you should
5. to miss lessons	e) to act in a dishonest way in order to win or to get an advantage for yourself, especially in a competition, game or examination
6. to bully	f) not to go to a lesson when you should
7. to cope with	g) to hurt or frighten sb who is weaker

2c. Complete the table.

(v)	(n): person	(n): action
to cheat	a cheat	?
?	a bully	bullying
to advise	?	advice

3. Speak in pairs. Then report to the class.

Model: Have you ever overslept? When and why did it happen?

overslept, dealt with disappointing marks, cheated at school, skipped lessons, been bullied, had difficulty fitting in with your classmates

4a.  Read the Helpline adviser's replies. Guess what problems she is giving advice on.

A. “What you need to do is to tell your parents or another adult you trust. Usually your parents are the best people to tell. Don’t forget they were at school not so long ago, so they might know more than you think about your situation. If you can’t tell your parents, then talk to a teacher or an older person you trust. The school can’t do anything about your problem if they don’t know about it. Take a friend with you if you’re nervous and remember there are many ways a school can stop it.”

B. “It’s really hard introducing yourself to people, especially if they’ve already got friends. Why don’t you speak to the people you’re sitting next to in class, before and after class? Find out what clubs there are at your school and go to something you’re interested in. You’ve got to be brave and say “Hello – what’s your name?” It’s difficult but you’ve got to do it. You’ll feel great afterwards. The best thing you can do is to talk to people, remember to smile, be open and friendly, listen to what others have to say and make them feel important.”

4b. What pieces of advice are given? Do you agree with these pieces of advice? What else could you recommend in these situations?

5a. Find phrases used to give advice in the texts.

5b. Match the phrases with their functions.

A. Giving advice

B. Rejecting¹ advice

C. Accepting² advice

1. You could / should talk to your parents. Why don’t you join a school club? What you really need to do is to tell your teacher about it. Have you thought of calling the helpline? The best thing you can do is to be friendly.

2. What / That’s a good idea! That might work. It might be a good idea. I think I’ll take your advice.

3. That’s easier said than done! I don’t think it’s a good idea. I don’t think so. That’s all very well for you to say, but...

¹ reject – отказывать


² accept – принимать

5c.  Listen and check.

5d. Look through the phrases for giving advice. In which phrases do we use the infinitive and in which ones the *ing*-form?

6a. Work in groups. Make a list of problems you have to deal with at school.

6b. Work in pairs. Discuss the problems and give each other advice how to cope with them. Use the expressions above.

7.  Imagine that you are a Helpline adviser. Give advice on the Webchat to help students to solve other problems: homework organisation, oversleeping, skipping lessons, cheating, etc.

Lesson 2. I study to learn

1. Match the beginnings of the quotes about education with their endings. Do you agree or disagree with them? Justify your answer.

1. "You learn something every day ...
 2. "Teach us to give and ...
 3. "Learn as much as you can while you are ...
 4. "We know what we are, ...
 5. "If you want to predict the future, ...
 6. "The best teachers teach from the heart, ...
 7. "I study to learn, ...
- A. ... not from the book."
B. ... but we don't know what we may be."
C. ... if you pay attention."
D. ... not to count the cost."
E. ... to be an educated person."
F. ... young, since life becomes too busy later."
G. ... study the past."

2a. Fill in the verbs in the dictionary entries.

to study	to learn	to teach	to know
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