

## Take two teenagers ... east and west – Teacher's Notes

### Aim

This lesson looks at blogs (Internet diaries) about the lives of two teenagers – one from Japan and one from the USA. Students read a blog and then reply to it giving information about themselves.

### Warmer

Ask students if they know what a 'blog' is. A blog is an online diary that one person starts and other people reply to. Ask students if they have ever started a blog or if they have written on one.

### 1 Reading

- Tell students they are going to read a blog started by a girl in Japan. Check understanding of the global reading task – whose life is most similar to theirs – Fumiko's or Danny's?

### 2 Comprehension

- Students answer the comprehension questions.

#### Answers

- She gets up at 6 am.
- She wears a school uniform – a blue skirt, long white socks, a white shirt and a blue pullover.
- She puts on her school slippers.
- She has rice with fried chicken, fish, boiled vegetables or eggs.
- She goes to her sports club, three days a week she goes to evening school, she does her homework and then watches TV.
- He takes the bus.
- He plays basketball, video games and sees his friends.
- He goes to camp with his friend Ryan.
- Eminem.
- Yes, he has a dog called Toby.

### 3 Vocabulary

- Students match the words to the pictures.

#### Answers

- 1 e) 2 g) 3 b) 4 f)  
5 a) 6 h) 7 c) 8 d)

### 4 Speaking

- Students work in pairs. If necessary go through the new question forms with the whole class before starting the activity (e.g. *What time do you get up? What do you wear to school?* etc.) Students then ask each other the questions.

### 5 Writing

- Students write a reply to the blog from Fumiko and Danny. They can use the questions from exercise 1 to give them ideas. As an extension of this activity and to make it real, you could set up a class blog. There are websites to help you with this listed below. Alternatively, you could ask students to add to an existing blog – there is one listed below.

### Websites

<http://www.blog.co.uk/main/> – websites to help you set up a free blog.

<http://www.blogger.com/start> – another website that helps you set up a free blog.

<http://www.globalgateway.org.uk/> – a website for forging international relations between schools. Also has links to help you set up your own website.