

How to Do a Skimming Activity

Directions:

1. Read the title, subtitles and subheadings to find out what the text is about.
2. Look at the illustrations to give you more information about the topic.
3. Read the first and last sentence of each paragraph.
4. Don't read every word or every sentence. Let your eyes skim over the text and look out for key words.
5. Continue to think about the meaning of the text.

Example Activity

Skim the article provided below, and answer the following question by writing a short paragraph of at least three sentences.

What is this article generally about?

SCHOOL'S IN— AGAIN!

Shamus Lee
dishes out how to
impress on your
first day of school

Returning to school after a long break is a daunting task that every student has to go through. The next vacation may be months away, but for now, it is back to the routine of waking up early for classes. Some of us may be assigned new classes, or even new school, so the last thing you would want to do is to make a bad impression.

While there may be familiar faces, there are people, like new classmates and teachers, who may not know you. These people would judge based on first impressions, so carving a positive image in their mind is extremely important, especially on the first day of school!

Besides material things, nonverbal actions can also attract attention and is one of the best ways to impress your peers and teachers.

Confused? **teens** lists six Ps to help you create a good impression!

1. BE POSITIVE

It's normal to feel a little lethargic on the first day of school. To perk yourself up, try looking forward to the end of the day and the weekends, or the next public holiday! It's important to be positive, so that you can spread the good vibes to people around you! Look interested and excited, so others can tell how sincere you are in making friends!

2. BE PREPARED

Being prepared and ready for school is the best gift for your teachers. Completing holiday assignments and projects and getting them ready for submission will give you an image of a responsible student. Having the lesson materials ready would earn you some brownie points too! So, start doing your homework now so you don't have to rush to finish it.

3. BE PUNCTUAL

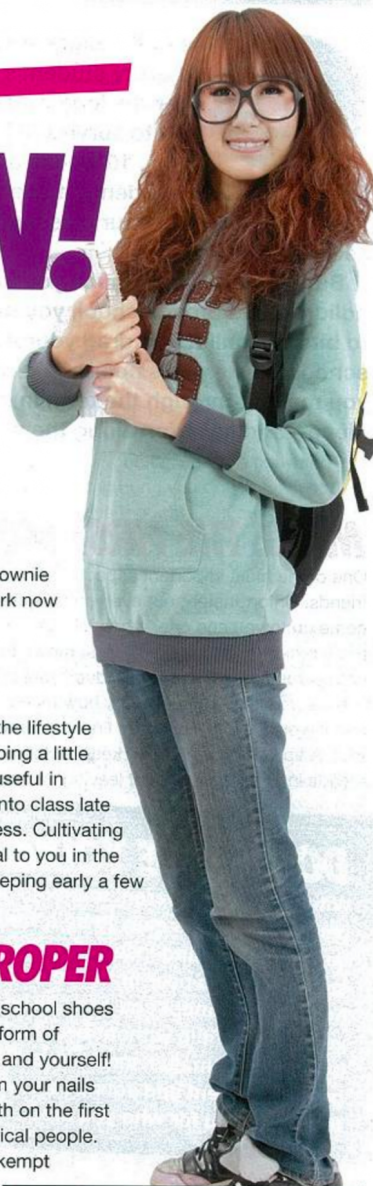
It is hard to readjust your body clock to the lifestyle you led before school vacation, but sleeping a little earlier and setting more alarms may be useful in helping you wake up on time! Stepping into class late is not the best move if you want to impress. Cultivating this sense of punctuality will be beneficial to you in the future too! Adjust your body clock by sleeping early a few nights before the big day.

4. BE PRIM AND PROPER

Being tidy is not about wearing branded school shoes or carrying designer bags. Rather, it is a form of showing respect to your peers, teachers and yourself! Make sure that you iron your clothes, trim your nails and cut your hair to the appropriate length on the first day of school. Let's face it: we are all critical people. Would you want to be friends with an unkempt person?

5. BE PROACTIVE

It is our responsibility as students to attend school. School is where you gain new knowledge and make friends who will be with you when you need them! Think ahead, speak up, take initiative and be the agent of change in class! Don't just sit around; be the person that makes things happen!



Wallflowers are easily forgotten, so it is important to make a positive impression. Put on your best smile as you walk into class. Remember that, above all, the only person you have to be true to is yourself! Your personality will leave a long-lasting impression. ☺

Shamus Lee is a final-year student from Diploma in Biotechnology at Singapore Polytechnic.