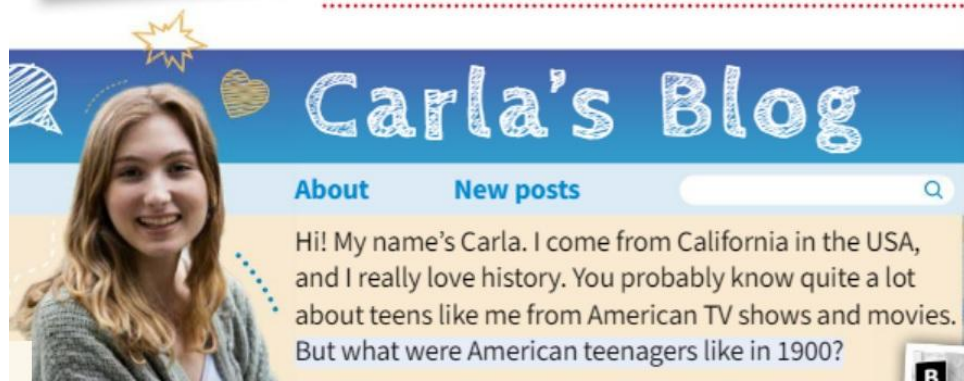


THE BIRTH OF TEENAGE CULTURE

LESSON OBJECTIVES

- Learn about the beginning of teenage culture in the USA
- Read for overall meaning (gist)
- Talk about the past using *was / were*



Carla's Blog

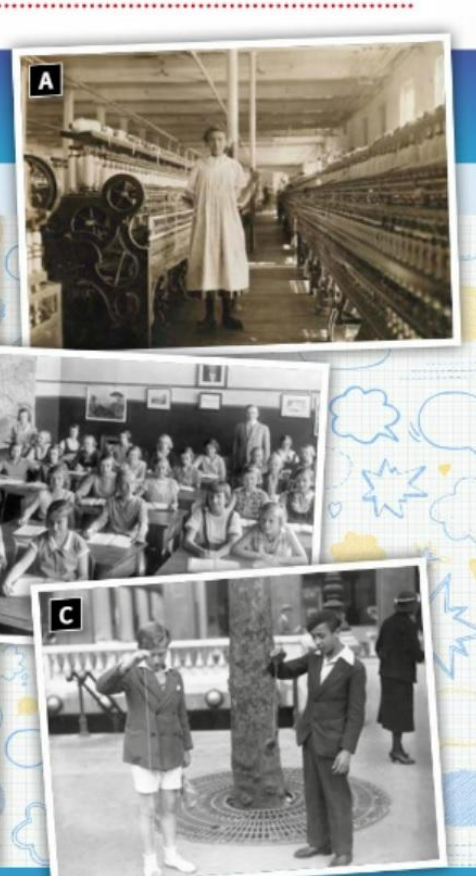
About New posts

Hi! My name's Carla. I come from California in the USA, and I really love history. You probably know quite a lot about teens like me from American TV shows and movies. But what were American teenagers like in 1900?

Well, first of all, the word *teenager* didn't exist! There weren't any 'teenagers' like us in 1900. You were a child, then you got a job, and then you were an adult! In 1900, children could leave school at 14 to work, and most did. Eighteen per cent of all working Americans were under the age of 16.

Was work better than school? No, it wasn't. Life was very hard for working teens. Many of them worked in coal mines or cotton mills for long hours. The work wasn't well paid, and it was often dangerous. Unfortunately, for most families, there wasn't a choice. They needed the money to pay for basic things like food and clothes.

Luckily, in the 1920s and 30s, things got better. People had more money and there were new laws about education and work. More teenagers went to school, from an average of about 100 days per year in 1900 to 143 days in 1930, and they stayed in education longer. There was time for sports, music, and hanging out! For the first time, teenagers developed their own identity. This was the birth of teenage culture.



1. **Where** does Carla write the article? (She writes it) on her blog.
2. What's Carla's nationality? (She is) American
3. **How old** is a teen or teenager? (They are) 13-19.
4. What age could teens **leave** school in 1900? (leave=marxar) **At 14 years old**
5. **Why** did they leave school? **To work**
6. **Was** school **better than** work? (better than= millor que) **Yes, it was.**
7. **Where** did teenagers **work**? (work=treballar) **They worked in coal mines or cotton mills**
8. **How long** did they work? (Quan de temps) **For long hours**
9. Was work well paid? (ben pagat) **No, it wasn't**
10. Was work **dangerous**? (dangerous=perillós) **Yes, it was.**
11. Could teens study **for longer** in 1930? (durant més temps) **Yes, they could.**
12. Did they **have** much more **free time** from 1930 onwards? **Yes, they did.**
(have ...free time= tenir temps lliure)
13. What decade did teen culture **start**? (start=començar) **In 1930s.**

INFINITIVE/Present	PAST	Translation
be	were / weren't was / wasn't	ser, estar
not exist	didn't exist	existir
can	could	poder
do	did	fer, hacer
work	worked	treballar
need	needed	necessitar
get	got	obtenir, aconseguir
have	had	tenir
go	went	anar, ir
stay	stayed	quedar-se
there is / are	there was/were	haver-hi / hi ha...
develop	developed	desenvolupar/desarrollar
use	used	usar, utilitzar
spend	spent	gastar/passar