

## SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

School holidays or vacations are a great time, when you can do whatever you like. You don't have to get up early, do your homework or think about troubles which occur very often at school.

Pupils at school have their vacations four times a year — in winter, in autumn, in spring, and in summer. The longest holidays in Russia are the summer ones, they last for three months. The shortest holidays are autumn and spring holidays, which last for seven-ten days. The winter holidays usually last for two weeks.

As for me, the best holidays are in summer. All the people enjoy summer holidays very much. It is a great pleasure to have a rest after a whole year of hard work or study. The weather is usually warm and sunny and you can spend a lot of time outdoors: do sports, play games, ride a bike, go to the beach, swim in the river, lake or sea, walk in the forest and gather mushrooms and berries. You can travel a lot too.

Some people go abroad to see new countries, some people prefer to go to the country-side to enjoy country-life far from noise and fuss of big cities.

Some people like to spend their holidays in cities, visiting theatres and museums. But a great number of people go to the seaside in summer. I like to have rest at the seaside best of all. I do not like crowds when I am on holidays. My parents and I always have our holidays on the coast. Sea and sunshine that is what we look forward to every summer.

I like winter holidays most of all because winter is my favourite season of the year. First of all, I really enjoy the crisp snow outside. Together with my friends we always make a snowman, throw snowballs at each other and go sledging from the backyard hill. Secondly, I'm quite good at such winter sports as skiing and skating. At weekends, I go to the nearest ice-rink with my friends and we can spend several hours skating there. As for skiing, I usually do it with my father. He is also fond of skiing in the woods, which are not far from our house. Another important reason why I love winter holidays is the celebration of Christmas and New Year. These festivals are my favourite. Unfortunately, winter holidays aren't as long as the summer ones. They last only for a couple of weeks.



### QUESTIONS

1. How many holidays a year do pupils have?
2. When do you have your school holidays in Russia?
3. Which holidays are the shortest/longest?
4. Which holidays are your favourite and why?
5. What is your favourite season?
6. What holidays do you enjoy most of all and why?
7. What holidays do you like more (summer or winter holidays) and why?
8. What's the best thing about being on holiday?
9. What's the worst thing about the school holidays?
10. Why do you like your holiday time?
11. How do you usually spend your holidays?
12. What is the holiday of your dream?

13. Why do all the people enjoy summer/summer holidays?
14. What do people like to do during summer holidays?
15. Where do you usually spend your summer holidays?
16. What do you like to do during your winter holidays?
17. Is it common for teenagers to work on holidays in your country? If so, what type of jobs do they do?
18. Where did you spend your last holidays?
19. What did you do during the last school holidays?
20. Where did you spend your last summer?
21. What did you like most about it?
22. What good holiday experience have you already had?
23. Do you have any plans for the next school holidays?