

CONNECTING LANGUAGE, CULTURE, AND LIFE

A Magazine for Curious High School Minds

YOUNG & WISE

FROM
ROOTS
TO THE
FUTURE!

THE GUARDIANS OF
GREEN VALLEY

SPEAK LIKE A NATIVE!

FIND YOUR LEARNING

STRENGTH!

BETWEEN BLUE AND GREEN

MERSİN

Tokyo

IS A DREAM CITY
FOR FOOD LOVERS!

IF I CAN LEARN A NEW LANGUAGE, I CAN DO ANYTHING! • TRY TO THINK IN ENGLISH THROUGHOUT YOUR DAY! • IS IT COLOUR OR COLOR? • LET'S LEARN HOW NATURE INSPIRES OUR LANGUAGE! • DISCOVER YOUR OWN NATURE-SAVING SUPERPOWER! • ENJOY WITH RIDDLES AND JOKES!

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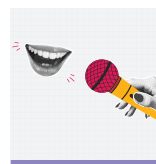


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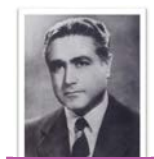
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Dear Students, Esteemed Teachers, and Respected Parents,

One of the fundamental aims of education systems is to develop students who can use language effectively and consciously, comprehend what they read, and express their thoughts accurately and coherently. As the General Directorate of Secondary Education, we consider it a top priority not only to support academic achievement but also to strengthen our students' language skills, foster a robust culture of reading, and make foreign language learning an integral part of lifelong learning.

A reading culture does not merely enable individuals to access information; it also enhances their ability to make meaning, interpret, and question. Similarly, learning a foreign language enables our students to become familiar with diverse cultures, stay informed about global developments, and express themselves within broader contexts. From this perspective, language learning goes beyond vocabulary acquisition and grammatical rules; it helps develop individuals who can communicate effectively and perceive the world from multiple viewpoints.

Every resource developed in line with this understanding aims to support our students' reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills in a balanced manner, enabling them to use language in real-life contexts. Encountering different text types and experiencing language through content intertwined with culture and the arts makes the learning process more lasting and meaningful.

An important reflection of the work carried out within this framework is the opportunities provided by digital structures such as OGM Materyal and the MEBİ Individual Learning Platform. These platforms contribute to the education system as complementary tools that support students' individual learning needs.

The 'Young and Wise' magazine has been prepared as a reflection of this holistic educational approach. Our magazine stands out for its original content that supports foreign language learning, texts that strengthen reading culture, and a structure that aims to develop our students' thinking, questioning, and producing skills. Bringing academic content together with culture, the arts, and everyday life, this publication is a tangible indication of the General Directorate of Secondary Education's vision of student-centred and high-quality content production.

I would like to thank all members of our team who contributed to the preparation of this publication, and I hope that our magazine will inspire our students, open new horizons for our teachers, and offer a valuable contribution to our education community.

Respectfully,



Halil İbrahim TOPÇU

Directorate General
for Secondary Education

THE AMAZING BENEFITS OF LEARNING LANGUAGES

Are you thinking about learning a new language and wondering how it could benefit you? Here are some amazing reasons why you should start today!



CULTURAL ENRICHMENT

When you learn a language, you not only learn words but also discover a whole new world! You can understand films, music, and books in their original form. You'll learn about different traditions, try authentic food, and see life from a completely different perspective. This helps you become more open-minded and understanding of others.



SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

Imagine travelling to another country and actually talking to local people! You can meet new friends and practise the language in real situations, making your trip far more memorable. Speaking their language shows respect and opens doors to real friendships.



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

In today's competitive world, you need something that makes you special. Knowing another language is that something! Companies prefer employees who can communicate in multiple languages. It shows you're smart, hardworking, and can connect with international clients. This skill can help you get your dream job and earn more money.



A MORE POWERFUL MEMORY

Learning a new language is like going to the gym—but for your brain! When you learn grammar rules and new vocabulary, your brain gets stronger. Studies show that language learners have better memory, can focus longer, and make better decisions. Even more impressive? Research proves that people who speak multiple languages can delay serious brain diseases like dementia by 4-5 years. Remember, your brain is a muscle. If you don't train it, it gets weak and lazy!



Here's some good news for students: Studies show that people who learn foreign languages tend to perform better in other school subjects as well. Learning a language helps you improve your native language, maths, and science. Your brain gets better at understanding patterns and solving problems, which makes homework in all subjects easier. Students who learn a second language often catch up with and even surpass their classmates in overall academic performance after a few years.



A person with a large red and black backpack is walking away from the camera on a set of railroad tracks. The tracks stretch straight into the distance towards a horizon under a blue sky with some clouds. The person is wearing light-colored shorts and sneakers. The image is used as a background for the 'Enhanced Personal Growth' section.

Learning a new language is tough, but when you start having real conversations or understanding songs and films, you feel amazing! This achievement boosts your confidence in other areas of life too. You realise: "If I can learn a new language, I can do anything!" Plus, you get access to books, music, and films in foreign languages, which give you fresh ideas and help you grow as a person.



FOR FUN OR AS A HOBBY

Let's be honest—sometimes life can be boring! Learning a language can become your new favourite hobby. It's entertaining, keeps your mind active, and gives you something exciting to work on. You can watch films in different languages, listen to new music, play language learning games, or chat with people online. It's productive fun that prepares you for amazing adventures when you travel in the future!

Learning a language takes time and practice, but the benefits last forever. Whether you want a stronger brain, new friends, cultural experiences, or a better career—learning a language is one of the best investments you can make in yourself. So, what language will you choose?



ESSENTIAL TIPS FOR LEARNING ENGLISH!

Learning English is a rewarding journey that opens doors to new opportunities, cultures, and connections. Whether you are a beginner or looking to ways of improving your skills, these practical tips will help you progress faster and more effectively.

BUILD A SIMPLE DAILY HABIT



Dedicate just 20 minutes every day to English practice. 10 minutes reading (blog posts, news articles, simple books)

and 10 minutes listening (podcasts, videos, TV shows). You'll see real progress within weeks!

SET SPECIFIC GOALS

Instead of vague goals like 'improve English', set concrete targets such as 'watch one English video without subtitles' or 'write a 200-word journal entry'. Specific goals keep you motivated.



DON'T FEAR MISTAKES



Making mistakes is part of learning. Even native speakers make errors when speaking quickly. Don't let fear of mistakes hold you back from practising.

KEEP A LEARNING JOURNAL

Write down new words, expressions, and grammar points you learn each day. For instance, challenge yourself to learn 10 new English words daily. This adds up quickly: 70 words per week, 300 per



month, and over 3,000 per year! Since the average native English speaker uses about 5,000 words actively, you'll master the essential vocabulary faster than you think.

THINK IN ENGLISH



Try to think in English throughout your day, even for simple thoughts like your to-do list or what you're having for lunch. This mental practice helps make English feel more natural.

LEARN PHRASES, NOT JUST WORDS

Focus on learning chunks of language and common expressions rather than isolated words. This helps you sound more natural and makes it easier to construct sentences.



USE MEMORY TECHNIQUES



Create mental associations, visual images, or stories to remember new words. The more creative and personal your memory tricks, the better they work.

IMMERSE YOURSELF DAILY

Change your phone, computer, and social media settings to English. Surround yourself with the language in small



ways throughout the day to create constant exposure.

FIND A LANGUAGE PARTNER



Connect with someone learning English or a native speaker interested in language exchange.

Regular conversation practice is invaluable for building confidence and real-world communication skills.

SHADOW NATIVE SPEAKERS

Listen to English audio and try to mimic not just the words, but the rhythm, intonation, and emotion. This shadowing technique improves your accent and natural flow.



USE LANGUAGE LEARNING APPS



Practise vocabulary, grammar, and listening exercises daily using language learning apps.

JOIN ONLINE COMMUNITIES

Participate in English-language forums, social media groups, or discussion boards related to your interests. This provides real practice with reading and writing in a supportive environment.



Path to Fluency



READING

Reading exposes you to many things. You'll learn grammar, sentence structure, and vocabulary naturally without studying formally. This makes learning simple and fun.

Read for Context

Avoid stopping to look up every word. Guess meaning from surrounding text to build comprehension skills.

Summarise Reading

After reading a text, sum it up in your own words to enhance understanding and retention.

Question the Text

While reading, ask questions about why the author wrote this, what they think, and what proof they provide. This helps you think more carefully and understand better.



LISTENING

Listening is fundamental to language learning. Regular listening helps you develop an ear for English. Over time, you'll naturally start recognising individual words and sounds, which accelerates your learning dramatically.

Active Listening

Pay attention to intonation, pronunciation, and how native speakers connect words.

Podcast Practice

Listen to podcasts or audiobooks daily and try summarising what you heard.

Shadowing

Repeat sentences immediately after the speaker to improve comprehension and pronunciation.

Transcribe Audio

Listen to short audio clips and write down exactly what you hear to sharpen listening accuracy and attention to detail.



SPEAKING

Speaking is one of the most challenging skills. Seek opportunities for active conversation—it's where real learning happens!

Online Tutors & Groups

Use platforms and apps to practise with native speakers and learners worldwide.

Record Yourself Speaking

Listen back to recordings of your English to identify areas for improvement. This helps you catch pronunciation issues and track your progress over time.



WRITING

Writing is very important for learning English because it helps you get better in grammar, vocabulary, and sentence structure. By practising writing regularly, you can develop your creativity and express yourself more clearly.

Essay Practice

Write short essays on familiar topics and review them for vocabulary and grammar improvement.

Dictation Exercises

Listen to sentences or paragraphs and write them down to strengthen listening and writing skills simultaneously.

Peer Review

Exchange writing with a peer to get feedback on clarity, grammar, and vocabulary usage.



EARTH: HIDDEN SECRETS AND FRAGILE SUPERPOWERS

Mind-Blowing Facts You Didn't Learn in School

WORLD WIDE WEB

Forget everything you know about forests being silent. Scientists have discovered that trees are constantly communicating! They use a vast underground network of fungi (like an Internet cable system) called the 'Wood Wide Web'. Through this network, mother trees can send carbon and nutrients to younger trees that are struggling. They even share warnings about insect attacks! Next time you are in a forest, remember you are standing in a huge, shared, intelligent community.



THE WOOD WIDE WEB

It's true! Forests share nutrients and information through underground fungal networks.

THE DEEP SLEEP OF THE DESERT

Deserts seem like dead places, but they hold a powerful secret about survival. Some life forms, like tiny frogs or insects, can enter a state called 'aestivation'—a form of deep sleep that can last for years! They bury themselves



deep in the sand, waiting patiently for a single drop of rain. When the water finally comes, the entire desert explodes into life overnight. It's an amazing lesson in patience and resilience.

AESTIVATION

The desert's secret to survival, where life waits patiently for the rain.

YOUR AIR CONDITIONER IS 71% WATER

We often hear about the Amazon, but what is the most important climate regulator? The Ocean! Specifically, the High Seas are the vast waters far from land. These open seas produce more than half the oxygen you breathe every day. They are the planet's main air conditioner and carbon sink. Protecting the ocean is not just about saving whales; it's about making sure the air you are breathing right now is clean.



OUR BIGGEST AIR CONDITIONER

The vast oceans produce over half the oxygen we breathe.

A DIAMOND RAIN?

Imagine a world where it rains diamonds! This is not science fiction. On the giant gas planets like Jupiter and Saturn, the intense pressure and heat in their atmosphere cause carbon atoms to form diamonds, which then literally rain down onto the core. Our own planet might be familiar, but the solar system is full of incredible, surprising secrets.

BEYOND EARTH

On gas giants like Jupiter, it literally rains diamonds!

EARTH'S FRAGILE SUPERPOWERS

THE CORAL CITIES

Coral reefs are often called the 'rainforests of the sea' because of their unbelievable biodiversity. Even though they cover less than one per cent of the ocean floor, they provide a home for about 25% of all marine life! Think of them as the most crowded and busiest cities on the planet. But these cities are extremely fragile; a small increase in ocean temperature can cause them to 'bleach' (turn white) and die.

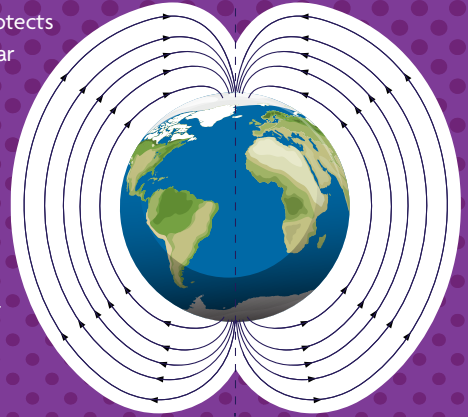


RAINFORESTS OF THE SEA

Coral reefs are ocean cities, but climate change can turn them into ghost towns overnight.

THE MYSTERY OF MAGNETISM

How do compasses work? Thanks to the Earth's powerful magnetic field! This field is generated by the movement of liquid iron deep within the planet's core. This invisible shield protects us from dangerous solar radiation and prevents our atmosphere from being stripped away by the solar wind. Without this hidden superpower, life on the surface would be impossible. Our planet is truly a protected bubble in space.



EARTH'S INVISIBLE SHIELD

How our planet's magnetic field protects all life from space radiation.

THE GREATEST SUPERPOWER: OUR RESPONSIBILITY

These amazing secrets show us how complex and fragile our home is. But the most important superpower we possess is our ability to change and protect. Nature can heal itself, and we have the knowledge and the power to help it. Every small action—from recycling a plastic bottle to choosing sustainable products—protects the magnetic field, the oceans, and the forests you just learned about.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

1. **Reduce Your Footprint:** Every choice you make impacts these vulnerable systems. Aim to save water and energy daily.
2. **Become a Storyteller:** Share these amazing facts with your friends and family. Curiosity leads to care, and care leads to action!
3. **Choose Wisdom:** Support sustainable choices to protect the 'Wood Wide Web' and the 'Coral Cities'.

The Earth is an endless source of wonder. Let's ensure that its greatest secrets—its life and beauty—are preserved by exercising our greatest superpower: our responsibility.

A Film Selection:

Stories That Inspire

The Wind Rises

A film that celebrates imagination, hard work, and hope

The Wind Rises is a Japanese animated film directed by **Hayao Miyazaki**, one of the most respected filmmakers in the world. Released in **2013** by **Studio Ghibli**, the film tells the story of **Jiro Horikoshi**, a young boy who dreams of designing aeroplanes.

Since childhood, Jiro has loved the idea of flight. He spends hours reading books, drawing, and imagining how planes move through the clouds. Because of his eyesight, he cannot become a pilot, but he never gives up on his dream. Instead, he decides to use his creativity and intelligence to design aeroplanes that are light, elegant, and full of beauty.

The film shows Jiro's journey from a curious child to a talented engineer. Along the way, he learns about teamwork, responsibility, and compassion. His story reminds us that even big dreams can begin with small steps—and that passion and patience can make anything possible.

Miyazaki's Vision and Message

Hayao Miyazaki is one of the founders of **Studio Ghibli**, a world-famous animation studio in Japan. He is known for creating films that touch the heart with their art, kindness, and imagination. Some of his best-known works include *Spirited Away*, *My Neighbour Totoro*, and *Howl's Moving Castle*.



ghibli.fandom.com

Miyazaki's films are different from most other animations. They do not focus on conflict or fighting; instead, they centre on people, nature, and emotions. He believes that stories should help us think about life and encourage us to care for the world around us.

In *The Wind Rises*, Miyazaki uses his love for art and storytelling to show how dreams can shape our lives. The film's animation is completely hand-drawn—every cloud, bird, and leaf moves gently and naturally. The scenes are calm, colourful, and peaceful, making the film feel like a living painting.

The music, composed by **Joe Hisaishi**, makes the story even more emotional. His soft piano melodies match the beauty of the sky and the sound of the wind. The combination of music and art creates a relaxing and inspiring atmosphere that stays with the audience.

The main theme of *The Wind Rises* is the power of **dreams and creativity**. The story shows that when we follow our passions with honesty and kindness, we can create things that bring joy to others.

It also teaches **hope and balance**. Life is

not always easy, but the film reminds us to look for light even in difficult times.

The title of the film comes from a line in a French poem: "The wind is rising—we must try to live."

It means that even when life changes, we should continue to grow, imagine, and believe in ourselves.

Another important message is about **learning and curiosity**. Jiro learns from books, teachers, and experience. He shows that education can help us build our future and make our dreams real.

Audiences and critics around the world have described *The Wind Rises* as one of Miyazaki's most beautiful and emotional films. It is calm, inspiring, and full of meaning.

The film does not need action or conflict to be powerful. Instead, it inspires through art, sound, and emotion. It reminds viewers that success is not only about reaching goals but about **creating with heart and kindness**.

For students, *The Wind Rises* is a stimulating example of how imagination, learning, and courage can work together to make dreams come true.

Did You Know?



The Wind Rises was **nominated for an Academy Award (Oscar)** for Best Animated Film in 2014.

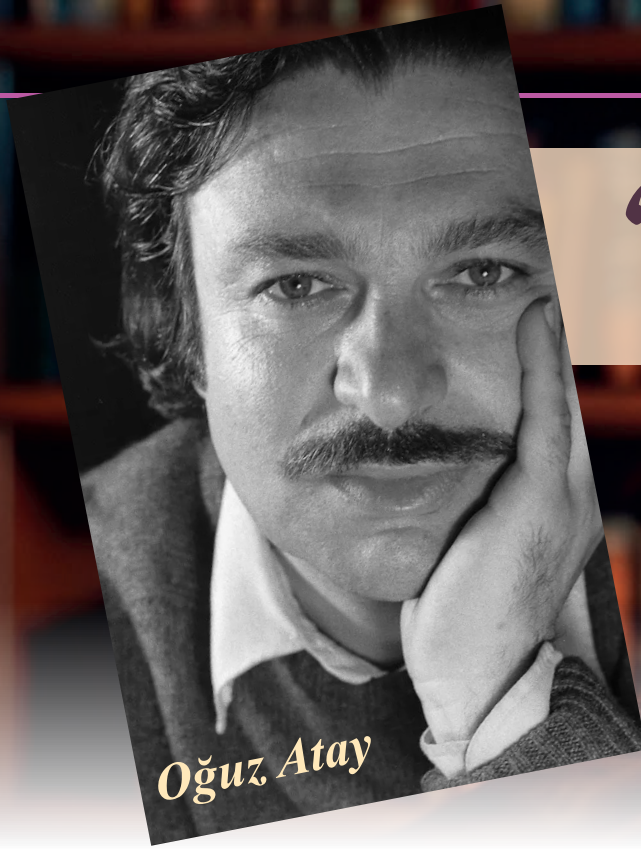
Studio Ghibli, founded in 1985, is Japan's most famous animation studio. Its philosophy is to tell stories that **celebrate life, nature, and human emotion.**



The film's title comes from the French poet Paul Valéry, whose words suggest that even when life is uncertain, we must keep moving forward.

Director **Hayao Miyazaki** created this film after working on animation for over 30 years. He said it was a story about "how beautiful dreams can lift the human spirit."





Oğuz Atay

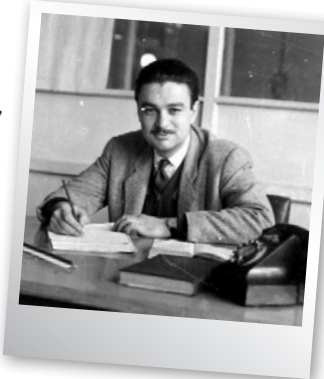
“Bir Bilim

INTRODUCTION

This book is about a real person who dedicated his life to learning and teaching. *Bir Bilim Adamının Romanı* (The Novel of a Scientist) was written by the famous Turkish author Oğuz Atay. It tells the story of Mustafa İnan, one of Türkiye's most respected scientists. Through this book, readers see that success is not only about intelligence; it is also about kindness, discipline, and curiosity. Mustafa İnan's life teaches us that even a person from a modest background can change the world with knowledge and love for learning.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR – OĞUZ ATAY

Oğuz Atay was born in 1934 in İnebolu, Türkiye. He studied civil engineering at Istanbul Technical University and later worked as a lecturer. Atay was interested in people who think deeply and who question life. His most famous novels are *Tutunamayanlar*, *Tehlikeli Oyunlar*, and *Bir Bilim Adamının Romanı*. Unlike his other books, this



novel is not fiction—it is based on the real life of a scientist. Oğuz Atay wrote it with great respect and love for his teacher, Prof. Dr. Mustafa İnan. He wanted young readers to see that science and humanity can exist together. Atay believed that reading and thinking are the strongest tools for a better future.

ABOUT THE SCIENTIST – MUSTAFA İNAN

Mustafa İnan was born in 1911 in Adana. He was a brilliant student who loved mathematics and engineering. Even though his family did not have much money, he worked hard and never gave up on his dreams. He studied at Istanbul Technical University, became a professor, and later the Rector of the same university. He also completed his doctorate degree in Zurich, Switzerland, and **became the first Turkish scientist to earn a doctorate degree abroad**. But more important than his title was his character—he was humble, patient, and always ready to help his students. He believed that knowledge should always serve humanity. He also believed that science is not only about numbers and machines but also about understanding life and society. His dedication to teaching made him one of the most respected names in Turkish science history.



Mustafa
1911-

Adaminın Romani”

(The Novel of a Scientist) by Oğuz Atay



Mustafa İNAN
1967

MAIN THEMES AND VALUES

This book highlights many valuable lessons for young people:

- **Love of Learning:** Real education never ends. Mustafa İnan continued learning until the last day of his life.
- **Hard Work and Discipline:** Success comes from daily effort and patience, not luck.
- **Humility:** Even though he was a famous scientist, he lived simply and treated everyone with respect.
- **Science and Society:** He used his knowledge to improve his country, showing that science and service can go hand in hand.
- **Inspiration for Students:** His story proves that being a good student also means being a good person.

LANGUAGE AND STYLE

Oğuz Atay’s language in this book is both emotional and clear. He mixes facts with storytelling, so the reader feels close to Mustafa İnan’s world. The book is a great way to see how values and ideas can be expressed simply but beautifully. It can also inspire

students to write about people who changed their own communities with education and kindness.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The book was first published in 1975 and has been reprinted many times.
- Mustafa İnan’s name is now used for laboratories, awards, and scholarships in Turkish universities. The novel is often included in schools as part of reading clubs and ‘science and society’ projects.
- Oğuz Atay wrote the book as a tribute to his professor—it was his way of saying thank you to a teacher who changed his life.

WHY STUDENTS SHOULD READ IT

- This book can help students see that science is not only about formulas; it is also about curiosity, imagination, and responsibility.
- Mustafa İnan’s story is a good example of how education can change both a person and a country.
- High school students can learn that real success is not in fame or wealth but in helping others and leaving something valuable behind.
- The book’s message fits perfectly with today’s educational values: being **curious, kind, and hardworking**.

THE GLOBAL BOOKSHELF: BEYOND YOUR HORIZON

Michael Ende's Timeless Classic and A Journey Through Time

MOMO

Michael Ende (1929-1995) was an important German author. He is famous for writing fantasy stories for both children and adults. His most famous books, *Momo* and *The Neverending Story*, are loved around the world. He wrote exciting stories, but he also used them to share deep ideas about modern life, imagination, and what is truly valuable.

STORY SUMMARY

Momo is the story of a young, quiet girl who lives in the ruins of an old amphitheatre in a city. Momo doesn't have many belongings, but she has an amazing and special skill: she knows how to listen deeply. When people talk to her, they feel understood. Her ability to listen helps others find their own answers, and she brings the community together.



This happy life is destroyed when the 'Men in Grey' arrive. These strange men are 'time thieves'. They convince everyone to 'save time' by working faster, rushing, and cutting out all 'useless' activities like playing, talking to friends, or enjoying art. People become rich but also stressed, unhappy, and lonely.

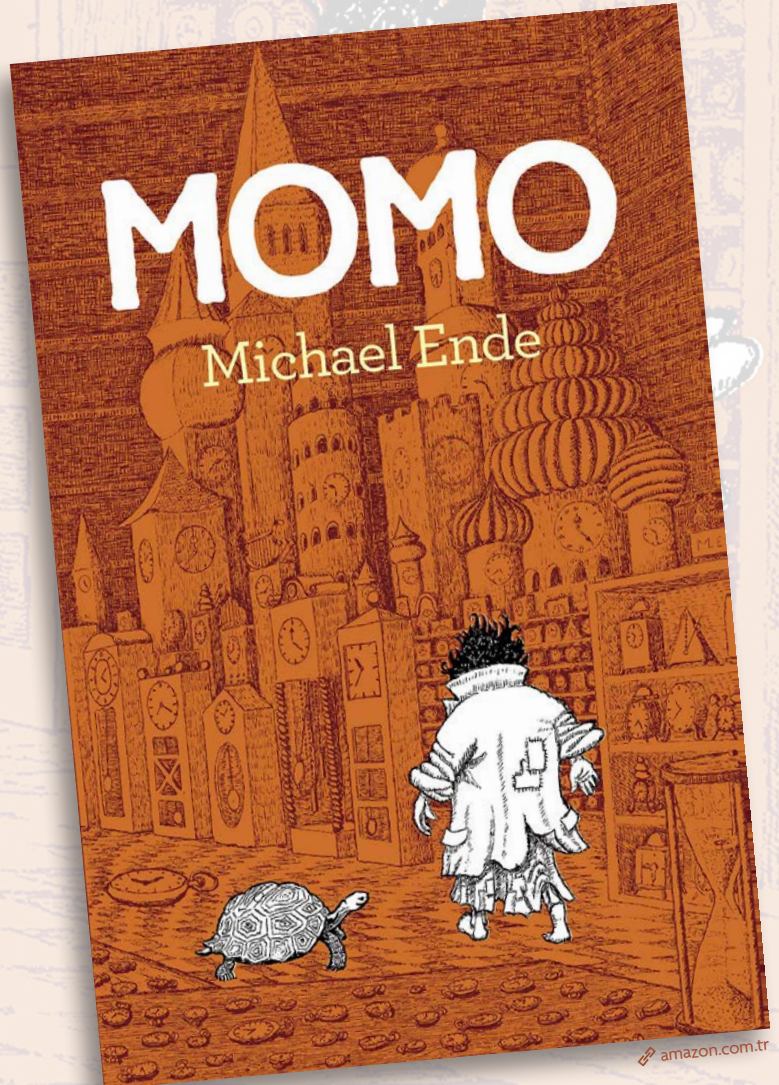
Momo is the only one to resist them. With the help of a wise man named Professor Hora and his magic tortoise, Kassiopeia, Momo begins a dangerous journey to stop the Men in Grey and give the stolen time back to the people.

THE CORE MESSAGE

The main message of *Momo* is that time is life, and it should not be 'saved', but 'lived'. The book is a critique of a world that cares more about efficiency and money than about happiness and human connection. It argues that the most valuable things we can give to each other are our attention and time.

KEY LESSONS

This book teaches a powerful lesson about the pressures of the modern world. It shows how the constant demand to 'be productive' and 'not waste time' can actually make us lose the most important parts of life. You can learn that simply listening to a friend—without judging them or checking your phone—is one of the most powerful and kind things you can do. Momo encourages you to protect your time, your friendships, and your imagination.



Let's Travel to MERSİN

BETWEEN BLUE AND GREEN

Located along the turquoise coast of the Mediterranean, Mersin is a vibrant city where modern life and ancient heritage coexist in harmony. Known for its long coastline, fertile lands, and rich cultural mosaic, Mersin is one of Türkiye's most dynamic provinces. From the scent of citrus orchards to the sound of seagulls over the sea, the city reflects the beauty and diversity of the Mediterranean spirit.



CULTURE, CRAFTS, AND WARM PEOPLE

Mersin's cultural richness reflects its role as a bridge between Anatolia and the Mediterranean. Local markets burst with colours of spices, handmade copperware, and citrus fruits. The people of Mersin are known for their hospitality, creativity, and joyful celebrations.



Throughout the year, festivals such as the Mersin International Music Festival and the Citrus Festival bring artists and visitors together, turning the city into an open-air stage of rhythm and colour.

TASTE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

Food is at the heart of Mersin's identity. The city's cuisine combines the freshness of the sea with the richness of Anatolian flavours. Don't miss tasting these dishes:



Tantuni

Sliced beef sautéed with spices and served in lavash bread. This street-food classic is the heartbeat of Mersin's culinary culture.

Cezerye
A unique Mersin speciality made from grated carrots, sugar, and nuts, offering a sweet energy boost with every bite.



Batırık

A refreshing cold dish made from fine bulgur, tahini, tomato paste, lemon, and herbs. Often enjoyed as a light meal, *Batırık* reflects the region's creativity in turning simple ingredients into delicious harmony.

Citrus Fruits & Fresh Seafood

Thanks to its coastal geography, Mersin is famous for its juicy oranges, lemons, and daily caught fish, all adding a vibrant freshness to local meals.



TOP PLACES TO VISIT

Mersin offers a fascinating blend of nature, history, and urban life. Here are some must-see locations:

Maiden's Castle

Rising elegantly from the blue waters of the Mediterranean, this mediaeval fortress is Mersin's symbol. Visitors can reach it by boat and enjoy the panoramic view of the coast while listening to the legend of the princess who once lived here.



Maiden's Castle, Silifke

Ashab-ı Kehf (Seven Sleepers)

This ancient site tells the legendary story of the seven sleepers who slept for centuries in a cave. It offers visitors a moment of reflection amid its peaceful surroundings.



Ashab-ı Kehf (Seven Sleepers), Tarsus

Gilindire Cave

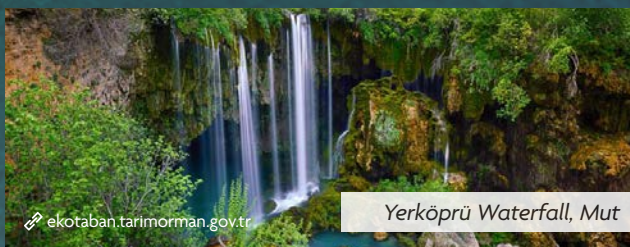
Known as 'Mirror Lake', this underground cave features crystal-clear waters and glittering stalactites. It's a hidden gem for photographers and nature lovers seeking silence and mystery.



Gilindire Cave, Aydıncık

Yerköprü Waterfall

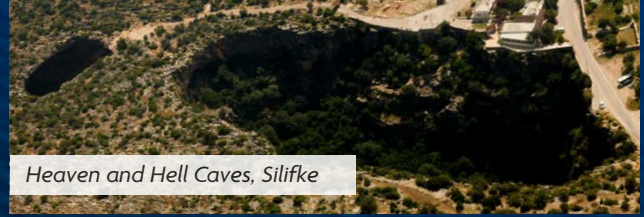
One of Mersin's natural wonders, this magnificent waterfall cascades into a green valley surrounded by trees and birdsong. It's an ideal place for picnics, nature walks, and stunning photography.



Yerköprü Waterfall, Mut

Heaven and Hell Caves

Located near Narlıkuyu, these massive sinkholes formed by natural erosion attract both tourists and researchers. The 'Heaven' cave is famous for its lush vegetation, while the 'Hell' cave offers a mysterious, vertical descent surrounded by myths.



Heaven and Hell Caves, Silifke

Gezende Canyon

With its dramatic cliffs and turquoise river, Gezende Canyon is perfect for adventure seekers. Visitors can enjoy hiking, canoeing, or simply admiring the breathtaking landscape.



Gezende Canyon, Gülnar

Mamure Castle

Built in the medieval period, Mamure Castle is one of the best-preserved fortresses on the Mediterranean coast. Its towers, walls, and sea-facing gates offer a glimpse into centuries of maritime defence.



Mamure Castle, Anamur

Archaeology Museum, Mersin

It offers a modern museum experience with temporary exhibition halls, a children's archaeopark, a library, a gift shop and a cafe. With around 1,435 artefacts on display, visitors can embark on a time-travel through its 'Time Tunnel'. They can learn about the development of civilisations, explore death-cult practices, and view ethnographic items alongside a replica of a traditional 'Huğ' house near Yumuktepe.

For virtual tour: meb.ai/xrhUom



TRADITION AND CULTURE

Tokyo's old areas still show its strong culture. You can start your trip in Asakusa, where you can visit Senso-ji, the oldest and most famous temple in the city. The air smells of sweet snacks and incense as people walk along Nakamise Street and buy traditional food and colourful gifts. Close to the temple, visitors can write a wish on a small wooden board called an *ema* or get a paper fortune called an *omikuji*.



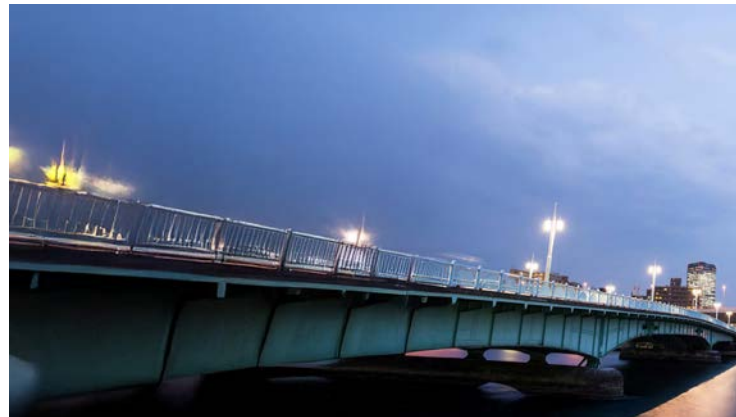
To see another side of traditional Japan, visit the Meiji Shrine, surrounded by a quiet forest in the middle of busy Shibuya. Locals come here to pray for luck, health, or success before important exams. Every year, many people also wear a *kimono* or a *yukata* for special festivals. Tokyo may be modern, but its traditions live on in every street and festival.



If you love technology, visit Akihabara, famous for its anime, manga, and electronic stores. For nature lovers, Ueno Park offers beautiful gardens and a zoo in the middle of the city. Don't miss Tokyo Skytree, Japan's tallest tower, for a breathtaking city view.



Even though Tokyo is full of skyscrapers and technology, the city proudly keeps its traditional culture alive. In many districts, people still wear *kimonos* for ceremonies or festivals.



Tokyo is the capital city of Japan, a place where old traditions meet modern life. With over 37 million people, it is one of the biggest and most populous cities in the world. But Tokyo is different from other big cities. You can find quiet temples and traditional streets full of history.

kyo
of Japan. It is a
meet modern
people, it is one
st interesting
Every part of
nt—you can
s and bright
ull of lights.

Tokyo is also famous for its tea ceremony, where every movement is calm and meaningful. This ritual teaches patience, respect, and simplicity—values that are deeply rooted in Japanese culture. You can even join a short tea ceremony class and try making your own matcha tea!



Making Matcha Tea

Traditional arts and performances are easy to find, too. In Kabuki theatres, actors wear colourful costumes and make-up to tell dramatic stories from Japan's past. These shows, full of emotion and beauty, help visitors understand how Japan's ancient spirit still lives within modern Tokyo.



TASTE OF TOKYO



Ramen

Tokyo is a dream city for food lovers! You can find everything from street snacks to world-class sushi restaurants. Try fresh sushi made by chefs who have trained for years, or enjoy a

warm bowl of *ramen*, Japan's most popular noodle soup. In the busy streets of Shinjuku or Shibuya, you can watch vendors cook *takoyaki*—small balls filled with octopus and covered in sweet sauce and seaweed flakes.

If you have a sweet tooth, don't miss *mochi*, a soft rice cake that comes in many flavours like matcha, strawberry, or red bean.

Another favourite is *taiyaki*, a fish-shaped cake filled with chocolate or custard.

Eating in Tokyo isn't just about taste—it's a way to explore the city's spirit. Every bite tells a story of creativity, culture, and joy!

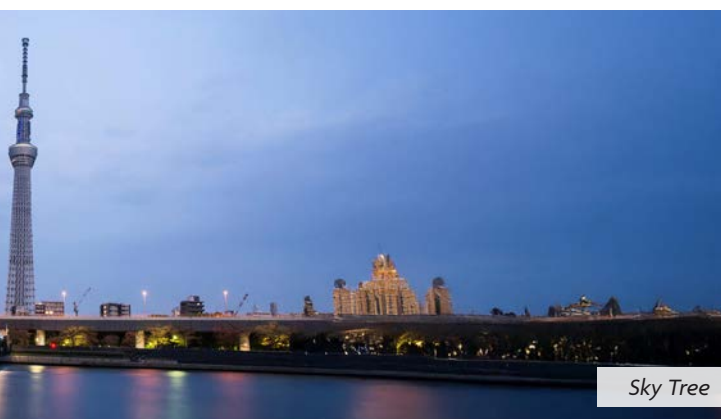


Mochi



Cherry Blossom

During the Cherry Blossom Festival (Hanami), families and friends sit under the blooming trees to enjoy food and music together—a custom that has been celebrated for centuries.



Sky Tree

A Journey Through Flavour and Culture

Food is more than something we eat—it tells the story of who we are. Every cuisine reflects a country's history, climate, and traditions, and it brings people together. From spicy dishes that warm you in winter to light Mediterranean meals that celebrate freshness, food connects cultures and shapes identity.

Exploring world cuisine means discovering a nation's spirit—its creativity, values, and the happy memories shared around the table.

Among all world cuisines, Turkish cuisine stands out for its amazing variety, long history, and unforgettable tastes. From rich soups to light olive oil dishes, from royal Ottoman meals to golden desserts, every bite tells a story of kindness, tradition, and love for good food.

Now, let's take a closer look at these delicious Turkish flavours together!

LENTIL SOUP

The Heartwarming Taste of Home

In Türkiye, this creamy lentil soup warms both homes and hearts. Served with melted butter and mint, it is a comforting symbol of Turkish hospitality. Families across Anatolia enjoy this healthy soup that soothes the stomach and restores energy on cold days. The red lentils are rich in iron and help the body stay strong. Turks say, "Soup starts the meal, warmth starts the heart," showing that even simple food can have deep meaning.



OLIVE OIL-BRAISED ARTICHOKE

The Aegean Breeze of Health

From the sunny coast of İzmir, this artichoke dish shines with olive oil and fresh spring vegetables. Light, elegant, and full of flavour, it celebrates Aegean love for nature and simple living. Full of antioxidants, artichokes clean the liver and support a healthy heart. It's more than food—it's the Aegean lifestyle on a plate. Locals often say, "An artichoke on your table brings peace to your day," expressing joy and calm in every bite.



SULTAN'S DELIGHT

A Royal Taste from Ottoman Palaces

Born in the kitchens of Istanbul's Topkapı Palace, this rich dish combines smoky aubergines and tender lamb in a creamy sauce. It was first made for Sultan Abdülaziz and is still one of the most loved Ottoman recipes. Full of iron and vitamins, it strengthens the muscles and supports the immune system. Every bite carries the pride and beauty of Turkish culinary art. As the old saying goes, "A meal worthy of a sultan deserves a thankful smile."



BAKLAVA

Sweet Layers of Joy from Gaziantep

Crispy golden layers filled with green pistachios and sweet syrup—Gaziantep's baklava is pure joy. Recognised by UNESCO as a cultural treasure, it's a dessert of sharing and happiness, especially during Bayrams. Pistachios provide healthy fats and energy for the body. The famous Turkish proverb says, "Eat sweet, speak sweetly," reminding everyone that kindness, like sugar, makes life better.





TASTES BEYOND BORDERS

Now, how about exploring the world's most beloved dishes? From the sunny coasts of France to the heart of South Korea, every flavour tells a story.

RATATOUILLE FROM FRANCE

Colours of Provence on a Plate

This bright vegetable dish from southern France is cooked slowly with aubergines, courgettes, peppers, onions, and tomatoes in olive oil. It celebrates the simplicity and freshness of Mediterranean cooking. Rich in vitamins and flavour, ratatouille shows that healthy food can also be full of joy. A saying that shows that beauty and taste belong together is “We eat with our eyes first,” as the French often say.



KIMBAP FROM SOUTH KOREA

A Roll of Balance and Harmony

Kimbap is a traditional Korean dish that is both healthy and tasty. It is made by taking seasoned rice and filling it with fresh vegetables, eggs, and sometimes meat or fish. All of these ingredients are rolled tightly inside a sheet of dried seaweed.

The colourful ingredients are arranged carefully to make the meal look beautiful and stay nutritious. Because it is light but filling, people in Korea often take kimbap on picnics or eat it as a quick lunch.

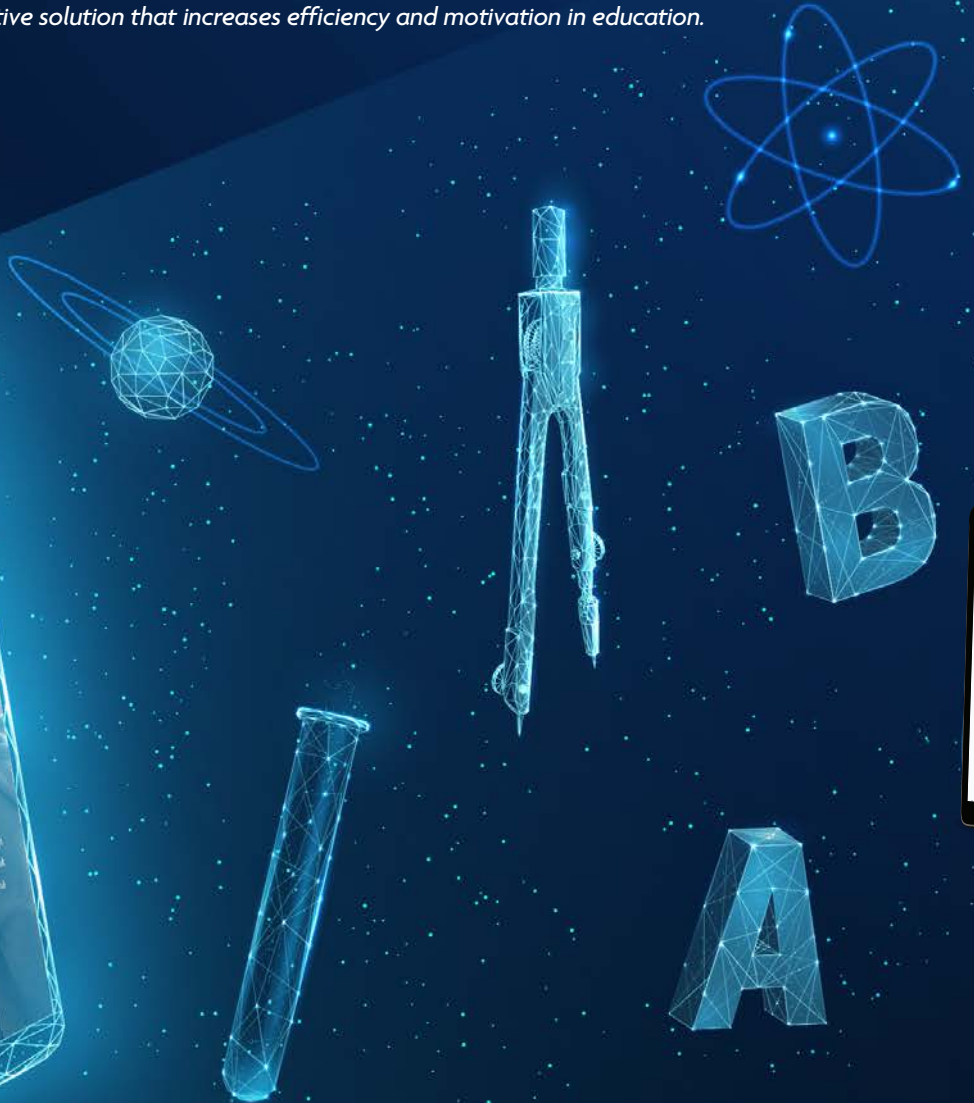
In Korean culture, food is about more than just eating; it is about sharing and togetherness. Kimbap shows that simple ingredients can have a deep meaning. There is a traditional Korean belief that when your food is in harmony, your life will be in harmony, too.





YOUR INDIVIDUALISED LEARNING PLATFORM!

With the digital transformation in education, traditional study methods are changing into personalized learning experiences. The learning process has become a dynamic structure. It is now supported by smart algorithms and focuses on the student's individual skills, speed, and goals. Developed by the Ministry of National Education, the MEBİ Individual Learning Platform offers an innovative solution that increases efficiency and motivation in education.



Hello, Young Friend,

High school years can be busy, fast-paced, and difficult to find your way.

Questions like ‘How will I study for my school lessons?’, ‘Am I ready for my exams?’, ‘Which topic should I start with?’, ‘Did I really understand this topic?’, ‘How will I complete my missing topics?’, or ‘Am I ready for YKS?’ might be on your mind. MEBİ was designed to make this process more organised, more understandable, and more efficient.

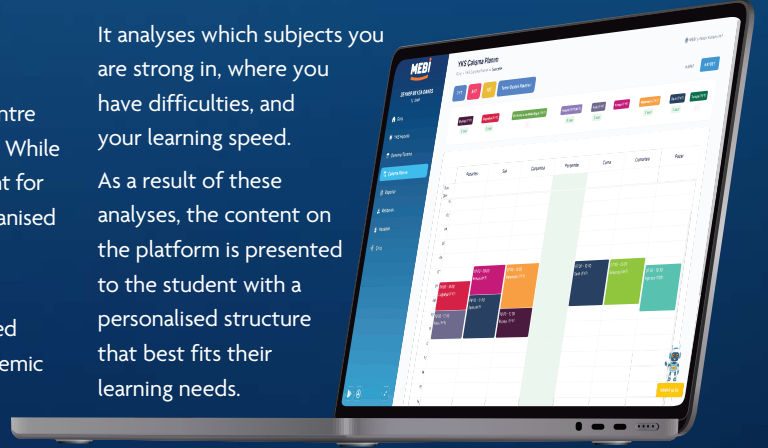
WHAT DOES MEBİ OFFER FOR YOUR LEARNING EXPERIENCE?

The digital environment of MEBİ puts the student at the centre and offers a complete ecosystem with connected modules. While the platform supports daily learning with interactive content for school lessons, it makes YKS and LGS preparation more organised and goal-oriented.

MEBİ measures the learning process instantly with practice tests. It shows the student's progress clearly through detailed reporting screens and concrete data. To complete this academic structure, the ‘Guidance’ module helps students manage motivation and exam anxiety. Also, the ‘Stay Fit’ module offers exercise and lifestyle tips to support physical and mental health during busy times. The study plan creates a personalised roadmap for each student. Finally, MEBİ provides a strong learning ecosystem for both academic and personal development to everyone in education.

It analyses which subjects you are strong in, where you have difficulties, and your learning speed.

As a result of these analyses, the content on the platform is presented to the student with a personalised structure that best fits their learning needs.



FULL ACCURACY IN YKS PREPARATION: A DIRECT STRATEGY

The MEBİ Individual Learning Platform has a strong and complete digital infrastructure developed to support high school students and graduates during the YKS preparation process. The ‘YKS’ module includes a wide content pool consisting of lesson videos, summaries, examples and past exam questions, assessment tests, readiness tests, and YKS mock exams for TYT, AYT, and YDT. This module allows students to plan their exam process systematically. All tests and exams solved by students are analysed in detail. These analyses clearly show which subjects students need to work on more, their strengths, and their overall learning level.

The ‘YKS’ module also includes the ‘Goal-Based Support Training Module’, specially designed for 12th-grade students.

This module personalises the preparation process for each student. It also provides teachers with advanced digital tools to track student work, assign homework, and guide them.

All these features transform the MEBİ ‘YKS’ module from just a place to solve questions into a smart, personalised guide. It considers the student's goals, academic status, learning speed, and study habits. In this way, students preparing for YKS follow a more planned, organised, and data-driven process with the guidance of their teachers.

EVERYONE'S LEARNING JOURNEY IS DIFFERENT

Every student has a different way of learning. Based on this fact, MEBİ gives every student the opportunity to have an individual study journey. From the moment you log in to the platform, the artificial intelligence (AI) infrastructure starts to get to know you.



ALWAYS WITH YOU IN SCHOOL LESSONS

MEBI offers a comprehensive learning environment that supports students at every step of their education, not just during exam periods. The platform includes content that is perfectly compatible with the Century of Türkiye Education Model for all levels, starting from 5th and 6th grades in middle school to 9th and 10th grades in high school.

For students who want to understand a missed topic, review before school exams, or practice what they have learned, MEBİ provides effective support. It offers rich video content, interactive applications, animations, simulations, context-based questions, and games. In this way, every student from middle school to high school has a regular and reliable digital learning experience to increase their success in lessons.

A PLATFORM THAT TRACKS AND REPORTS YOUR STUDY PLAN, GOALS, AND SUCCESSES

MEBI does not only support the study process by providing content; it also regularly tracks and reports students' progress toward their goals. Based on the study plan, the platform analyses completed topics, solving performance, and learning speed.

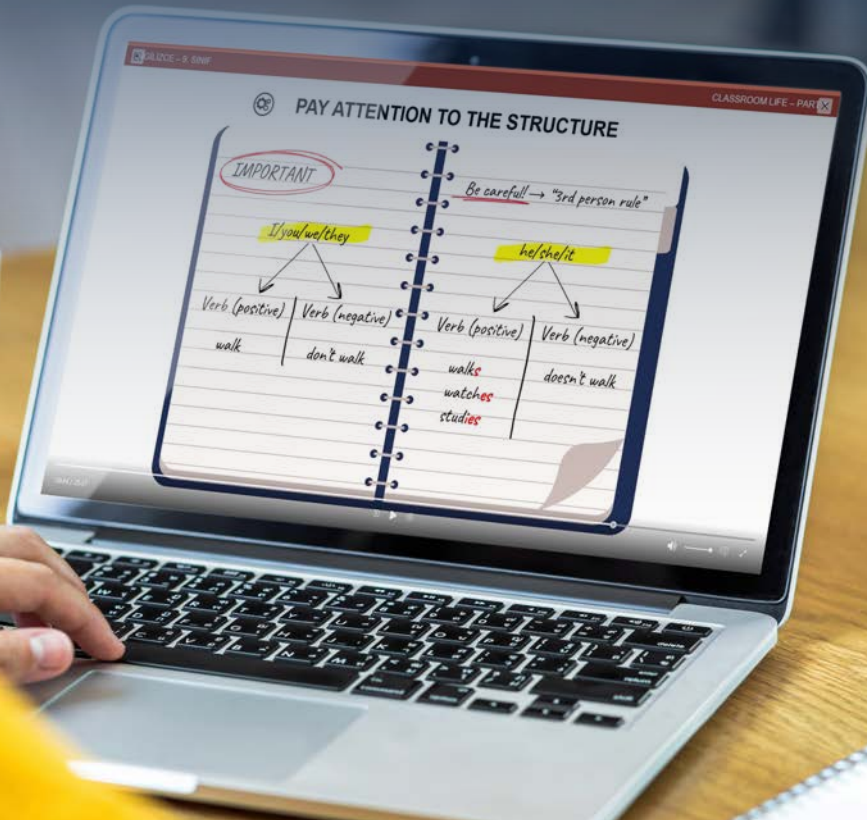
It keeps the learning level under control and tracks how well information is remembered. In this way, students can clearly see which goals they have reached and which areas need extra work. They have the opportunity to shape their study routines based on concrete data. In short, MEBİ offers strong digital support for students to manage their own learning processes.

RESULT: YOU ARE IN CONTROL!

Developed to strengthen equal opportunity in education and make learning more efficient, the MEBİ platform provides a comprehensive digital ecosystem for everyone in education. In addition to supporting school lessons, the platform offers reliable guidance and support for students preparing for university.

You can access MEBİ from both mobile devices and computers. With its constantly developing infrastructure and up-to-date content, it allows you to learn anytime. You can reach the platform at mebi.eba.gov.tr or through the MEBİ application. With MEBİ, students can start their own learning journey whenever they want and track their success step by step.

Are you ready to learn anywhere and anytime with MEBİ?



THE CENTURY OF TÜRKİYE EDUCATION MODEL

Education connects the past and the future. The Century of Türkiye Education Model aims to combine national and moral values with modern progress. It includes the curriculum approach, the student profile, and the value and skill frameworks.

In the Century of Türkiye Education Model, social and emotional learning skills are regarded as a set of competencies designed to support students in achieving success both within and beyond the school environment.

WHAT ABOUT THE ENGLISH CURRICULUM?

The English curriculum helps students use English correctly, confidently and naturally in all situations. It helps students discover their strengths and make a positive impact on their community and the world.

The programme focuses on students' thoughts, feelings, bodies, and culture. It also considers their age, learning style, motivation, and personality. In high school (Grades 9-12), students learn English through active and discovery-based learning.

The curriculum includes four main skills—listening, reading, speaking, and writing—and three supporting skills: grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation. These supporting skills are taught as real communication tools, not just language rules.

The number of themes has been reduced so that students can learn better and go deeper. At the start of each school year, there is a revision programme.

There are eight main themes related to real life. Each year, students study new sub-themes to expand their knowledge. Vocabulary is carefully chosen from A1 to B2 levels, following both international and Turkish education standards.

Grammar is taught in context, not as separate lessons. Students learn grammar naturally while using English. The programme also includes idioms and everyday expressions to help students speak more fluently and naturally.

Differentiated learning offers all students equal chances to succeed. Teachers adjust content and tasks to students' levels. Technology is used with stories, songs, and videos to make lessons more interesting and real.

The curriculum also helps students learn national and moral values. They learn to express their own culture and identity in English while becoming part of the global community.



**TÜRKİYE
CENTURY**

From Roots to the Future

IDIOM TIME

Nature Speaks!

Let's learn how nature inspires our language!

GREEN TIP

"Every word can grow like a seed. Learn new idioms, and let your English blossom!"

Make hay while the sun shines



Do something while you have the chance

"Let's plant more trees this spring while the weather is good. We should make hay while the sun shines."

The calm before the storm



A quiet period before chaos or trouble

"The sea is still and silent, but the dark clouds show it's the calm before the storm."

Put down roots



To settle and feel connected to a place

"After years of moving, my family finally put down roots in a small eco-village."

Come rain or shine



No matter what happens

"Our team cleans the beach every Sunday, come rain or shine."

Plant/Sow the seeds of something



To cause (an idea, feeling, etc.) to begin

"Small acts of kindness plant the seeds of trust and friendship."

Every cloud has a silver lining



There is something good in every bad situation.

"The match was tough, but we learned a lot. Every cloud has a silver lining."

When it rains, it pours



Once something goes wrong, more problems appear.

"First the bus was late, then my phone battery died.
When it rains, it pours."

The grass is (always) greener (on the other side)



People often think others have a better situation, even when they may not be.

"She quit her job thinking the grass was greener, but now she regrets it."

Have your head in the clouds



To be dreamy and not think about real life

"Don't have your head in the clouds. We need to finish this project today."

A storm in a teacup



A small problem that people make seem much bigger

"People got angry about the new logo, but it was only a storm in a teacup."

quiz
time

Fill in the blanks with the correct idioms given in the box.

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| a) planted the seeds of doubt | f) every cloud has a silver lining |
| b) when it rains, it pours | g) make hay while the sun shines |
| c) a storm in a teacup | h) come rain or shine |
| d) the calm before the storm | i) put down roots |
| e) the grass is always greener on the other side | j) have their heads in the clouds |

- My cousin missed her flight, lost her luggage, and got a cold the next day. Truly, _____.
- They often _____, thinking about impossible ideas.
- Your project failed at first, but it helped you learn from your mistakes. Remember, _____.
- Social media makes it easy to believe _____, but every life has its own struggles.
- You've got free time and good weather, so _____ and finish that garden project!
- The team was upset about a small schedule change, but it was just _____.
- The volunteers show up to clean the river and protect wildlife every weekend, _____.
- Everyone in the office was silent just before the big meeting started; it felt like _____.
- He worked in many cities, but he truly _____ when he found a place near the sea.
- The argument _____ in their friendship, and things were never quite the same again.

Are you confused by these words?

Clear the confusion with meanings and examples.



Historical

Related to history in general

"She studies historical documents."

Vs

Historic

Very important in history

"It was a historic victory for the country."



Especially

Particularly; more than others

"I love summer, especially July."

Vs

Specially

For a particular purpose

"This bag was specially designed for hiking."



Everyday

Ordinary, usual

"These are my everyday clothes."

Vs

Every day

Each day

"He practises speaking English every day."



Beside

Next to

"She sat beside her mother."

Vs

Besides

In addition to

"Besides English, he speaks Spanish."



Desert

A dry, sandy area with little rain

"Camels live in the desert."

Vs

Dessert

Sweet food eaten after a meal

"We had a slice of cake for dessert."



EXIT GAME: CAN YOU ESCAPE THE WORD TRAP?

Choose the correct word to move forward. A wrong answer will take you down the wrong path. Can you reach the real EXIT?

The Sahara is the largest ----- in the world.

desert

dessert

Reading for ten minutes ----- helps me relax.

everyday

every day

I love Italian food, ----- pizza.

specially

especially

There was a small table ----- the bed.

beside

besides

EXIT 1

EXIT 2

She enjoys watching ----- documentaries.

historical

historic

EXIT 3

EXIT 4

No meal is complete without a sweet -----.

desert

dessert

EXIT 5

EXIT 6

Traffic is an ----- problem in big cities.

everyday

every day

EXIT 7

EXIT 8

BRITISH vs. AMERICAN ENGLISH

THE GREAT SPELLING BATTLE!

Who knew one missing 'u' could cause such drama? Have you ever argued with your friend about whether it's colour or color? Don't worry—you're not alone. The British and Americans have been fighting this spelling war for ages! Let's look at some of their biggest 'word fights'—and have a good laugh while we're at it. 😊

BRITISH

AMERICAN

-our vs. -or

British people like things fancier, so they keep the 'u'. Americans? They kicked it out.

colour
honour
flavour
neighbour



color
honor
flavor
neighbor

-re vs. -er

The British go to the theatre, the Americans to the theater. Same drama, different spelling!

centre
metre
theatre
fibre



center
meter
theater
fiber

-ise vs. -ize

Brits love to organise things; Americans prefer to organize them.

organise
realise
recognise
apologise



organize
realize
recognize
apologize

Double | Trouble

British spelling loves double letters. Americans like to keep it short and simple.

travelled
cancelled
labelled
modelling



traveled
canceled
labeled
modeling

-ce vs. -se

These pairs look similar and sound identical—just another way English loves to confuse us all!

defence
licence
offence
pretence



defense
license
offense
pretense

WHO IS THE WINNER?

Honestly—nobody! Both versions are correct, and both are part of the fun world of English.

Whether you write colour or color, what really matters is that your message shines as bright as the British afternoon tea ☕ or an American donut. 🍩

THE GUARDIANS OF GREEN VALLEY

PHRASAL VERBS



Explorers Maya, Leo, and Chloe arrived at Green Valley, said to be untouched. But there was a strange, chemical smell in the air. "Something's wrong," said Maya, frowning. "This valley was supposed to be pure."



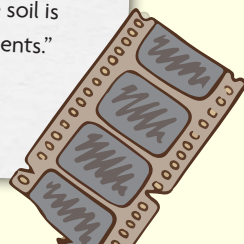
They followed the smell to a hidden factory. "That smokestack must **give off** a lot of pollution," Leo said grimly. The river next to it was running low and murky. "They're going to **use up** all the clean water."



All the vibrant plant life around the factory was wilting. Maya knelt, touching a pale, drooping flower. "These are the unique valley orchids," she whispered sadly. "They will **die out** completely if this continues."



Chloe analysed a soil sample on her tablet. "The toxins are poisoning the soil while dead leaves and plants are **breaking down**," she explained. "The soil is losing all its beneficial nutrients."





Back at their camp, they made a plan. "We have to convince the owner to **scale down** the most harmful parts of his operation," Leo declared, pointing to a map. "We'll show him our data and offer a cleaner solution."



They presented their findings to the factory owner. Faced with the undeniable proof of the damage, he agreed to their plan. The explorers watched the factory's transformation, knowing Green Valley now had a chance to **build up** again.

PHRASAL VERBS ABOUT NATURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Let's check the meanings of the phrasal verbs written in bold in the cartoon.

give off

to emit or release something, such as pollution or a smell

use up

to consume all of something, leaving none behind

die out

to become extinct or disappear completely

break down

to decompose or rot

scale down

to reduce the size or intensity of an operation

build up

to recover, strengthen, or increase again over time

LET'S PRACTISE

Choose the best phrasal verb to complete each sentence.

1. When a habitat is destroyed, the plants and animals that live there often _____.

- a) die out b) build up c) give off d) break down

2. If we continue to _____ natural resources at this rate, we will face a serious crisis.

- a) die out b) break down c) scale down d) use up

3. Fungi play a crucial role in the ecosystem by _____ dead wood and leaves.

- a) using up b) scaling down c) breaking down d) giving off

4. Without predators, the population of deer began to _____ to unsustainable levels.

- a) break down b) give off c) build up d) die out

5. To protect the coral reefs, fishing companies were ordered to _____ their dredging activities.

- a) build up b) scale down c) die out d) use up

6. As the compost heap warms up, it begins to _____ a distinct, earthy smell.

- a) build up b) give off c) use up d) scale down

Everyday English means the kind of English people use in daily life. It includes common phrases, idioms, and expressions that native speakers use.

SPEAK LIKE A NATIVE!

Want to sound more like a native? Read the dialogues and pick the option (A or B) that shows what the bold expressions really mean!

Everyday English

1

Liam: I tried to fix my sink with duct tape.

Olivia: Did it work?

Liam: Nope, now it leaks in two places.

Olivia: **Been there, done that.**

A That's one creative solution!

B I've experienced that before, same mistake.



2

Emma: Why do you always carry two phones?

Jake: One is for work; the other is for emergencies.

Emma: **That makes sense.**

Jake: Yeah, it keeps things organised.

A That's true; having two phones can help

B I understand now; that's logical.



3

Alan: I stayed late to finish your part of the project.

Zoe: Oh wow, thank you so much!

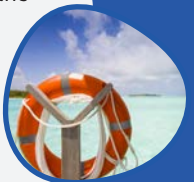
You're a lifesaver!

Alan: No problem at all. I know you've been super busy.

Zoe: Yeah, it means a lot to me.

A You're the best; thanks for helping me out!

B It's fine; I didn't really need that anyway.



4

Helen: I could really use a long weekend right now.

Mandy: **Same here,** I'm so tired of work lately.

Helen: Maybe we should plan a short trip or something.

Mandy: That sounds perfect—I'm in!

A Yeah, a quick getaway would be awesome!

B No thanks, I'd rather stay and work more.



5

Sue: I got you a little surprise—your favourite coffee!

Joe: No way! You actually remembered?

Sue: Of course, how could I forget?

Joe: Aww, **that made my day!**

A That's so sweet of you, thank you!

B Well, I don't even like coffee that much!



➔ Would you like to learn more to sound like a native? Then stay tuned for our next issue!

—when talking to friends, shopping, texting, or chatting at work.
 makers use naturally in real conversations, not just in grammar books.

Everyday English

COLOURFUL ENGLISH: EXPRESSIONS THAT POP!

English is full of expressions that add colour, emotion, and imagination to everyday speech. These vivid phrases don't just describe things—they paint pictures in our minds! From stark white snow to pitch-dark nights and crystal-clear truths, such expressions make our English more natural and expressive.

1



stark white (pure white)

The snow-covered mountains stretched endlessly, stark white under the bright winter sun.

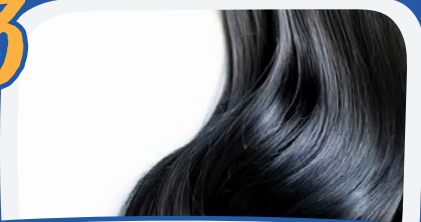
2



paper thin (too thin)

The walls of the old apartment are paper thin, so we can hear everything from the next room.

3



jet black (completely dark)

Her hair was jet black, and it shone brightly under the city lights.

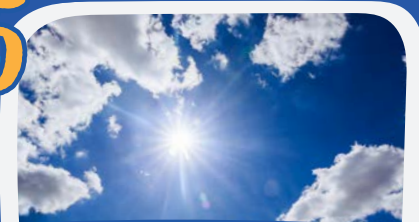
4



bone dry (completely dry)

After weeks without rain, the fields were bone dry, cracked under the blazing sun.

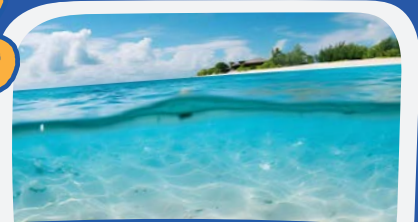
5



in broad daylight (during daytime)

The thief stole the painting in broad daylight, which shocked everyone at the gallery.

6



crystal clear (very obvious)

It was crystal clear that she was the most qualified person for the job.

➔ Curious about more colourful phrases? Just wait and see what's coming next!



YDT EXAM PRACTICAL GUIDE

*Here are some tips for the YDT exam.
There will be more tips in the next issue.*

CLOZE TEST TIPS

In this type of question, there are five blanks in the passage, and you are expected to fill them in with words or phrases that make the paragraph meaningful as a whole. These questions assess your knowledge of conjunctions, transitions, prepositional phrases, tenses, modals, participles, infinitives, gerunds, prepositions, and vocabulary.

Read the first sentence

The first sentence is usually the topic sentence, which provides general information about the paragraph and helps you understand the overall theme before focusing on the blanks.

Answer in any order

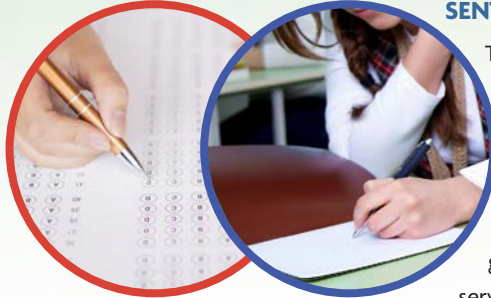
Start with the blanks you find easier. Filling in the third blank may help you choose the correct answer for the second one. Skip difficult ones and return to them after completing the others.

Consider context

When filling in a blank, look at the sentences before and after it, especially for conjunctions, transition words, and prepositional phrases. The previous sentence might show cause-and-effect, while the next could give an example, explanation, or contrast.

Do not overthink

For most questions, it is better to think of them as single sentences rather than paragraphs. This makes it easier to find the correct answer, especially in preposition, vocabulary, and grammar questions.



SENTENCE COMPLETION TIPS

There are eight questions where you combine two sentences in this question type. Generally four questions are given with conjunctions, while the other four include conjunctions in the options. Questions with conjunctions are generally easier because the conjunction serves as a clue.

Predict what should come

Before checking the options, try to guess how the sentence should end. This method helps you focus on the meaning and prevents you from being misled by tricky distractors. If your prediction matches one of the choices, you can feel more confident about your answer.

Practise as much as possible

Practise with many questions to improve your predictive skills and overall question-solving abilities. Review your mistakes carefully to understand the logic behind each question and avoid repeating them in the future.

Master conjunctions

Whether the conjunction, transition, or prepositional phrase is given in the question stem or in the options, this is the most important point. It is essential to know whether these expressions show a cause-and-effect relationship, a contrast, a complete opposition, or an addition, etc.

Use elimination strategy

If you are unsure about the correct answer, eliminate options that clearly do not fit. Look for logical inconsistencies or contradictory meanings. Often, narrowing down to two options makes the final choice easier.

READING COMPREHENSION TIPS

General Strategies

Beware of distractors

Some answer choices are partially true or use familiar words differently. Always compare carefully with the passage.

Time management

Avoid spending too much time on one question. If unsure, mark it and move on, then return if time allows.

Paraphrasing practice

The YDT often paraphrases information in questions. Practise recognising synonyms and alternative expressions.

Practise regularly

Consistent practice with past YDT passages improves speed, accuracy, and the ability to infer meanings.

Specific Points

Skim first, read later

Quickly skim the passage to gain a general idea of the topic and structure. Do not focus on every word initially.

Focus on key sentences

Often, the main idea is in the first sentence, but occasionally it is in the second or last sentence, especially if there is a contrast or summary.

Identify keywords

Pay attention to names, numbers, dates, and technical terms. Mark these key elements as they often appear in questions or serve as distractions:

1. Quantifiers (*most, many, all, some, etc.*)
2. Adjectives and Adverbs (*comparatives, superlatives, etc.*)
3. Modals (*can, could, should, must, etc.*)
4. Information between Punctuation Marks ('—', parentheses)

Look for signal words

Words like 'however', 'although', 'because', 'therefore', and 'in contrast' guide you to the main idea, cause-effect relationships, or contrasts.

Analyse question stems

Questions can be categorised into four groups:

1. General question stems:

In this type of question, there are no clues; the answer could be anywhere. This necessitates comprehension of the complete text.

e.g. "It is pointed out in the passage that ----."

2. Specific question stems:

These contain keywords directing you to specific sections. Focus on the relevant part.

e.g. "As we understand from the passage, solar energy is beneficial ----."

3. Mixed question stems:

This type of question may seem general, but it can be specific depending on context. If the paragraph is entirely about solar energy, it is general; if solar energy is only part of a broader topic, it is specific.

e.g. "It is pointed out in the passage that solar energy ----."

4. Inference questions:

They require making inferences from the passage, so they are more time-consuming and challenging than other question types.

e.g. "It can be inferred/concluded from the passage that ----."

CHOOSE YOUR PATH!

TIME & RESPONSIBILITY QUEST

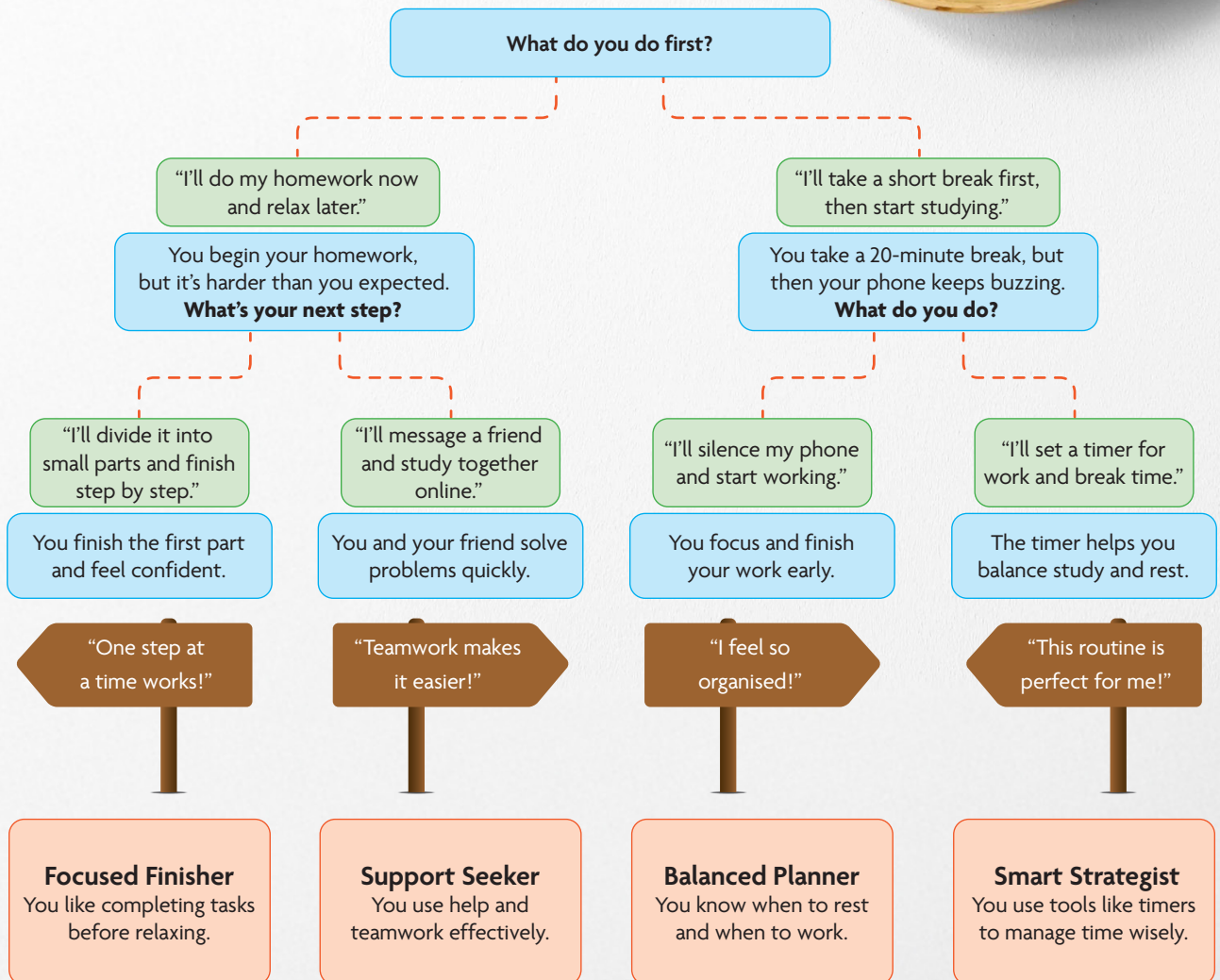
Follow the story and choose your path. Read each situation and pick what you would do. Your choices will lead you to a 'learning strength' at the end.

It's Sunday evening. You have:

- homework due tomorrow,
- a favourite series you want to watch,
- and you feel a bit tired.



Let's play online!



All choices show good strategies—different day, different style!

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OUTDOOR SPORTS

Outdoor sports are physical activities that take place in natural or open environments. In recent years, outdoor sports have become increasingly popular because people want to live healthier lives, spend more time in nature, and escape the stress of daily life. Let's learn more about outdoor sports, especially mountain climbing, cycling, and trekking.

MOUNTAIN CLIMBING

Mountain climbing is an adventurous outdoor sport that requires physical strength, endurance and technical skills to reach the summit of high mountains. Mountain climbing challenges people's physical limits while also strengthening their connection with nature. It can be practised in various natural areas such as mountain ranges, rocky peaks or icy summits. Mount Ararat, Mount Erciyes and the Taurus Mountains are among the most popular mountaineering areas in Türkiye. Mountaineers must use equipment such as ropes, safety harnesses, helmets, climbing boots and carabiners to ensure their safety. Before starting the climb, it is vital to check the weather conditions, never climb alone, inform someone of the route you are taking, and carry sufficient food and water.

TREKKING

Trekking is an outdoor sport that involves walking long distances in natural environments, such as mountains, forests, and valleys. It is not only a physical activity but also a great way to explore nature and clear your mind. Trekking can be done almost anywhere in the world, accompanied by beautiful natural scenery. Popular trekking routes in Türkiye include the Lycian Way, the Kaçkar Mountains, and Cappadocia. People usually use equipment such as walking boots, rucksacks, water bottles, maps and walking sticks. Safety is very important in trekking; trekkers should check the weather, wear appropriate clothing, and never walk alone in unfamiliar areas. This sport is preferred by people who love nature, adventure, and peaceful environments. Trekking helps people feel free and connected to nature while supporting both physical and mental health.

CYCLING

Cycling is an adventurous and healthy outdoor sport for exercise, travel or competition. It is an enjoyable way to discover new places, be close to nature, and experience the thrill of movement. This sport is popular among both young people and adults because it provides a sense of freedom. There are many opportunities for cycling enthusiasts in Türkiye. Routes such as İzmir, the route between Artvin and Trabzon, and the Frig Valley have become popular destinations for cyclists. The International Sakarya Cycling Festival, held annually since 2020 in the city of Sakarya, brings together cyclists from around the world. In addition, the Presidential Cycling Tour of Türkiye, an international cycling competition, aims to increase cycling culture while maintaining the highest level of competition. Cyclists can use equipment such as helmets, gloves, and special cycling clothes to make their rides safer and more comfortable. For safety, cyclists should check their brakes and tyres.

EXTREME SPORTS

AROUND THE WORLD!

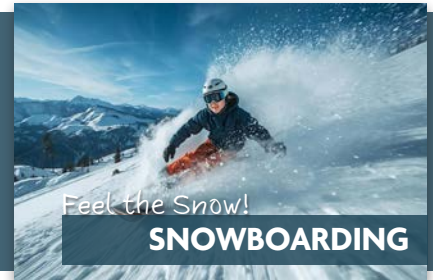
Five cool ways to feel brave, free, and alive!

Extreme sports are exciting activities that give people strong feelings of adventure and freedom. These sports often take place outdoors and sometimes in challenging conditions, like high waves, fast rivers, or snowy mountains. People who do extreme sports enjoy testing their limits and feeling the thrill of nature. Let's learn more about some popular extreme sports.



Skateboarding is a cool and creative sport that you can perform both indoors and outdoors. You ride and do tricks on your board in parks or on the street. All you need is a helmet and knee pads, and of course, a skateboard. It takes practice to learn how to balance and move smoothly. When you land a new trick, it feels amazing—like you're flying for a second!

Snowboarding is a cool winter sport where you ride down snowy hills on a board. You need to have some special equipment, such as warm clothes, boots, gloves, and a helmet. It's popular in ski resorts and mountain areas in Türkiye, including Erciyes, Uludağ, Kartepe, or Palandöken. When you slide smoothly down the snow, you feel free and happy, like you're dancing on ice.



Surfing is an exciting water sport where you ride waves on a surfboard. You should get a surfboard and a wetsuit. It takes time to find balance, but once you do, it feels magical. Surfers often wait early in the morning for the best waves. When they catch one perfectly, they feel connected to nature and full of energy, as if they are a part of the sea or the ocean. They usually have experience in the ocean or beach areas. In Kerpe, Şile, or Alanya, there are some beaches where you can perform this adventure.

Rafting is an exciting team sport where you have to work together to keep the balance and move fast on white water. If you love adventure and nature, rafting on the Firtina River in Rize is a great experience! This river is in the beautiful Black Sea region of Türkiye, surrounded by green mountains and forests. To do rafting, you need a life jacket, a helmet, a paddle, and an inflatable boat. It's sometimes a little challenging but mostly full of fun and laughter. When you finish the ride, you feel strong, free, and proud of yourself!



Have you ever dreamed of soaring like a bird? That feeling of pure freedom, the whisper of the wind, and the breathtaking view beneath your feet. Paragliding is the sport that turns this dream into a thrilling reality! Our country, Türkiye, is a true paradise for this unique experience. Babadağ in Fethiye-Ölüdeniz, in particular, draws adventurers from all over the world to glide above its turquoise waters. So, what you need for this adventure is a helmet, the harness that connects you safely to the pilot, a pair of comfortable closed-toe shoes, casual clothes, and maybe some sunglasses. The rest is about trusting your experienced pilot and surrendering to the magic of the sky.

Kaval

a traditional Turkish end-blown flute

Volkan Koyuncu began his musical career playing the *bağlama* in high school. In 2007, he was accepted into the Basic Sciences Department of the Ege University Turkish Music State Conservatory, where he discovered the *kaval*. He later began working as a music teacher. He has performed with his instrument in numerous national and international concerts, album releases, and television programmes. He currently serves as a music teacher at the Ministry of National Education.

When and how did your journey with the *kaval* begin?

I first started music by playing the *bağlama* and the guitar. I met the *kaval* in 2007 when I began studying at Ege University, Turkish Music State Conservatory. My journey with the *kaval* started under the guidance of my dear teacher, Aytunç Aydın.



What influenced you the most in choosing the *kaval*? Was there a special reason for preferring it over another instrument?

Meeting a new instrument is always an exciting experience for anyone interested in music. The first thing that impressed me was its sound. The *kaval*, like every instrument, has a story and carries a tradition. Unlike the instruments I played before, the *kaval* can produce longer tones and has a solo character. I felt that it could open a new door in my musical experience.

What do you feel while playing the *kaval*? What emotion affects you the most at that moment?

Music is a highly abstract art form when considering its performance aspect. Anyone can make a sound with an instrument, but being a musician means expressing your feelings through it. Just like a writer adds something from their

inner world to the characters in a novel, a musician also adds their soul to each note. That's why even if many people play the same song, each performance sounds different. This is the beauty and richness of music. When I play the *kaval*, I try to feel the emotion of the piece in my own way. I see myself as a bridge, trying to help listeners feel what I feel through the music.

What are the best parts of being a *kaval* player?

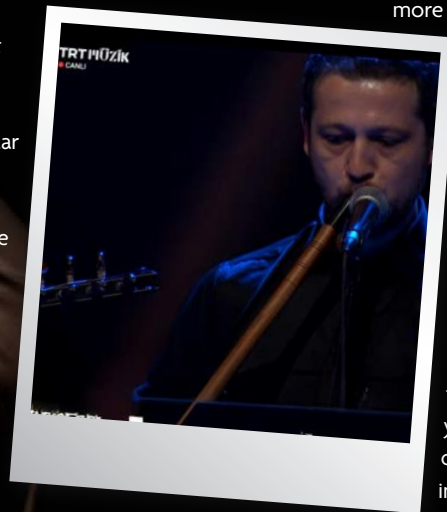
The *kaval* is an instrument that covers a wide geographical area. It has similar forms in many countries. This gives you a huge area to explore. Even in our own country, the *kaval* has different styles and techniques. So, through the *kaval*, you can understand the feelings of a farmer picking tea in the Black Sea region or a musician playing at a wedding in Bulgaria. This is a very inspiring and eye-opening experience.

What advice would you give to people who want to learn to play the *kaval*? Which is more important—patience, breath, or emotion?

All of these are very important, not only for the *kaval* but for learning any instrument. However, the most important thing is to choose the instrument that suits you best. When you love your instrument, practising becomes a kind of play. But if you don't like it, it can feel like torture. So, in my opinion, the most important thing is love for your instrument.

How do you see young people's interest in traditional music today? What should be done to keep this art alive for future generations?

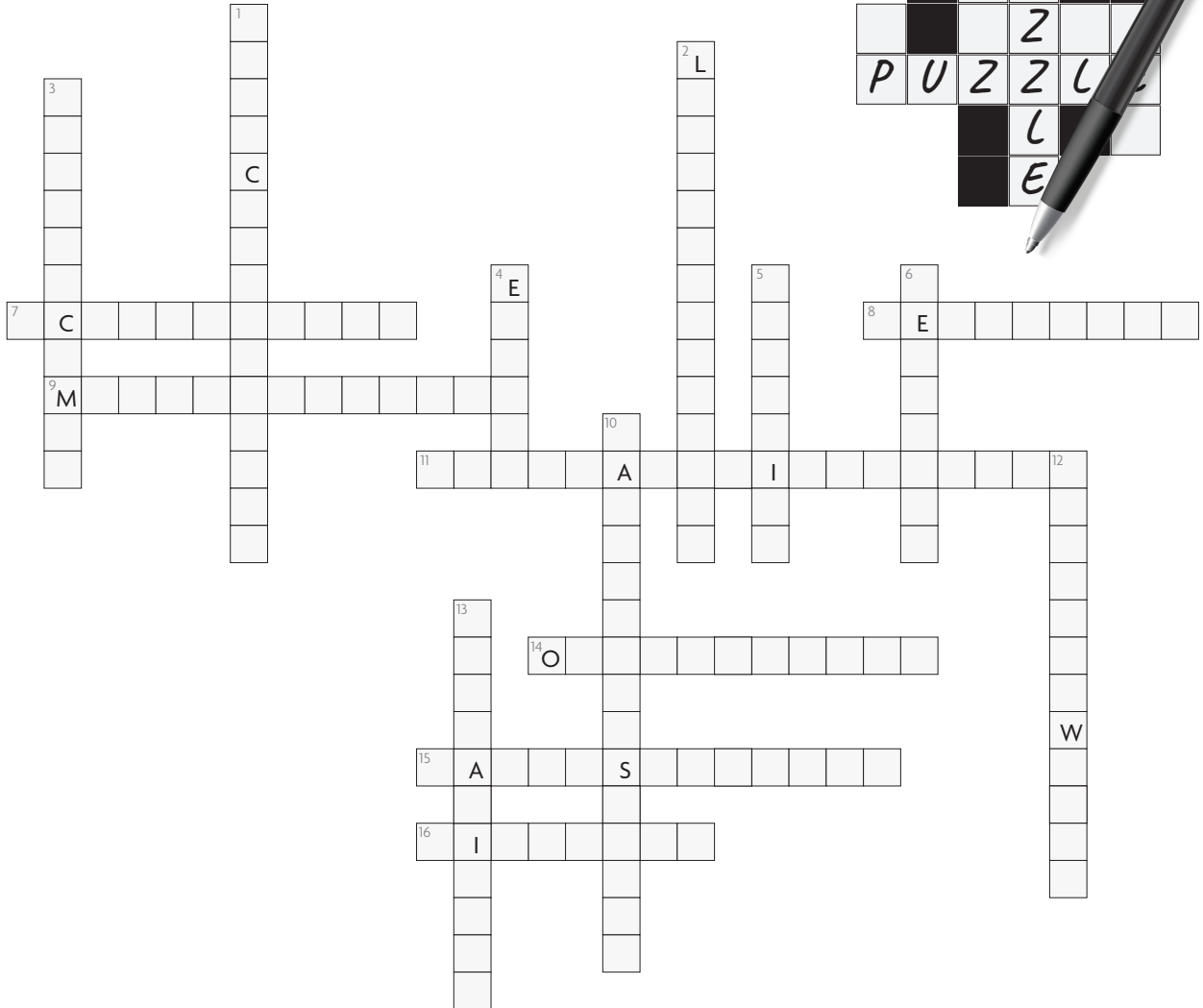
Traditional music is becoming more and more valuable. There are still many traditional musical styles that have not been consumed or discovered in the global industry. Because they are natural and free from commercial rules, they keep their originality. Many prestigious projects today are inspired by traditional music. I believe young people are aware of this and show real interest. To keep their interest alive, they should be given more opportunities—concerts, festivals, and projects that include traditional music should be made more accessible. The more reachable they are, the more this art will live and grow.



ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

Let's discover the dangers our planet faces today!

The Earth needs our help—explore these environmental problems and see how human actions impact our world. Find the words, understand the issues, and think of solutions!



ACROSS

7. People who are forced to leave their homes because of environmental problems (hyphenated word*)
8. A chemical used to kill insects on crops, but it can also harm the environment and other animals
9. Tiny plastic particles found in oceans, soil, and even inside living organisms
11. The ocean becomes more acidic because of absorbed CO₂
14. Catching too many fish, damaging marine ecosystems
15. A situation where fresh water is limited or difficult to access
16. The release of oil into oceans or seas, causing pollution

* **hyphenated word (n.)** : A word made of two parts joined by a small line (-) **e.g.** carbon-free, part-time, self-made

DOWN

1. Using natural resources too quickly, creating waste and harming ecosystems
2. Bright artificial light that disrupts ecosystems and human health
3. Clouds of microplastics floating on the ocean surface, like air smog
4. Electronic waste like old phones, computers, or batteries that pollutes soil and water (hyphenated word*)
5. A large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly in forests or grasslands
6. A long period of extremely hot weather
10. The release of carbon dioxide and other gases into the air
12. The dangerous material left after using nuclear fuel in power plants, research, or medical treatments
13. A harmful substance that pollutes soil, air, or water

WHAT'S YOUR ECO-CHARACTER?

Protecting the environment is everyone's responsibility, but we all have a different way of doing it. Some of us dream of new inventions, some inspire others to take action, and some lead by example with their daily habits. Take this short quiz to discover your own nature-saving superpower! Remember, this isn't a scientific test but a fun guide to get to know yourself and your friends better.

LET'S GET STARTED!

1. You watch a documentary at school about the Great Pacific Garbage Patch island in the ocean. What is your first reaction?

- a) I start imagining a robotic system to collect the waste or a new technology to transform the plastic.
- b) I share the images on social media with a powerful message to raise awareness among my friends.
- c) I immediately review my own plastic use at home and research what I can do to reduce it.

2. The school's environment club is starting a new project. Which task do you volunteer for?

- a) The task of designing a new, more efficient, and perhaps award-winning recycling system for the school
- b) The team that will promote the project, create posters, and get more students to join
- c) The hands-on work, like planting a garden on school grounds or building a compost area

3. You see a very cheap and trendy T-shirt in a store. What goes through your mind?

- a) I wish the technology for sustainable and eco-friendly fabrics was this cheap.
- b) I think about the social and environmental problems behind such a low price and feel the urge to post something about fast fashion.
- c) I choose not to buy it. I'd rather look for a second-hand piece or save up for a quality item I can wear for a long time.

4. How would you convince your family to be more eco-friendly?

- a) I'd prepare a presentation showing how much money we could save with energy-efficient light bulbs or a water purifier.
- b) I'd talk to them, suggest watching an impactful documentary together, and try to persuade them with stories.
- c) I'd start by doing it myself. I'd separate the trash, take my own bag for shopping, and hope they join me over time.

5. You see a lot of trash on the ground in a park. What's your first instinct?

- a) I think, "Would this problem be solved if they designed more interesting and user-friendly trash cans here?"
- b) I take a photo and share it on social media to draw attention to the problem and maybe organise a clean-up event.
- c) I look for a bag nearby and start picking up at least some of the trash myself.

6. If you had to choose a weekend activity, which one sounds most appealing?

- a) Visiting a science fair about future technologies and sustainable cities
- b) Joining a community walk or an event for an important environmental cause
- c) Going for a long hike in nature, maybe doing some bird-watching or helping out on a farm

7. In your eyes, what makes someone an 'eco-hero'?

- a) Someone who invents a revolutionary technology that can change the fate of the world.
- b) Someone who inspires millions of people and changes their perspectives and habits.
- c) Someone who sets an example for everyone by living a simple, sustainable life in harmony with nature.





RESULTS

If you answered mostly 'a', YOU ARE AN ECO-INNOVATOR!

Your superpower is thinking big and designing the future! When you look at problems, you don't see obstacles; you see opportunities for solutions. You believe that technology, science, and creative projects can make the world a better place. For you, the best solution is always the smartest one.

How to Power Up Your Skills: Participate in science fairs at your school, learn to code an app that solves an environmental problem, or create new and functional designs from recycled materials. The ideas that will change the future could come from you!



If you answered mostly 'b', YOU ARE A COMMUNITY ECO-ADVOCATE!

Your superpower is inspiring people and bringing them together! You believe that even one person can change the world, but you know that we are unstoppable when we act together. Your voice, your energy, and your communication skills are your most excellent tools. Spreading an idea and turning it into a movement is the perfect job for you.

How to Power Up Your Skills: Start a blog or social media account about the environment to share your thoughts, organise awareness campaigns at your school, or join the debate club to strengthen your persuasion skills.



If you answered mostly 'c', YOU ARE A HANDS-ON ECO-GUARDIAN!

Your superpower is making a difference with your own hands and leading by example! Instead of big words or complex plans, you believe in taking real steps and in the power of simple changes in daily life. For you, protecting nature starts with the small but meaningful decisions you make every day.

How to Power Up Your Skills: Learn to repair your broken things instead of throwing them away, plant a small garden on your balcony or windowsill, or try zero-waste kitchen recipes to inspire your family and friends.



RIDDLES



THAT'S NOT MY JOB!

This is a story about four people named: **Everybody**, **Somebody**, **Anybody** and **Nobody**. There was an important job to be done, and **Everybody** was sure that **Somebody** would do it. **Anybody** could have done it, but **Nobody** did it. **Somebody** got angry about that, because it was **Everybody's** job. **Everybody** thought **Anybody** could do it, but **Nobody** realised that **Everybody** wouldn't do it. It ended up that **Everybody** blamed **Somebody** when **Nobody** did what **Anybody** could have done.

SILENT 'H'

When I was in 7th grade, I used to ask a lot of questions. One day, I asked my English teacher, Why do we ignore some letters in pronunciation, e.g. the letter 'H' in hour, honour etc.? My English teacher said, "We are not ignoring them; they're considered silent."

I was even more confused. During the lunch break, my teacher gave me her packed lunch and asked me to heat it in the cafeteria. I ate all the food and returned her the empty container. My English teacher asked: What happened? I told you to go and HEAT my food; you are returning me an empty container. I replied, "Madam, I thought 'H' was silent."

Unscramble the letters to find the correct words. Each word is related to the theme *Environment*.



	Jumbled Word	Hint	Answer
1	NRMTOEVENNI	The natural world around us	
2	LRCCEEY	To use something again after processing	
3	TLNAP	A living thing that grows in soil	
4	OWRPE	Energy sources like solar or wind	
5	OLUTLIPON	Something that makes air, water, or land dirty	
6	NREGE	Colour that symbolises nature	
7	EWATS	Unwanted or used materials	
8	CSAVONIERTON	The protection of nature and wildlife	
9	BLAEOBGDAIDRE	Capable of being broken down naturally	
10	OECLGOY	The study of how living things interact with the environment	

ANSWER KEY: 1. ENVIRONMENT 2. RECYCLE 3. PLANT 4. POWER 5. POLLUTION 6. GREEN 7. WASTE 8. CONSERVATION 9. BIODEGRADABLE 10. ECOLOGY

JOKES

HIDDEN WORDS

Find the animals hiding in the following sentences.

e.g. Close the door **at** once! (rat)

1. That will be a real help.

3. Eric owes me ten cents.

5. If Roger comes, we'll begin.

7. In April I only came once.

9. Was Pilar mad, ill, or glad?

2. She came late every day.

4. We made errors in each one.

6. Is it the sixth or seventh?

8. I'll sing; you hum on key.

10. He called Milko a lazy boy.



RIDDLES

1. This phrase is missing all of its vowels:

PPRNCS CN B DCPTV

What was the original phrase?

4. A boy fell off a 100-foot ladder. But he did not get hurt. Why not?

2- What is the 3/7 chicken,

2/3 cat,

1/2 goat?

Guess the city name?

5. A cowboy rode to an inn on Friday. He stayed two nights and left on Friday. How could that be?

6. A father's child, a mother's child, yet no one's son.

3. What 3-letter word completes all four words below?

P _ _ N T

D E _ _ S T

S T _ _

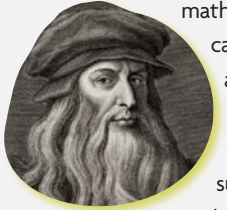
C _ _ E R



7. A hiker went without sleep for seven days and wasn't tired. How come?

INTERESTING FACTS

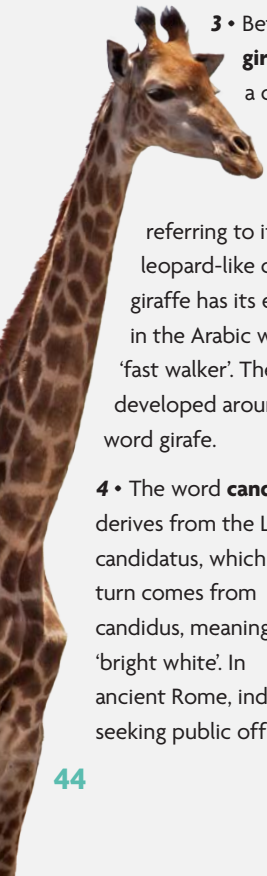
1 • In addition to being a great artist, architect, botanist, engineer, mathematician, cartographer, geologist, and musician, **Leonardo da Vinci** was also a vegetarian and a strong supporter of animal rights, going so far as to purchase caged birds and immediately release them.



2 • Scottish author **Arthur Conan Doyle** was an eye doctor before he created the iconic detective Sherlock Holmes. When he was a medical student, he was impressed by Dr Joseph Bell, a lecturer who seemed to pay special attention to his patients' situations. Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes, who is famous for his deductive abilities, was greatly influenced by Dr Bell.



3 • Before the 1600s, a **giraffe** was known as a camelopard, a term derived from ancient Greek words for 'camel' and 'leopard', referring to its camel-like shape and leopard-like colouring. The word giraffe has its earliest known origins in the Arabic word zarāfah, meaning 'fast walker'. The modern English form developed around 1600 from the French word girafe.



4 • The word **candidate** derives from the Latin candidatus, which in turn comes from candidus, meaning 'bright white'. In ancient Rome, individuals seeking public office

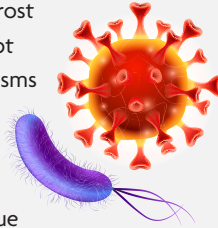


wore a distinctive garment known as the toga candida while campaigning in the Forum. This toga was whitened with chalk to make the wearer stand out and to symbolise purity, virtue, and honesty. The term candidatus referred specifically to a person who wore this bright white toga while pursuing political office.

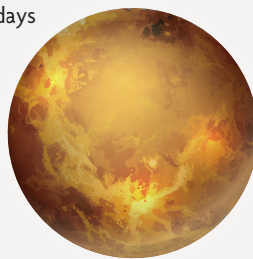
5 • A newborn baby has about 300 bones, but by the time they reach adulthood, they have only 206. This is because many of their bones, such as those in the skull, are made of smaller pieces and cartilage that fuse together as they grow, making the skeletal structure stronger and more rigid.



6 • Ancient Bacteria and Viruses Are Waking Up: Permafrost in the Arctic has kept ancient microorganisms frozen for thousands of years. As this permafrost melts due to warming, it's releasing bacteria and viruses that have been inactive since prehistoric times. In 2016, an anthrax outbreak in Siberia was linked to a dissolved reindeer carcass. While the risk of a pandemic from an ancient pathogen is currently considered low, it is a new and unpredictable consequence of a warming planet.



7 • A day on Venus is longer than its year. Venus rotates on its axis so slowly that it takes 243 Earth days to complete one rotation. However, it only takes 225



Earth days to orbit the Sun, meaning a single Venusian day is longer than its entire year.

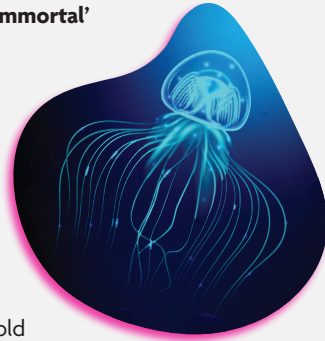
8 • Honey never spoils.

Archaeologists have found pots of honey in ancient Egyptian tombs that are over 3,000 years old and still perfectly edible. Its low moisture content, high acidity, and the presence of hydrogen peroxide create an environment where bacteria and other microorganisms cannot survive.



9 • There is an 'immortal' jellyfish.

The *Turritopsis dohrnii*, or immortal jellyfish, has a unique survival mechanism. When it faces stress, injury, or old age, it can revert its cells to their earliest form (a polyp), effectively restarting its life cycle.



10 • The modern hobby of jigsaw puzzles originated as an educational tool, not a leisure activity. In the 1760s, a London cartographer named John Spilsbury created what he called 'dissected maps'.

He mounted a map onto a piece of hardwood and used a fine-toothed saw to cut along the borders of the countries. These 'puzzles' were then used to teach geography to the children of wealthy families.



Say It SHORT!

Text Smarter, Not Longer!

GENERAL CONVERSATION & EVERYDAY USE

LOL	Laughing Out Loud	AFK	Away From Keyboard
BTW	By The Way	NVM	Never Mind
BRB	Be Right Back	AKA	Also known As
ASAP	As Soon As Possible	JK	Just Kidding
PLS	Please	SRSLY	Seriously
THX / 10x	Thanks	TTYL	Talk to You Later
FYI	For Your Information	TMI	Too Much Information
IDK	I Don't Know	RN	Right Now
TBH	To Be Honest	WDYM	What Do You Mean
G2G / GTG	Got To Go	NBD	No Big Deal

EMOTIONS & REACTIONS

IMO	In My Opinion
IMHO	In My Humble Opinion
GR8	Great
IDC	I Don't Care
OFC	Of Course
TYSM	Thank You So Much
IKR	I Know, Right
NGL	Not Gonna Lie
FR	For Real

SOCIAL MEDIA & INTERNET CULTURE

DM / PM	Direct Message
PFP	Profile Picture
Bio	Biography
RT	Retweet
IRL	In Real Life
POV	Point Of View
IG / YT / TT / FB	Instagram / YouTube / TikTok / Facebook
BFF	Best Friends Forever
IIRC	If I Remember Correctly
FTF / F2F	Face To Face

HUMOUR & TRENDS

FOMO	Fear Of Missing Out
TL;DR	Too Long; Didn't Read
TBT	Throwback Thursday
ICYMI	In Case You Missed It
AMA	Ask Me Anything
NP	No Problem
GOAT	Greatest Of All Time
TBA / TBD	To Be Announced / To Be Decided
IYKYK	If You Know, You Know
AFAIK	As Far As I Know

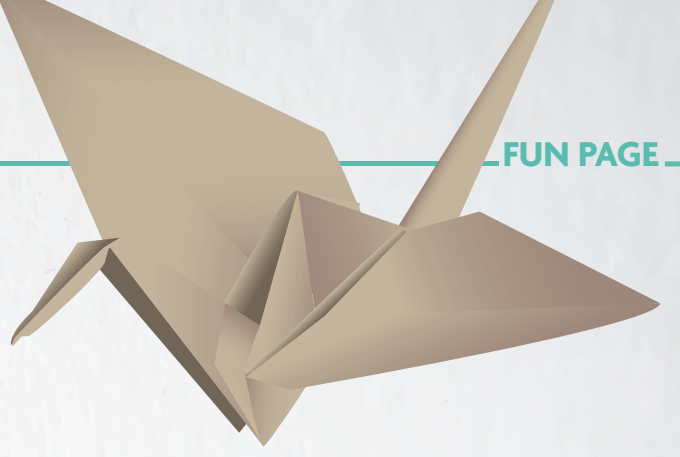


Because Words Are Too Long for the Internet.



ORIGAMI

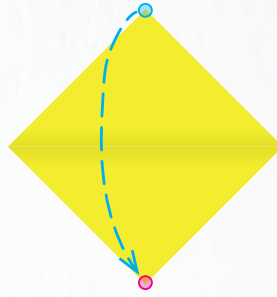
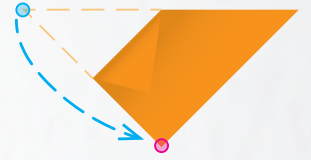
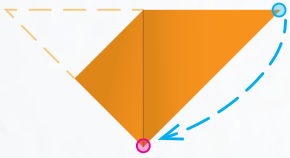
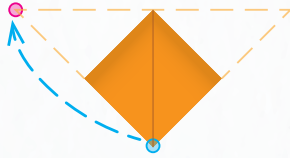
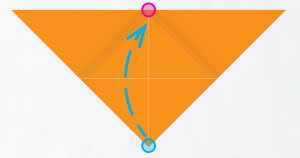
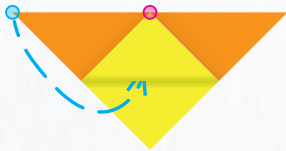
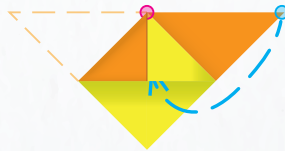
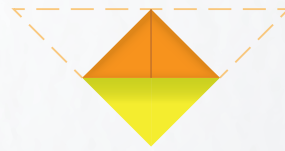
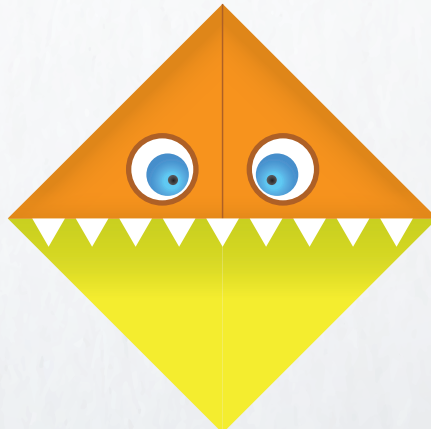
The Art of Paper Folding



Origami is the traditional Japanese art of paper folding. The word 'origami' comes from two Japanese words: 'ori' meaning 'to fold' and 'kami' meaning 'paper'. This art began in Japan hundreds of years ago and was first used in ceremonies and celebrations. At that time, only special handmade paper was used, and origami was seen as a symbol of respect and creativity.

Today, origami has become a popular hobby around the world. People of all ages enjoy making animals, flowers, and many other shapes using only a square piece of paper. It doesn't require glue or scissors—just patience and focus! Origami helps improve hand-eye coordination, creativity, and concentration. Some people also find it relaxing and a great way to reduce stress. From classrooms to art studios, origami continues to inspire people to create beauty from something as simple as a sheet of paper. Do you want to try it? Follow the steps and make your own bookmark!

- First, take a square piece of paper.
- Fold it in half diagonally to make a triangle.
- Turn it so the long side is at the bottom.
- Fold the top corners down to meet at the bottom point.
- Unfold them and fold only the top layer up, then tuck the corners inside to make a pocket.
- Decorate it with eyes, shapes, or stickers—now you have a colourful origami bookmark!





Online Games

Escape the Mountain & Snakes and Letters



ESCAPE THE MOUNTAIN

<https://meb.ai/b2CZBx>

How to Play

- Use the ← → arrow buttons to move and the ↑ button to jump.
- Find and enter the 🚪 doors to answer quiz questions.
- Collect 🪙 coins scattered in the level to earn gold.
- Use your gold at the 🛒 shop to buy helpful items.
- Wrong answers will drain your 🔋 batteries.
- You must answer all 5 door challenges to escape.



SNAKES AND LETTERS

<https://meb.ai/U88qY65>

Game Overview

Game Title: Snakes and Ladders: My Student Life

Instructions: Roll the dice and answer questions about your student life.

Objective: Be the first player to reach square 50 to win the game.

Game Board Elements

The game board includes four types of special squares that affect player movement and gameplay.

Ladders (Climbs)

Landing on these squares moves the player up the board:

Square 4: "📖 You studied hard for your exam!" → Climbs to Square 14

Square 11: "👥 You helped your friend with homework!" → Climbs to Square 22

Square 18: "🏆 You won the science fair!" → Climbs to Square 31

Your Mission

You have fallen into an ancient mountain cave system. The only way out is through 5 mystical doors that test your knowledge.

- **Subjects:** Each door represents a different subject: Environment, Culture & History, Food & Health, Personal Qualities, Innovation & Work.
- **Batteries:** Your headlamp has limited battery power. Wrong answers will drain your batteries. If you run out of power, you will be lost in the mountain forever (Game Over).
- **Hazards:** You must navigate carefully to avoid the dangerous cacti.

Shop Items

You can use the gold you collect to buy items at the mountain shop:

- 🔋 **Battery Pack (25 Gold):** Restores 1 battery.
- 🔋 **Extra Battery (15 Gold):** Adds 1 extra battery to your total.
- 🛡️ **Shield Charm (40 Gold):** Protects you from the penalty of your next wrong answer.
- ⚡ **Energy Boost (30 Gold):** Allows you to gain extra gold for correct answers.

Victory Conditions

To win the game and escape, you must successfully answer the questions at all 5 doors to unlock the exit.

Square 25: "👋 You joined the school club!" → Climbs to Square 38

Square 33: "💡 You had a brilliant idea in class!" → Climbs to Square 46

Square 40: "★ You got excellent grades!" → Climbs to Square 50

Snakes (Slides)

Landing on these squares moves the player down the board:

Square 16: "😞 You forgot your project at home!" → Slides to Square 5

Square 28: "🕒 You were late for school!" → Slides to Square 10

Square 35: "📝 You didn't do your homework!" → Slides to Square 20

Square 42: "😴 You fell asleep in class!" → Slides to Square 15

Square 47: "🗣️ You argued with a classmate!" → Slides to Square 30

Square 49: "📱 You got caught using your phone!" → Slides to Square 32

Blocking Elements (Penalties)

Landing on these squares triggers a penalty:

Square 7: "📋 Pop Quiz! Answer correctly or lose a turn!"

Square 13: "🚫 Detention! Skip next turn!"

Square 21: "📖 Extra Homework! Roll again to continue!"

Square 29: "🏢 Principal's Office! Go back 3 spaces!"

Square 36: "📝 Surprise Test! Answer 2 questions!"

Square 44: "🍽️ Cafeteria Line! Wait one turn!"

Special Squares (Bonuses)

Landing on these squares triggers a bonus event:

Square 8: "📖 Library Bonus! Roll again!"

Square 15: "🏃 PE Class! Move 2 extra spaces!"

Square 23: "🎭 Art Class! Choose any player to move back 1!"

Square 30: "🎵 Music Class! All players move forward 1!"

Square 37: "💻 Computer Lab! Skip to the next multiple of 5!"

Square 45: "🎓 Almost Graduated! Move to 48!"

BEST PRACTICES

AN INSPIRING TEACHER

From Local Roots to Global Impact

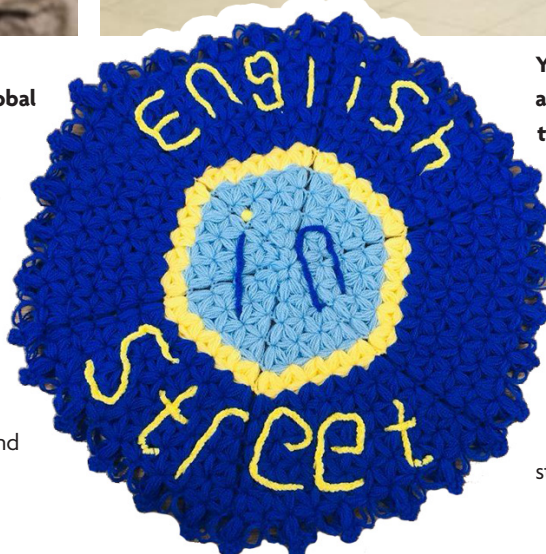
Muhammet AYDIN

Muhammet Aydın is a passionate English teacher from Ordu-Ünye, known for his innovative approach to education. For over two decades, he has inspired students from rural backgrounds to see English as a bridge to new opportunities. His award-winning project 'English in Street' has become a model for experiential learning across Türkiye and Europe. In this interview, he shares his journey, challenges, and vision for shaping competent and virtuous individuals.



You were chosen as one of the world's top 50 teachers by the Global Teacher Prize in 2021. Can you tell us how you became a teacher and why you wanted to teach English?

Teaching is not just a profession to me—it's a calling. Growing up in a small town with limited opportunities, I saw how language could open doors. I wanted to help students believe that English belongs to everyone and that it can change lives.



Your project, English in Street, is known around the world. How did you get this idea, and how has it helped your students?

I asked myself one question: "What if learning English didn't stay in the classroom?" Many of my students lacked confidence, so we took English to cafes, shops, and markets. They learnt by doing—recording dialogues and interacting with people. The project soon became a movement, giving students pride and a sense of belonging.



How did you feel when you were recognised by the Global Teacher Prize? Has this changed your career or your goals as a teacher?

It was a deeply emotional moment. I didn't see it as my success but as my students'. Their courage and stories took me there. The award didn't change my goals; it strengthened my belief that teaching and hope have no borders.

You have joined many international projects. Why do you think these projects are important for students to become global citizens?

Such projects teach empathy, cooperation, and respect for diversity. Through 50+ international collaborations, my students have learnt to communicate confidently across cultures. These experiences teach humanity beyond grammar.

The Century of Türkiye Education Model, talks about competent and virtuous individuals. What does this mean to you in your teaching?

Competence without virtue is incomplete. I focus on nurturing both skill and character—teaching English alongside empathy, courage, and compassion. Education should shape good minds and good hearts.

What message would you like to give to teachers and students who want to make a difference in education?

To teachers: Your presence can change lives—believe in that power. To students: Your background is not your limit. One language or one dream can transform your future.



How can foreign language teachers develop themselves to make a real difference?

A teacher should stay curious and keep learning. Step beyond the textbook—embrace culture, people, and stories. Skills make a teacher competent, but love makes one unforgettable.

What would be your advice to young people who want to learn a foreign language?

Live the language—don't fear mistakes. Every word brings you closer to the world. Be curious, persistent, and brave enough to speak even when unsure.

Finally, could you share your personal teaching motto?

"One student's love can take a teacher where even dreams cannot—to the top of Mount Qaf."



BEST PRACTICES

INSPIRING PROJECTS



TIME TO ACT GREEN

ERASMUS+ KA210 SCHOOL EDUCATION PROJECT

Hilmi Özcan Anatolian High School from Denizli, Türkiye, participates in the Erasmus+ KA210 project “Time to Act Green” (2023–2025) alongside schools from Spain, Italy, and Croatia. The project aims to raise awareness about environmental sustainability and inspire students to become responsible global citizens who protect nature and value intercultural cooperation. Through collaborative learning and student mobilities, participants enhance their environmental knowledge, language proficiency, digital competence, and teamwork skills.

Project Activities

Students have taken part in various hands-on and creative initiatives, including establishing a recycling garden and an organic garden, producing compost fertiliser, and organising recycled art and upcycling workshops. They also implemented waste and energy management actions, such as placing recycling bins and designing posters about the 5Rs. Expert training sessions deepened their understanding of environmental issues. During international mobilities, students shared best practices and strengthened intercultural bonds.

Recycling Garden



Waste & Energy Management



Organic Garden & Planting Activities



Recycled Art & Upcycling Workshops



Expert Training



Mobilities



STUDENTS' OPINIONS

Participants describe the project as both transformative and inspiring:

- The Time To Act Green project helped me grow into a more environmentally responsible individual while giving me the chance to introduce my country and collaborate with my peers from various European cultures. (**Nehir Çelik – 12/G – HÖAL**)
- Erasmus is a journey that means always chasing something better. I once saw a quote that says, “Go somewhere nobody knows your name.” That’s exactly what I did, and now every end feels like a new beginning. (**Simge Lafcıoğlu – 12/H – HÖAL**)
- The project was a wonderful experience that gave me unforgettable memories and new friendships. Our activities focused on protecting the environment and taught me the true meaning of teamwork. Most importantly, I realised that no matter how different nations are, people can still connect easily through English. (**Aslı Beray Söylev – 12/H – HÖAL**)
- Being part of this amazing experience is rare at my age, especially in our country. I’m truly grateful to have been chosen by my teachers for this project. It taught me the importance of being environmentally responsible and helped me appreciate other cultures and how much we share despite our differences. I discovered more about myself, made lifelong friendships, and gained valuable lessons I’ll always carry with me. I’d do it all over again in a heartbeat. (**Yağmur Atalma – 12/H – HÖAL**)

Through Time to Act Green, young Europeans are becoming environmentally aware, culturally open, and globally minded citizens.

🌐 <https://sites.google.com/iesfontglo.net/time-to-act-green/home>

📷 https://www.instagram.com/time_toact_green?igsh=M25mOXBoZnZ3cDNj

BEST PRACTICES

INSPIRING STUDENTS

A BRIGHT JOURNEY OF PERSEVERANCE

Bilgi Su Çakın graduated from Denizli Hilmi Özcan Anatolian High School and now she is a student of English Interpreting and Translation at Ege University. Bilgi Su has shown that determination, thoughtful planning, and a love for learning can transform challenges into achievements. Spending her first two years of high school online, she used that time wisely to discover her passion for languages and set her goals accordingly. Through careful daily planning, perseverance, and the support of her teachers, family, and friends, she overcame moments of exhaustion and doubt. Her journey demonstrates that success is built step by step, guided by curiosity, consistency, and self-belief.

As she advises, *“Do not hesitate to ask questions to your teachers. Making mistakes is alright; instead of blaming yourself, focus on what to learn.”*



Bilgi Su ÇAKIN

THE POWER OF PERSEVERANCE

Sometimes a small interest can grow into a big success with effort and belief. Burak Altıparmak is an 11th-grade student at Yalova Prof. Dr Halil İnalcık Anatolian High School. He studies in the English-intensive branch. In addition to school, he attends Tekno Akademi, a computer and robotics coding academy supported by the Ministry of National Education. There, he learns about future technologies through hands-on engineering activities. Burak started coding because he was curious. Over time, this interest led him to an international competition. He joined the Fibonacci International Robotics Competition in Italy

and won first place in the ‘line follower’ category. In this category, robots follow a special path. Burak and his team competed with 620 teams from 16 different countries. This success made Burak very happy. It was his first time abroad, and the other teams were very strong. However, he trusted his team and stayed confident.

During the competition, Burak used English to explain how their robot worked and how they programmed it. This experience helped him feel more confident.



Burak ALTIPARMAK

LEARNING WITHOUT LIMITS

İkram Türkeri graduated from Erzincan Fatih Vocational and Technical Anatolian High School. Today, as a Computer Programming student at Erzincan Binali Yıldırım University, he shows how passion can transform simple beginnings into inspiring achievements. A curiosity for building and programming electronics sparked İkram’s journey through robotics courses, TÜBİTAK projects, and an Erasmus+ internship in Spain. These experiences advanced his technical skills and strengthened his belief that technology and English are universal languages that connect the world. At university, he combines programming with innovation to develop projects that improve aviation safety, which he believes will strengthen Türkiye’s technological capacity. Actively involved in mentoring and international projects, he encourages students to start where they are, reminding them that *“success is not about resources but about belief.”*



İkram TÜRKERİ

Alper BÜYÜKÇELİK

ENGINEERING A GLOBAL FUTURE

Clear goals and hard work can help people achieve their dreams.

Alper Büyükçelik’s story is a good example of this. When he was a high school student in Kahramanmaraş,

Alper was successful in his lessons and also active in social life. He joined

school clubs, worked on projects, and enjoyed teamwork, which helped him improve himself both inside and outside the classroom. Today, he is studying Electronic and Communication Engineering at Istanbul Technical University.

Through Erasmus+ programmes, Alper visited different countries, met people from many cultures, and learned how important communication and co-operation are. At university, Alper plans his studies carefully and takes responsibility for his future. He also founded an international student community that brings together many young people from different countries. In the future, Alper wants to develop useful technologies and inspire students by showing that belief, effort, and responsibility can shape a successful path.



The CHANGEMAKERS

GOOD EXAMPLES FROM THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL EDUCATION

2025 NASA SPACE APPS CHALLENGE

Bolu Science High School, BOLU

We participated in the 2025 NASA Space Apps Challenge event held in Bolu province with a large and enthusiastic group of students from Bolu Science High School.

Teams worked with great determination and dedication during this marathon of science and creativity, which lasted over forty hours, to produce original solutions to the given 'challenge' topics.

Throughout this challenging process, our students demonstrated both their scientific thinking skills and team spirit at the highest level.

In recognition of their efforts, our students Sadık Aral UĞUR and Kamil Oğuz ÇALIŞKAN, who are also BİLSEM students, and their advisor, BİLSEM Teacher Hasan DOĞAN, achieved remarkable success with their projects, securing second place.



VR AND AR DIGITAL ART EXHIBITION

Kaya Karakaya Science High School, ELAZIĞ

The final event of our 'Artelligence' eTwinning project happened at our school. We used VR and AR technology to show pictures created by AI. These pictures were inspired by famous artists from the countries in the project. Students and teachers learnt about the art history of different countries in a virtual space.

This new project used Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Virtual Reality (VR) to look at art in a different way. It helped students improve their digital skills and learn about other cultures. Our students also care about nature, forests, and water. They showed their modern communication skills with a video they filmed outside. In the video, they said: "We are here for a green future."



BIRD-FRIENDLY FEEDERS AND WATERERS FROM RECYCLING

Kandilli Borsa Anatolian High School, İSTANBUL

A meaningful recycling activity was part of our school's fine arts class. Our students repurposed plastic bottles to create bird feeders and waterers. These environmentally friendly creations were hung on trees in the school garden under the guidance of teachers.

The main goal of the activity was to develop handmade construction techniques, understand the characteristics of recycled materials, and foster environmental responsibility. Students cut bottles into different strengths to transform them into feeders and waterers, then painted them to create both functional and aesthetically pleasing works.

The feeders and waterers placed around the school aim to feed and water the needs of birds, especially during the winter months. The participants expressed their satisfaction in contributing to nature and animals through their ongoing efforts.



FUTURE JOBS

Termal Science High School, YALOVA

Eleventh-grade students at Yalova Termal Science High School organised a specific event called 'Future Jobs'.

Their English teachers, Gizem BİNGÖL and Hatice GÜNER, helped them with this project.

During the event, students gave presentations in English. They talked about new jobs in science and technology. This helped them improve their English skills and learn about future careers. The event showed that students need more than just good marks in today's changing world; they also need modern skills. The students discovered many new and important jobs for the future and explained them to their friends in English.

Throughout the activity, students worked together as a team. They used their research, presentation, and English skills actively. Their creative presentations caught everyone's attention. By being curious about the future, they gained new knowledge. Their teachers and friends praised them for their great work.



OUR ZERO WASTE AND RECYCLING PROJECT

Gaziemir Nevvar Salih İsgören Anatolian High School, İZMİR

Recycling is the valorisation of potentially reusable waste through various processes. Recycling is an extremely important process today, where waste volumes are rapidly increasing. This process can reduce waste, save energy, and contribute to reducing the need for raw materials. Therefore, recycling is crucial for a sustainable environment and life. Sustainable projects make it much easier to protect the environment, protect natural resources, and pass existing resources on to future generations in the best possible way.

With these in mind, we at Gaziemir Nevvar Salih İsgören Anatolian High School have launched a zero-waste and recycling project. This project is carried out in collaboration with our students, parents, teachers, and administrators. Our two-pronged project involves schools and our homes. Our project aims to collect waste paper, plastic, and plastic bottles from these two locations during the first and second school years and recycle them, thus contributing to the economy.



YOUR VOICE



Savaş EROL - Teacher of English
Şehit Fazıl Yıldırım Anatolian High School
ESKİŞEHİR

Using MEBİ and OGM Materyal to Enrich Classroom Learning

As a teacher in today's digital age, I aim to make learning engaging and meaningful. MEBİ, offered by Türkiye's Ministry of National Education, has become an essential tool in achieving this goal. It provides a rich variety of digital resources that not only modernise education but also make learning more accessible and interactive for students.

With its interactive exercises, videos, and digital textbooks, MEBİ brings lessons to life and keeps students motivated. In my English classes, I use its reading and listening activities along with instant quizzes that provide immediate feedback. This helps students spot their mistakes quickly and take responsibility for their own learning.

Moreover, MEBİ's guidance and communication tools also support teachers, students, and parents. Topic explanations and motivational videos encourage good study habits, goal-setting, and emotional well-being, ensuring that learning remains holistic and student-centred.

Overall, MEBİ has been a game-changer in my teaching journey. It bridges the gap between traditional and digital education, making learning more interactive, accessible, and learner-focused. Its integrated guidance and communication features empower teachers and students alike, ensuring that support is always available.

In addition to MEBİ, I also benefit from the rich content provided by OGM Materyal, developed by the General Directorate of Secondary Education. The platform offers interactive books, question banks, and study materials that align perfectly with the national curriculum. Its English resources, including reading texts, vocabulary activities, and practice tests, help my students reinforce what they learn in class and prepare confidently for national exams. OGM Materyal's user-friendly design and wide range of digital resources make it an excellent complement to MEBİ, supporting both teachers and students in creating a dynamic and well-balanced learning environment. Together, MEBİ and OGM Materyal create a comprehensive digital learning ecosystem that enhances both academic achievement and personal growth.

For educators willing to embrace technology, MEBİ and OGM Materyal together offer practical and effective ways to enrich classes and support student success. I am optimistic about future updates that will integrate AI tools to further enhance individualised learning and speaking skills.



Ceylin TÜRKELİ
12/F Yunus Emre Anatolian High School
İZMİR

Building a Sustainable Future Through Youth Action

Living a sustainable lifestyle is now necessary to protect our shared future. If we do not take action, our generation will have to face the serious results of the climate crisis.

As young people, we are a force in creating this change. Our strength comes from encouraging one another through direct action. Organising environmental awareness events, supporting waste management, and promoting eco-friendly products can influence the whole community in a positive way. By developing these habits, we can help create a more sustainable world.

It should never be forgotten that even the smallest steps can make a significant difference. Our active participation is the key to creating lasting and meaningful change.

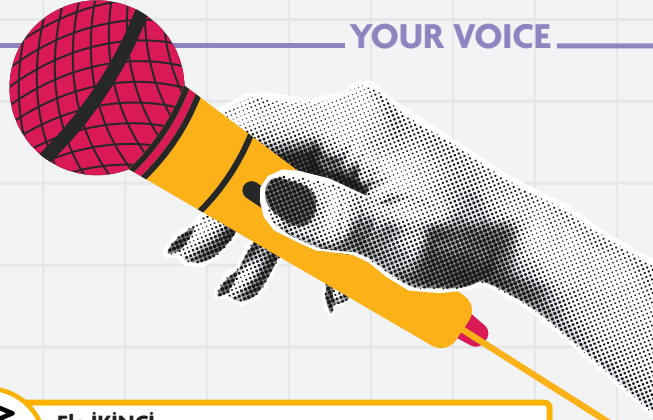


Azra TEMİZTÜRK & Ada Öykü BAŞARGAN
11/D İzmir Girls' High School
İZMİR

OUR ENDING

The weather is dry, the rivers cry,
We stand and watch them slowly die.
This is the damage we have done,
The cost of choices, one by one.

The Earth we live on suffers still,
But change is waiting on our will.
We can still heal, we can defend,
This is not over, not the end.



Eren AYDIN

10/E Yahya Kemal Beyatlı Anatolian High School
ELAZIĞ

I joined the Environment Club at my school because I care about nature and our future. In the club, we organise activities such as cleaning the school garden and collecting recyclable materials. I have learnt how small actions can help protect the environment. Being a member of the Environment Club makes me feel responsible and hopeful for a cleaner world.



Ela İKİNCİ

10/D Köy Hizmetleri Anatolian High School
İSTANBUL

Saving our planet is very important for our future. We use natural resources every day, such as water, air, and energy, but they are not unlimited. If we do not protect nature, pollution and climate change will become more serious problems. Simple actions like recycling, saving energy, and using less plastic can make a big difference. By caring for the Earth today, we can create a healthier and safer world for future generations.



Naz ÖNCEL

10/F Betül Can Anatolian High School
ANKARA

Our beautiful world is surrounded by many amazing things. By this, I do not mean skyscrapers or castles; I mean nature, the trees, and the earth that is always beneath our feet. Mother Nature is just a breath away from everyone. She is the origin of all beautiful, non-manmade things and provides a home for humanity and all living things.

This magical creation communicates with us in every way. For instance, it works in the most perfect way possible, such as when dogs sense an earthquake before it happens. Lately, the world has been facing many problems because of the fast growth of humans and our actions. However, nature is still powerful and warns us about different situations. This miracle is a gift from past generations and every single creature that has lived on Earth. Our humble duty is to keep it safe and alive.



Yağmur KOMBAK

12/F Şehit Fazıl Yıldırım Anatolian High School
ESKİŞEHİR

Our Planet, Our Future

As teenagers, we may sometimes feel powerless about climate change, but our everyday actions truly matter. By reducing waste, avoiding single-use plastics, and choosing reusable items, we can influence positive change and encourage companies to act more responsibly. Walking, biking, or using public transport not only lowers carbon emissions but also keeps us fit and independent. We can also learn more about the environment, join eco-clubs, and inspire friends and family to do the same. Living in an eco-friendly way isn't just necessary for the planet—it's a smart and meaningful choice for our future. Every small step we take today helps build a healthier world for tomorrow.



Ada SOYALP

11/B Osman Nuri Hekimoğlu Anatolian High School
KONYA

Nature has its own balance, but this balance is often harmed by human actions. When natural habitats are destroyed, water sources become polluted, and green areas disappear, both wildlife and people suffer. These problems may not be noticed immediately, but their effects last for many years. By using natural resources responsibly, protecting forests, and keeping our surroundings clean, we can support nature's recovery. Every small effort we make today helps create a safer and healthier future for all living beings.

If you would like to have your articles published in the next issue on technology, you can send them to this email address:

ogm.ogretimmateriyalleri@meb.gov.tr

GLOSSARY

acquisition	(n)	the act of gaining something, such as knowledge, skill, or possession	confused	(adj)	feeling unsure or unable to understand something clearly
aestivation	(n)	a state of deep, inactive sleep during a dry or hot season	conscious	(adj)	aware of something; noticing something
amphitheatre	(n)	a large, circular or oval open-air building with rows of seats that slope up, used for entertainment (especially in ancient Rome)	copperware	(n)	kitchen or decorative items made of copper metal
anime	(n)	a style of Japanese film and television animation, typically aimed at both children and adults	courgette	(n)	a green vegetable similar to a small cucumber, also called zucchini
antioxidant	(n)	a substance that protects the body from harmful chemical effects	crispy	(adj)	pleasantly thin, dry, and crunchy in texture
aubergine	(n)	a dark purple vegetable with soft flesh, also called eggplant	critique	(n)	a detailed analysis or judgment of the good and bad points of a book, piece of art, or theory
belongings	(n)	the things that a person owns; personal possessions	cuisine	(n)	a style of cooking typical of a particular country or culture
beneficial	(adj)	producing good or helpful results or effects; favourable or advantageous	curiosity	(n)	a strong desire to know or learn something
biodiversity	(n)	the wide variety of plants and animals in an environment	curriculum	(n)	all the subjects taught in a school, college, etc. or on an educational course
bleach	(v)	to become white and die (used for corals due to heat)	deductive	(adj)	reaching an answer or a decision by thinking carefully about the known facts
blend	(n)	a mix of different things combined nicely	degraded	(adj)	not having or deserving the respect or good opinion of other people
breathtaking	(adj)	extremely beautiful or impressive	determination	(n)	firmness of purpose; the ability to keep trying despite obstacles
burst with	(phr. v.)	to be full of something (energy, colours, sounds, etc.)	differentiate	(v)	to recognise or show the difference between things or people
candidate	(n)	a person who is competing to get a job or an elected position	dignity	(n)	a calm and serious manner that deserves respect
carbon sink	(n)	a natural area (like a forest or ocean) that absorbs carbon dioxide	diplomacy	(n)	the art of managing relationships and negotiations between groups or countries
cartographer	(n)	someone who makes or draws maps	district	(n)	an area of a country or town, especially one connected with a particular activity
cascade	(v)	(of water) to fall quickly in large amounts	dormant	(adj)	temporarily inactive or as if in a deep sleep
celebration	(n)	a happy event where people enjoy something special together	dreamy	(adj)	lost in thought and not focused on reality
chunk	(n)	a phrase or group of words that can be learnt as a unit	dry	(adj)	having very little or no rain; lacking moisture in the air or ground
coexist	(v)	to live or exist together peacefully	dusting	(n)	a light layer of powder (e.g., cocoa or sugar) on food
committed	(adj)	loyal and dedicated to a cause or activity	edible	(adj)	suitable or safe to be eaten
compassion	(n)	a strong feeling of sympathy and sadness for the suffering or bad luck of others, and a wish to help them	efficiency	(n)	the quality of doing something well and successfully, without wasting time, money, or energy
compost fertiliser	(n)	natural fertiliser made from decomposed organic waste such as food or leaves			

elegance	(n)	a graceful and attractive quality or style	immersive	(adj)	involving deep participation, making someone feel fully involved in an experience
embrace	(v)	to accept something enthusiastically; to hold someone closely in your arms, especially as a sign of affection	innovation	(n)	the introduction of new ideas, methods, or inventions
enhance	(v)	to improve the quality, amount, or strength of something	inspire	(v)	to make someone feel motivated or encouraged to do something
enrich	(v)	to improve the quality of something	intercultural cooperation	(n)	working together with people from different countries and cultures
enrichment	(n)	the act of improving the quality of something	internship	(n)	a period of work experience offered by an organisation for a limited time
ensure	(v)	to make certain that something happens	interpreting	(n)	the act of translating spoken words from one language to another
environmental awareness	(n)	understanding how human actions affect nature and how to protect it	invaluable	(adj)	extremely useful
environmental sustainability	(n)	living in a way that protects nature and keeps the planet healthy	lush	(adj)	green, healthy, and full of plants
escape	(v)	to get away from a place or a difficult situation	mascarpone	(n)	a soft, creamy Italian cheese used in desserts
esteem	(n)	respect and admiration	mentor	(v)	to guide or advise someone who is less experienced
exposure	(n)	the fact of experiencing something new or different	murky	(adj)	dark, dirty, and difficult to see through
fertile	(adj)	rich soil where many plants can grow	neglect	(n)	the fact of not giving enough care or attention to something/somebody
flavour	(n)	the distinctive taste of food or drink	nestled	(adj)	placed or located safely between things; quietly hidden in nature
fortress	(n)	a very strong castle or military building	nominate	(v)	to formally suggest someone for a position, honour, or programme
fragile	(adj)	easily broken or damaged	nurture	(v)	to care for and protect someone or something while they are growing or developing
frown	(v)	to furrow one's brows in an expression of displeasure, concentration, or sadness	nutrient	(n)	a substance needed for life and growth
fundamental	(adj)	more important than anything else	orchard	(n)	land where fruit trees such as orange or lemon trees grow
fungi	(n)	plural of fungus (fungus) Organisms like mushrooms or mould	ordinary	(adj)	normal or usual; not special or different
gamification	(n)	the use of game-like elements in non-game situations to make activities more engaging	organic garden	(n)	a garden where plants are grown without using chemical fertilisers or pesticides
garment	(n)	a piece of clothing	our planet	(n)	our Earth; the world we live in
grasp	(v)	to take a strong hold of somebody/something	passionate	(adj)	having very strong feelings or a strong belief
harness	(n)	a piece of equipment with straps and belts, used to control or hold in place a person, animal, or object	perseverance	(n)	the quality of continuing to try to achieve something despite difficulties
harsh	(adj)	unkind, severe, or unpleasant in tone, manner, or effect	pray	(v)	to speak to God, especially to give thanks or ask for help
heritage	(n)	traditions and history passed from one generation to another	prestigious	(adj)	highly respected or admired, usually because of history or quality
hold back	(phr. v.)	to prevent sb/sth from moving forward			
hospitality	(n)	being kind and welcoming to guests			

profound	(adj)	very great; felt or experienced very strongly	still	(adj)	not moving; calm and quiet
pursue	(v)	to follow someone or something, usually to try to catch him, her, or it	surpass	(v)	to do or be better than somebody/ something
quit	(v)	to leave a job, place, or activity; to stop doing something	surrender	(v)	to stop fighting and admit defeat
recognised	(adj)	officially accepted or approved as true or valuable	surround	(v)	to be all around something or someone
recycling	(n)	the process of turning used materials into new products	temple	(n)	building used for religious worship
recycling garden	(n)	a garden created using recycled or repurposed materials to raise awareness about sustainability	thrilling	(adj)	extremely exciting
regret	(v)	to feel sad or sorry about something you did or did not do	tough	(adj)	difficult and demanding; requiring strength or effort
regulator	(n)	something that controls a process or a system	trick	(n)	a cunning act or scheme intended to deceive or outwit someone
renowned	(adj)	famous and respected	upcycling	(n)	reusing waste materials to make something new and often more valuable
resilience	(n)	the ability to quickly become strong after difficulties	vague	(adj)	not clear in a person's mind
resist	(v)	to fight against something or someone	valorisation	(n)	the act or process of giving value or worth to something
responsibility	(n)	a duty or obligation to behave properly or complete tasks	vibrant	(adj)	full of energy, colour, and life
restore	(v)	to bring back strength or energy after tiredness	victory	(n)	success in winning a competition, battle, or struggle
revert	(v)	to return to a previous state or habit	virtuous	(adj)	having high moral standards; behaving in a very good and honest way
rigid	(adj)	stiff and unable to bend or be forced out of shape	volunteer	(n)	a person who offers to work or help without being paid
ritual	(n)	a set of fixed actions and sometimes words performed regularly, especially as part of a ceremony	vulnerable	(adj)	easily hurt or exposed to danger
sauteed	(adj)	lightly fried in a small amount of oil	waste	(n)	the collection, sorting, and safe disposal or recycling of waste materials
schedule	(n)	a plan that shows when activities or events will happen	management		
simplicity	(n)	the quality of being easy, natural, and not complicated	weird	(adj)	very strange or unusual and difficult to explain
sinkhole	(n)	a deep, natural hole formed when the ground collapsed	wilt	(v)	(of a plant) to become limp and droop, typically from lack of water, heat, or disease
skyscraper	(n)	a very tall building with many floors			
slide	(v)	to move easily and without interruption over a surface			
smoothly	(adv)	without problems or difficulties			
soar	(v)	to rise very quickly to a high level			
soothe	(v)	to make something feel calmer or less painful			
stalactite	(n)	a long, pointed rock that hangs from the ceiling of a cave			

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