

Dear Hostfamily,

My name is Florenz. I am living in Grönwohld, a cottage near Hamburg. I am living there with my parents, my brother and our three cats.

Together with my brother I attend the grammar school in Trittau. Trittau is a village near Grönwohld.

I think a normal day in my life is quite different to a day of a boy of my age in China. I will write down such a day for you, and you may notice, how I am living here in my country.

Every day I go to school by bike at 7:25. School starts at 7:45 a clock. I have got seven lessons periods of 45 minutes. After the second, fourth and sixth period I have got a rest of fifteen minutes. Among the other periods I have got a five minute rest. My subjects studied are: German, English, Latin, Spanish, chemistry, biology, mathematics, informatics, history, economy and policy, methods, art, religion, geography and sports.

I go home at 13.55. Only Thursday I go home at 15:35. This day I have got nine periods and two periods sports. That day is very stressful, especially when we must run a distance of 3000 meters. All the same school is fun if you accustom oneself to early rising. My brother Hendrik attends the seventh and I the eleventh class.

At home I have lunch together with my mother and my brother at about 14:30. My father is still at work and comes back between 16:00 and 18:00. After lunch we have mostly to do a lot of homework or learn for some tests.

My mother is a teacher and occupies at a nursery school in our cottage. And my father acts as a car engineer. He went into business for himself two years ago.

I am a cheerful, rather curious but quite calm boy who is always ready for fun. I have got a lot of friends. I know a few of them since playschool time. There are not many people I am not getting along with.

I think it is important to speak about the problems of yourself and not bottle up them.

Ever since I have joined the eleventh class, school demands me quite a lot. That is because I choose all courses you can. It is a pity, because I haven't got any time for my friends. Mostly I am chatting with them or we are meeting each other at table-tennis, theatre or one-world work group.

My theatre work group acts every year a play. I joined the theatre work group last year and had already presented a play.

The one-world work group is new for me. As its name implies you deal with other countries when you take part at this group. Last year the work group dealt with Tanzania. For example they collected money for this country and after travelling to Tanzania they delivered the money to our associate school.

As well I am reading very much. Actual, I am reading everything I can get my hands on. Especially I am interested in books with science or historical backgrounds. I want to get better in English. Therefore, I am reading books written in English.

A few months ago I started to meditate. This is an interesting experience. You are learning much about the Buddhism, take life more easily and consider it in a different way. Why did I start to meditate? I read a book about it. This awoke my interest for trying it myself. After that I bought the book „How to meditate“. Since that date I try to meditate daily. And indeed, this is relaxing.

My mother, my father and my brother are playing table tennis. I am running the way of a table-tennis coach. My thirteen years old brother wants to be a very good player and my father supports him very much.

I started playing table-tennis five years ago. A long time I played in a youth district league team. Now I am playing in a team of adults. But I am playing not only for myself at the moment I make my trainer c-licence which I probably upgrade to a b-licence.

Every Friday I direct a table-tennis education for the children from six to ten years. To prepare and work out such a training is great fun for me.

If there is some time left, I either programme little programs or I play in the internet with my friends.

I like to play all mods of parlour games. At the most part it takes place on theatre journeys or class outings.

Oh well, I like to travel very much.

First of all I prefer to travel to countries which have got a quite different culture as the German. I travelled with my family to a lot of different countries like: France, England, Turkey, Spain, Portugal and Egypt. If communication is possible the contact with the local people can be very interesting. It is a pity that travelling to countries where most people are Moslems becomes more and more dangerous because of the political situation. I think tourists are disliked there too.

That's not good. But I think the exchange of students is a first step against this negative progress. The exchange between Moslems and Christians is very important.

My favourite subjects are history, biology, Spanish and informatics. It is interesting for me to project the thoughts of people who were important for the history.

I have fun in straight reasoning and consequently in informatics too. The almost endless opportunities you can have if you master a programming language are great. I like to learn Spanish very much and so I am quite successful in this language. Latin, a subject I am learning for about four years is a good help. Grammar is nearly the same and a lot of words are very similar.

I wish to go to China, because China is a very interesting country. I want to get to know the quite different culture of China. I was fascinated by the Chinese culture long ago. And I think it is very advantageous to speak Chinese. More than a milliard people speak it. Besides China becomes important in economy.

I got the chance to travel to the USA last year. But I refused this offer. Because I think it would be better to travel to a country I am really interested in.

I hope you get to know me a little bit. I am looking forward to you and your country and hope that we will spend a nice year together.

See you soon!

Florenz