



Sue, 17

What have you been doing this week?

I've gone to school every day this week, and we have exams next week, so we have been studying a lot. I play two sports and I've gone to basketball practice and volleyball practice. And we had a basketball game that we just won.

Did you have to travel to get to the game?

We traveled about thirty minutes to play the other team.

Does playing two sports take time?

A lot. I usually have two hours of basketball practice every day and two and a half hours of volleyball practice twice a week.

What are you studying?

I'm in pre-calculus,* and I take Spanish 3* and physics. I also take humanities, which is like history and English combined.

Is that all of your classes?

Yes Ma'am.*

What will you do this weekend?

Study for my exams! That's about all I have time to do.

How is your family?

Well, my brother is sick. He has a cough and can't sleep well, but we're really OK.

Is there anything that you would like to say to kids in other countries?

I hope you have a great year, do well, and study hard.

A Few Words

Pre-calculus: This course is sometimes called Algebra 3. It includes algebra and trigonometry and prepares students for calculus classes.

Spanish 3: This is the third year of Spanish classes.

Ma'am: Sue is from the southern part of the U.S. In this part of the country, polite young people always say "Yes Ma'am" not just "yes" when they speak to adult women. They say "Yes Sir" when they speak to adult men.

Discussion Questions

1. What exams are you taking at school this month? Are they difficult for you? How are you preparing for them?
2. Sue spends fifteen or twenty hours each week practicing and playing sports. What sports do you like to play? How do you get exercise and stay healthy?