

Hello everyone!

The topic for our class today is: [Schools/Education](#)

We will discuss various aspects of education systems globally, as well as analyze and debate the pros and cons of different educational practices.

### AGENDA:

1. Review Top Five Education Systems Globally
2. Discussion Questions: breakout rooms, small groups
3. Wrap-up: large group comments and questions



***Reminder:*** The focus in the class is on conversation in order to help improve students' fluency and vocabulary at the intermediate/advanced level.

# Top Five Education Systems Globally:

1. **FINLAND:** Known for its innovative and student-centered approach to education, emphasizes holistic development and minimal standardized testing. Highly trained teachers focus on equality and well-being.
2. **SOUTH KOREA:** Noted for its rigorous and competitive education system, high academic standards, and significant investment in education. Highly structured and disciplined approach, known for its high student performance in math and science.
3. **SINGAPORE:** Renowned for its strong emphasis on mathematics, science, and literacy. Highly competitive and rigorous, with a structured and disciplined approach.
4. **JAPAN:** Maintains a highly effective education system with excellent performance in international assessments, characterized by a strong emphasis on discipline, hard work, and respect for teachers. It excels in science and mathematics education.
5. **CANADA:** With a diverse and inclusive education system, it consistently ranks high in literacy and overall educational attainment. It provides high-quality education across its provinces with a focus on equity and multiculturalism.

## Questions for discussion:

1. What are the strengths and weaknesses of each system?
2. How do these systems compare to the education system in your country?
3. What country do you believe has the best education system?
4. What are the benefits and drawbacks of standardized testing?
5. How important are extracurricular activities in a student's development (sports, music, arts ,etc.)?
6. U.S. Schools:  
What do you think about “affirmative action” in U.S. colleges and universities?  
What does “it’s all about the zip code” mean when talking about American schools?