Reflections on School, Gr. 5 & 7

Male:  [00:00] How has your journey in school changed from when you first started up until now?

Student: Well, when we first started school when I was in, like, Grade 1 and kindergarten, we always had books, paper, pencil, and now we’re doing—we have tech everywhere. We have our own cart full of netbooks we can—we can just bring to our class. So it’s changed a lot.

Male: How is it?

Student: No more wasting trees.

Male: No more wasting trees.

[Laughter]

Student: And it’s just a lot better.

Male: How is it—how has it enriched your learning?

Student: Well, there’s—on textbook, there’s, like, only that one—one textbook.

Male: Yeah.

Student: On—when you, like, search up on the Internet, you can find many, many.

Male: What else can you find besides textbooks?

Student: You can find ...

Student: Learning apps.

Student: Learning apps, websites, and many other things.

Male: Videos, YouTube, yeah.

Student: Videos and YouTube.

Male: (Inaudible)?

Student: So, like, for me, when I was younger—well, I’m still younger because I’m still, like, two years younger than these guys. Like, honestly, as Ruchi(?) said before, it was all book, paper, pencil. Now it’s kind of like the technology that we have, it’s not about, like, doing it physically, but you should use your imagination through it.

Male: Mm-hm.

Student: Like, have fun with it instead of just, you know, “Get it done. Get it done by this day.” You should have that quality. Have fun with it.

Male: That’s what learning should be, right?

Student: Yeah.
Male:  I like that.

Student: Not, “Get it done by this time and it should be like this.” No.

Male: And how—how has the technology allowed you to do that?

Student: That(?) like, everything, like learning apps ...

Male: Mm-hm.

Student: Because actually, like, a couple weeks ago, our teacher, he’s like, “Well, if you guys have a device, there’s this app for GeoBoard(?),” because we were doing geometry. And he’s like, “If you want you can get this app and you can do it on your device.” So that really helped us a lot.

Male: (Inaudible).

Student: For me, it’s changed a lot. Like, when in kindergarten, in kindergarten to Grade 5, we weren’t even allowed to bring our devices because they thought we’d be playing games and stuff.

Student: Exactly.

Student: And then in Grade 6, I was in another school. We were allowed to bring devices, but we were only allowed to play during recess and not use it during class time. So basically, you know, just playing games during recess.

Male: Yeah.

Student: But then I came to this school just this year, in Grade 7, and I was amazed. We were using it for learning, everything. It really helped a lot. So basically, it’s helped me a lot. So finding research. I don’t need to go to the library or anything. I could just pull out my phone and research stuff.

Male: Yeah.

Student: And especially, I remember just a week ago, I was finished my math test, so I—I got out my iPad and I just downloaded a new book to read. Instead of having to go somewhere and search for new books, there’s—there’s a whole collection of books, like, right there for—on e-books.

Male: Yeah.

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