YOUTH CORNER

My high school life

Brook L. Tilahun Grade 12, High School, Ethiopia

High school is a student's secondary learning experience. It's a great distance starting from nursery and getting to high school, but it takes a lot of hard work to get into high school. You will have to learn and understand every single thing starting from nursery to 8th grade. When you get to 8th grade, there is an examination called "ministry" that helps teachers understand if you are ready for a high school education or not, it's an examination comprising everything you learned starting from 5th grade up to 8th grade. The test contained subjects like chemistry, biology, physics, English, mathematics, etc. On the day of the examination, my friends and I were so nervous because it was our first-ever national examination.

My first day as a high school student in 9th grade was exciting because I was starting a new chapter in my life. I was one step closer to going to college and discovering interests and potential careers. Although I thought the subjects would be harder than middle school, they weren't and I found school more interesting and believe it helped me find my passion.

10th grade was significantly different from 9th grade. It was a bit harder but also at the same time, it was more interesting than 9th grade. A problem emerged while I was in 10th grade that affected not only myself but the entire world. It was the COVID-19 pandemic and the pandemic shut down many places such as schools,

workplaces, restaurants, etc. The pandemic also led to many schools shutting down and mid-academic year closure. Due to that, my classmates and I weren't able to finish all the subjects. My school had to shut down completely due to a lack of funding, and the principal abandoned the high school without giving any prior notice. The government forcibly shut down my school, so I had to look for other schools to finish my high school education. I took three tests at three different schools. After passing two out of the three, I had a choice to make. Ultimately, I choose the school that had a better academic standing and education overall.

When I got to 11th grade, I was very nervous because it was a new environment and a new school without old friends.
Luckily, one of my friends from my old school also got accepted and it was wonderful that my friend and I were in the same class. After a while, my friend decided to switch to social sciences while I stayed with natural sciences. After he left I had to make new friends, but we are still close friends.

When I got to 12th grade, I was excited for my last year as a high school student. We are now in the middle of the year and only have half a year left before going to college. We are learning what we want most and how to make a living for our future.