

**thrifty finds.** the best thing students have ever found at a thrift store.



normal price: \$150  
thrifty price: \$10

**Makayia Thomas (10)** found a pair of 1982 Nike Air Force Ones.



normal price: \$45  
thrifty price: \$5

**Nick Linza (10)** bought an old Van's sweater that he wears a lot.



normal price: \$80  
thrifty price: \$7

**Gabby Ward (10)** thrifted a pair of vintage Levi jeans.

**3. Kutiwano Shai (11)** wears an amazing outfit to homecoming. After coming from South Africa, she has met many new people. "People are always fascinated by certain things about me, like my hair, which I find weird but interesting as well," said Shai. **4. Letizia Corocher (11)** smiles outside her house. There are many stark contrasts between her life in Italy and her life here. "We used to eat together every meal. Where as here, we have dinner together, but I'm alone at breakfast and lunch on the weekends. I don't have older brothers I can talk and relate to," said Corocher. **5. Rukiyaonbu Khudaiberganova (11)**, from Kazakhstan, flashes a peace sign while dancing. This was her first year being a foreign exchange student which lead to many opportunities. "I did not expect too many things before alumni gave me information about American lives. I was surprised that the school was so big. It's huge. I have a lot of American things to try out," said Khudaiberganova. **6. Sarra Ben Abdallah (11)** sits in class and listens to her teacher during spirit week. She thought it was cool that we dress up to support our school. "I wouldn't say I was shocked, I would just say the school system is different. The relation between the parents and their kids are different. The relationships between kids and teenagers are different as well," said Ben Abdallah. **7. Samuel Panak (11)** from Slovakia listens to a health teacher lecture about the daily health lesson. He was surprised when he had to take health. "Their behavior towards me is different, they are helpful and behave nicely. I haven't had any trouble and I'm happy to be with them."



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**1. Linda Hoffmann (11) and Chiara-Alexandra Gemkow (11)** experience an American homecoming. The two bonded over the exchange student program. "The people I met are pretty welcoming, school is a lot different but I like it," said Hoffman, while Gemkow said "Everyone is so nice, even when they have a bad day they still try to help you." **2. Giorgi Avazashvili (11)** rocks out before school, showing off his drumming skills. Giorgi really enjoys playing the drums. "There are many things I like, but my host family gives me a bigger opportunity to be crazy."



**bffs or not?**

best friends took a quiz to see if they really know each other.



**Leah Seabolt (9)** got one question wrong. **Ashley Hardman (9)** got a 100%.



Both **Keira Tubbs (10)** and **Kama Sterling (10)** got one wrong.



**Audrey Gulig (11)** got one wrong. **Rebecca Gearhart (11)** got zero.



**Joseph Dyer (12)** and **Tyler Jenson (12)** got perfect scores.

**across the globe.**

foreign exchange students tell how high school is different in America.

Going to a new school for the first time can be nerve-racking, especially when the school is across the world. "Everyone is always pretty nice; you help us to learn and understand things." **Linda Hoffmann (11)** of Germany said. While some aspects are the same, culture shocks come in all shapes and sizes. **Letizia Corocher (11)** from Italy said "You have animals all over the place, like when I walk to school you have deer which I'm not used to," while **Giorgi Avazashvili (11)** from Georgia said, "The biggest surprise is that, nobody judges my style." For some students, even the teachers are different. "The teacher-student relationship is better. I think most of them are much nicer and

they say hello and so on, and in my country they ignore you," said German **Chiara-Alexandra Gemkow (11)**. In addition to struggling through school normally, the foreign exchange students sometimes encounter extra challenges with their host family. **Sarra Ben Abdallah (11)**, from Tunisia, said, "Different house rules, different than what I'm used to in my country. I have two sisters here and at home, I had one brother. I'm not as spontaneous as I am with my actual family, it's not as easy to be comfortable living with people who aren't your actual parents." Even with its challenges, the experience makes being a foreign exchange student worth it.

**my impossible.**

Mauren Vaughn (10)



"A few weeks after her death, I was told that she had a brain aneurysm, but one of my little sister's friends still lived there and she heard on the news that they said she committed suicide so I don't really know which happened. We were best friends; we talked all the time and texted each other throughout the day. I kept photos of her on my phone, and I kept reminding myself of her and kept her in my thoughts. I looked to my friends and my family because they would come and check on me and then I would talk about her and that really helped me a lot."