

Boy Genius



1. Read the story

Look at the pictures on these pages.
What is the story about? Now read it.

CHICAGO, USA ¹Sho Yano is a genius*. He is only 12, but he is already **studying medicine** at the University of Chicago! He wants to become a doctor. ²Sho enjoys school. "I love to learn," he says.

³Before Sho went to the university, he studied at home. His mother and father were his teachers because they could not find a school that was good **enough** for him. ⁴His mother taught him **math**. She had to study late into the night **in order to** keep **ahead** of her son. ⁵Sho can also play the **piano** beautifully, and he does tae kwon do.

⁶Sho **grew up** in California with his family. His mother is Korean, and his father is Japanese. ⁷He says that his parents never push him. "But sometimes I pull them along!" Sho smiles. His mother agrees with him. "He will decide his own life," she says. ⁸Sho **dreams of** fighting **diseases** like cancer** **in the future**. This **intelligent** young man will surely succeed!

*genius: a person who is very smart

**cancer: a very serious illness that makes some cells grow too fast

NEW WORDS

study *v*
medicine *n*
enough *adv*

math *n*
in order to *conj*
ahead *adv*

piano *n*
grow up *v*
dream of *v*

disease *n*
in the future *n*
intelligent *adj*

>> See Glossary on page 93. >>

2. Rate the story

How much did you like it? Mark an X.



3. Check your comprehension

Check (✓) the endings that are true.

a. Sho

- ___ is studying math at the university.
- ___ dreams of fighting cancer.
- ___ is intelligent.
- ___ can play the piano.
- ___ studied at home before he went to the university.

b. Sho's parents

- ___ were also his teachers.
- ___ are Japanese and Korean.
- ___ want to become doctors.
- ___ have to push Sho.
- ___ grew up in New York.

4. Check your vocabulary

Complete the sentences with the New Words.

- a. Sho's mother taught him m___ herself because the schools were not good en___ for Sho.
- b. She had to study hard in _____ to keep ah___ of her son.
- c. Sho d_____ of fighting d_____es like cancer.
- d. He is an int_____ young man!

5. Listen to the story track 24

Now listen to the story two or three times. Look at the pictures below as you listen.



6. Retell the story

Cover the story and look at the pictures above. Retell the story using the New Words.

7. Answer the questions

About the story...

- What is unusual about Sho?
- What does he do when he's not studying?
- What do you know about his parents?
- What questions would you like to ask Sho?

About you...

- How are you like Sho? How are you different?
- Where did you grow up? Who taught you?
- How much do your parents push you?
- What do you want to do in the future?

8. Learn word partnerships

Study the partnerships below. Complete the sentences so they are true for you.

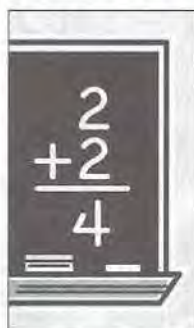
DREAM OF		
dream of	doing something	Sho dreams of fighting cancer in the future. <i>I dream of being a soccer player.</i> <i>He has dreamed of studying in London for years.</i> <i>Alan dreams of traveling the world.</i>
	something	<i>I'm dreaming of summer!</i> <i>She is dreaming of a new car.</i>

- I'm always dreaming of _____.
- I have dreamed of _____ for many years.
- My best friend dreams _____.

9. Learn word groups

Complete the sentences so they are true for you. Use words from the pictures.

SCHOOL SUBJECTS



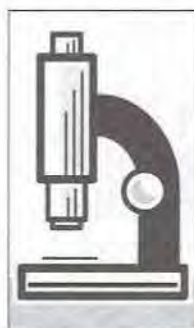
math



music



chemistry



biology



geography



history

- I enjoy studying _____.
- I don't enjoy studying _____.
- I think _____ is more difficult than _____.

10. Take a dictation track 25

Use your own paper to write the dictation. Check your answers on page 87.

11. Complete the story

Use the words from the box to complete the story.

in order to intelligent in the future
ahead dreams of enough grew up

MOTHER SELLS HOME FOR SON'S FUTURE

CHESTER, ENGLAND A woman has sold her home in Stockport (1) _____ send her son to ballet* school.

Until recently**, Eileen Morgan was living in a large, three-bedroom house. Her two sons (2) _____ there. Then one day, her 11-year-old son, James, who loves to dance, got lucky. The smart boy won a place at the Hammond School, one of the best ballet schools in England. Morgan was happy that her son could go to the school, but she was worried. It cost \$74,000 for five years. How was she going to pay? She wasn't rich (3) _____!

So Morgan sold their comfortable house and everything in it. She moved her family into a small trailer***. "When you have a special child, you have to do everything to help them get (4) _____," she says. Her younger



son, Edward, is just as (5) _____ as James, and he also loves to dance. He (6) _____ following James to ballet school (7) _____.

*ballet: a kind of dancing that tells a story with music but no words

**recently: not long ago

***trailer: a small house on wheels that a car can pull



Talk about the stories

How are Sho Yano's and James Morgan's families and lives similar? How are they different?