



STAEDTLER®

The pencil

Out and about in the (school) world

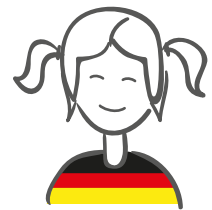


For learning how to write, drawing, arithmetics or doodling – children, teenagers and adults around the world use a pencil almost every day. From schoolchildren to students, from employees to artists – the pencil is a reliable companion for young and old.

There are astonishing differences depending on the country, tradition and culture – especially at school. But, what unites all countries? The pencil is and remains the number one object for students when learning how to write. International STAEDTLER employees report from their home countries:



The pencil is the most popular writing instrument for learning how to write. In **Germany**, HB pencils are used particularly often. German students can later on get a fountain pen license: they learn how to write with fountain pens instead of pencils.



Due to the alphabet and its characters, calligraphy plays an important role in **China**. Still, the pencil comes first in the everyday school life of Chinese pupils.



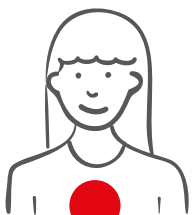
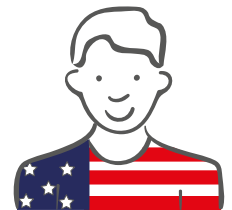
The red and black striped tradition pencil is particularly popular with school children in **South Africa**. As in Germany, we have something called „pen license“. However, the students here switch to pens, not fountain pens.



In **Great Britain**, pencils are used by children aged 4 to 11 – so, throughout all of their primary school years. The yellow and black striped Noris pencil is particularly well known and popular.



Historically, yellow pencils with an eraser tip are popular among the school-children in the **United States**.



In **Japan**, soft pencils are particularly popular. Here, these writing instruments are used throughout the entire school life. When learning to write, the students start with the hardness degrees between 2B and 6B. At the end of primary school they switch to HB. Since we attach great importance to cleanliness and fresh products, we prefer not to buy sharpened pencils. We only switch over to ink pens at about the age of 18.



In **Malaysia**, the yellow and black striped Noris pencil is historically very popular. Until the 90s, the Noris pencil in 2B was THE pencil for exams. To this day the 2B pencil is the favoured degree of hardness.

