

She went on television and gave powerful speeches to Pakistani kids. Her message: All children deserve the right to an education.

But in 2010, notes began appearing under Malala's door. They ordered her to give up her **crusade**—or else. Still, she refused to back down. In October 2012, the Taliban shot her.

After the shooting, Malala was flown to a hospital in England that treats serious brain injuries. Her family soon joined her. Meanwhile, the Taliban spoke out. They said the shooting was a warning to other girls not to follow Malala's example.

But people around the world weren't scared. They continued Malala's fight. Protesters marched—many of them were kids carrying signs that read "I Am Malala."

What Girls Can Do

It's been a little more than seven years since the shooting. Malala survived, and her family stayed in England. There, Malala got the one thing she always wanted: an education.

About 130 million girls around the world do not attend school. Often it is because they must work to earn money for their families. Sometimes it is because they have no school to go to. In 2014, Malala started the Malala Fund, a group that is working to change that.

Today, Malala is a student at Oxford University in England. She isn't sure what career path she will choose. But she knows she will keep fighting for girls and women: "If one girl with an education can change the world, just imagine what 130 million can do." •



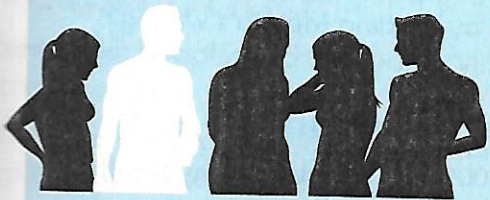
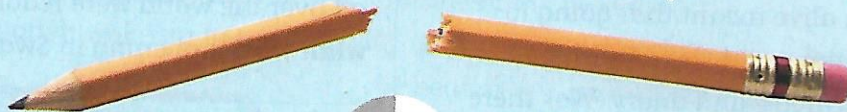
PAUSE AND THINK: What message did Malala share? Who disagreed?



PAUSE AND THINK: What are two reasons some girls don't go to school?

HOW MANY KIDS DON'T GO TO SCHOOL?

Americans have a right to free public education. In other parts of the world, kids aren't as lucky.



1 IN 5
CHILDREN
worldwide (ages 6-17)
are not in school

ONLY
66%
of countries
provide an
elementary school
education to
as many girls as boys

Kids are more likely to
be out of school if they:
ARE POOR
HAVE A DISABILITY
LIVE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE
LIVE IN A WAR ZONE

SOURCE: UNITED NATIONS