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Graphic by Ella Freda

Fall semester kicks off

Students look forward to classes, forming relationships in new term

By Katie Knol
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

It's official — Penn State's fall 2023 semester is in full swing, and students are working on getting back into the rhythm of attending classes and turning in assignments.

For Jonah Schwartz, days fill up quickly.

Schwartz, a fourth-year studying musical theatre, is already working on a show in October called "Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812." He said performance majors usually work from 9 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. on classes, homework and practices.

It may be stressful, but Schwartz said it's a "labor of love."

To cope with the busy schedule, he said he's starting good habits now, which include using his rare free time to get stuff done like meal prepping or studying.

"I'm using periods of time in between classes to get homework done so I can go home and either work on food or rest or socialize — because socializing is important," Schwartz said.

Eva Molnar was at Penn State over the summer and said the fall semester has been completely different because of how many people are in State College now.

"It's definitely more busy," Molnar, a first-year studying



Tyler Mantz/Collegian

Students discussed how they feel about the fall semester beginning, including some of their busy schedules. "It's definitely more busy," Eva Molnar said, "It's a lot of energy, and it's really fun."

environmental systems engineering, said. "It's a lot of energy, and it's really fun."

She said she's looking forward to Penn State's student life — especially THON.

"It's such a unique thing to Penn State," she said. "The culture here is really driven by what happens in the spring, and I think it's so fun that everyone comes together for one weekend."

Joseph DeAngelo, on the

other hand, said he's excited for Penn State sports — specifically football and tailgating.

DeAngelo, a second-year studying professional golf management, said he's also looking forward to getting more involved in clubs around campus and planned on attending Wednesday's Involvement Fair.

On top of the social activities at Penn State, he's interested in his player development and busi-

ness classes, and he's putting together a schedule to stay on top of assignments.

"I'm making an Excel spreadsheet right now, just going through my syllabus, putting the assignments in [and marking] when they're due, how important they are — grade-percentage wise — and color-coordinating," DeAngelo said.

Devon Bertram also said she's interested in Penn State's

philanthropic and sports clubs.

Bertram, a fourth-year studying biochemistry and molecular biology, will be balancing her clubs, classes and an internship at University Health Services.

However, she said it doesn't faze her.

"I don't procrastinate," Bertram said.

"I really try to get things done sooner rather than later, and I like to work with friends in my major, and we usually try to work together and get things done on a timely basis."

Despite just entering college, Ruthann Petrosky is working toward her goals already.

Petrosky, a first-year studying international politics, said she's interested in being a translator after college, so she's taking a Russian class intended for heritage speakers.

"I have a love for learning languages," she said. "I like learning new languages. I like improving the languages I spoke growing up."

Petrosky is a commuter, so she didn't have the Penn State experience of the big carts and packed communal bathrooms, but she said she's still looking forward to the experience of being squeezed into the stands next to her fellow Penn Staters at football games.

Visit psucollegian.com to read the full story.

First day recap

By Emma Naysmith
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

With Monday being the first day of classes, the fall semester has officially begun here at Penn State.

Harshini Mallipedhi said it was her first day of classes ever on campus, and she described the day as "nerve-wracking."

"As an incoming freshman, I did not know what to expect," Mallipedhi, a first-year studying data sciences, applied data studies, said. "College has a much different vibe, but I am very excited to make new friends."

Raaheem Khondaker described his first day of classes as "reassuring."

"I was admittedly a little bit anxious going into my third

semester of college, but going to class today made me realize that I can do this," Khondaker, a second-year studying finance and economics, said.

Khondaker said he's "more energetic" for this semester and knows "what to expect."

"I think this new semester will go well. I already have people I know in my classes, and my professors seem great," Khondaker said.

Another student, Joshua Ribeiro, said though his first day of classes was "repetitive."

"It feels weird to have started classes so soon after getting back from summer break," Ribeiro, a second-year studying computer science, said. "My favorite class of the day was AFAM 100N because my professor seems

pretty cool."

Sarah Temesghen said she's also looking forward to the involvement fair after her first day of classes and she's "excited for" football games.

"My first day of classes was nice because it's largely just first day introductions, not too much pressure," Temesghen, a second-year studying computer science, said. "This semester, I am excited but a little nervous about the workload."

Ashraf Essa said he "enjoyed" his first day of classes.

"It feels great to be back," Essa, a third-year studying physics, said. "As much as I may sound busy or bothered, it's nice to be back learning and taking notes, adjusting to everything, too."

Essa said a "highlight" of his day was "meeting a lot of professors" and a lot of interesting people.

"Penn State professors can be very fun to meet, especially today on the first day of classes for first impressions," Essa said.

Similar to Essa, Alina Mathew said her first day back on campus headed in the right direction, even describing it as "refreshing."

Mathew, a third-year studying premedicine, said she's "very pumped" since this is her first semester without an 8 a.m. class.

"It feels great to be back," Mathew said. "School gives me the option to have a better work-life balance, and I am ready to get back into a routine."

As a third-year, Mathew advises younger students to actively "put effort" into their education.

Visit psucollegian.com to read the full story.



Katelyn Supancik/Collegian

The Penn State Involvement Fair offered students various organizations and clubs to engage with.

Involvement Fair showcases 'passion'

By Arya Mehta
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

With the fall semester in full swing, students gathered at the HUB-Robeson Center lawn on Wednesday for the Penn State Involvement Fair.

Hundreds of tables lined up across the lawn, and thousands of students came to preview the various organizations available at Penn State.

Some clubs caught students' attention with the promise of food and fun, while others promised career opportunities and friendships for life.

Gavin Baumgardner is a member of Axis, one of the THON organizations on campus.

"Cancer is something that runs in my family — I've always wanted to get involved in the fight somehow," Baumgardner, a fourth-year studying electrical engineering, said. "Being a kid from a small town, you don't really know how."

After coming to Penn State, Baumgardner said "there's resources now for [him] to be

able to join that fight."

Garrick Zheng, who is part of the men's water polo club said he thinks it's "a good way to make friends."

"I joined because I wanted to keep my skills, but I stayed because of the friends I made," Zheng, a third-year studying biochemistry, said.

Tori Korman said she thinks the Involvement Fair is "a little intimidating."

"There's so many people here, but I do like how everyone here is so passionate about their organizations," Korman, a first-year studying classics and ancient Mediterranean studies, said.

Baumgardner agreed, noting how it seems to get bigger each year.

"There are more lines, more stalls; they even had to make the lanes bigger," Baumgardner said.

Kameron Forney had a similar experience.

"I think it's pretty overwhelming but it's pretty cool," Forney, a first-year majoring in mechanical engineering, said.

Visit psucollegian.com to read the full story.



Tyler Mantz/Collegian

Students sit outside of Pattee Library on the first day of classes. Penn State's fall semester began on Aug. 12.

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Penn State must streamline move-in system

OUR VIEW

Move-in weekends have consistently flooded the area with mass amounts of people

Each year, when summer comes to a close, students swarm into State College to settle into their new homes and prepare for the semester ahead.

This crucial transition period notoriously occurs on a tight timeline. This year, construction projects mixed with a sinkhole near one of the university's parking lots conflicted with move-in schedules and shed light on the previously poor arrival system.

Penn State's move-in weekend spans a few days right before classes begin, and presents primary stressors in parking and traffic control, as thousands of students and families converge on campus.

In an attempt to control the chaos, Penn State provides on-campus students with one temporary parking permit and a single 20-minute trip to unload their belongings upon arrival.

Throughout Penn State's

arrival weekend there is a consistent time crunch that's exacerbated by a lack of resources and road space.

In addition to the usual move-in traffic, local construction projects created more obstacles — resulting in rerouted roads and congestion.

On top of these roadway delays and one-lane detours, the Eisenhower Parking Deck was closed the entirety of move-in weekend due to a sudden sinkhole.

While the sinkhole was an unavoidable circumstance, it exposed the cracks in the current traffic control system —

making the previous concerns more glaring.

With limited parking, one-way roads and small streets, the current campus and local infrastructure doesn't provide much maneuvering for mass amounts of students and faculty on the road. Additionally, this paves way for safety risks to drivers, bikers and passerbys in the local community.

State College simply doesn't have the capacity to support a flood of incoming students and families within the same 72 hours. Aside from move-in, home football weekends have faced

similar situations.

While the campus and PennDOT projects propose benefits to the area — such as improvements to the sidewalks, pavement and drainage — their timelines trigger traffic jams, and will continue to push into Penn State's populous weekends.

As current construction projects aim to cure these challenges, Penn State should extend its move-in systems and prepare for future conflicts before projects are completed.

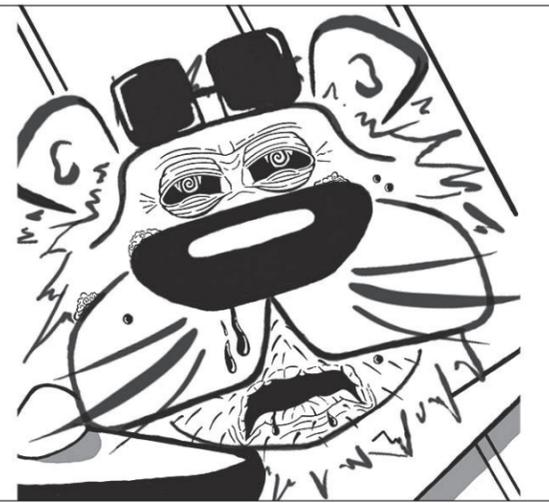
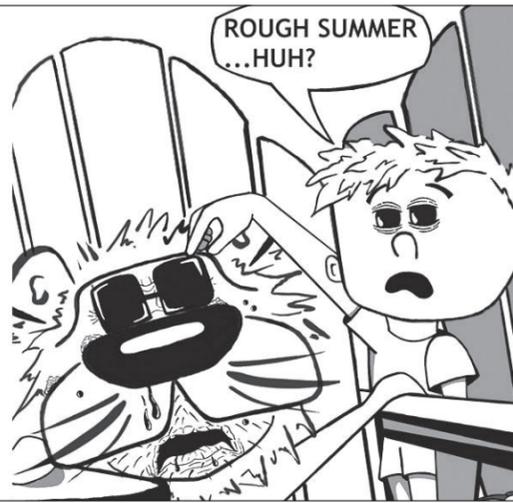
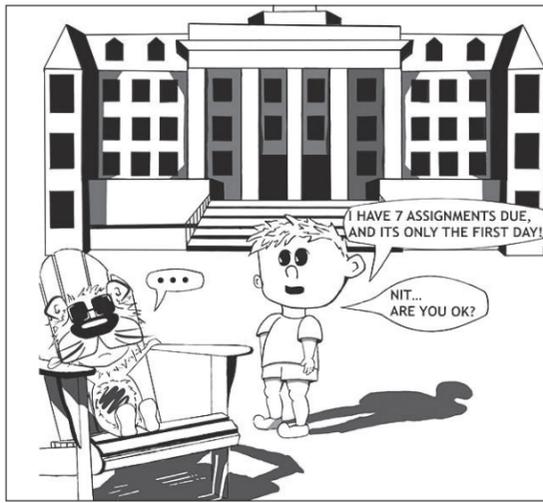
Currently, students who want to move in early can be charged up to \$90 in fees. Given this,

many students have to brave the borough's chaos and traffic backups during move-in weekend.

Stretching out arrival week and organizing larger time chunks for dropoff will not only control traffic, but also be less stress on the students moving in — both on and off campus. It would also alleviate some pressure on local residents and businesses.

An increase in move-in resources such as traffic security, transportation carts and free early arrivals, will also help streamline the process — making it smooth rather than stressful.

Knowing future projects — like the Calder Way project and future campus construction — may conflict with move-in time, Penn State should work to alter its arrival system to better control the influx of students.



Cartoons by Maddie Seelig

MY VIEW | Braden Dyreson

SATIRE | Shower me with higher heads

Editor's Note: The Collegian is dedicated to publishing letters that are vital to the public good from important voices at Penn State. This is not one of them.



Dyreson

To President Neeli Bendapudi, the Penn State Board of Trustees, faculty, students, staff, community members and whomever else it may concern:

As almost all of you certainly know, my name is Braden Dyreson, a pillar of this community for years and one of its most celebrated representatives on the world stage.

I'm undoubtedly on the short list of future candidates to replace President Bendapudi as the head of this institution. I say all of this not for vanity's sake — for I'm an exceedingly humble man — but to clearly articulate the stakes of the dilemma that currently face this renowned institution.

The administration's decision does irreparable harm to the public good, interferes with the project of education and

undermines the reputation of the leadership of Penn State.

I am of course referring to heights of the showers in the Pollock Halls.

This travesty has not been highlighted by the remarkable journalists in this paper yet, but I know these appalling conditions are widely known in the public consciousness.

To the blessedly ignorant, allow me to illuminate the situation.

Pollock Halls is a housing area on the Penn State University Park campus named after famed alumnus McFinley Pollock, who invented Haggis.

Located in the highlands of University Park and at the foot of Arthur's Seat, Pollock Halls was once the most celebrated housing area. The fifth cardinal direction after north, south, west and east, Pollock Halls pointed us toward the heavens, toward the divine celestial firmament of creation — reminding us that we are

truly stardust.

It now stands as a scar upon the earth, rotting like orange juice that was left in a minifridge for too long. But the greatest crime upon humanity is the height of the showers found therein.

As clearly laid out in the UN Declaration of Human Rights, everyone has the right to a shower. However, the administration has decided once again to rip up the document for its own ends. The height of the shower heads in Pollock housing are a clear and blatant violation of this sacred document.

The showers are four feet off the ground. This part is not satire.

The showers are 48 inches off the ground.

How am I supposed to fit my tall, strapping, ruggedly handsome body beneath the shower head?!!

This 6-foot-2 temple to hot-

“The height of the shower heads in Pollock housing are a clear and blatant violation of this sacred document.”

Braden Dyreson

ness can not compress itself into that small of a vertical?!! My luscious locks of golden blonde are not getting their proper hydration.

But this is not just a me problem, how can the common man fit in these dimensions? I don't know if these are just sinks that they built a stall around, but something needs to stop.

Frodo and Bilbo may be able to shower, but the rest of the fellowship are going to be smelling like orc and pipeweed. (For those that had friends in high school, this joke was a reference to J.R.R. Tolkien's “The Lord of the Rings.”)

In conclusion, either fix the showers, or I'm out. That's my ultimatum. And before you reject my offer, remember what a blow it would be to lose me; a national treasure; a modern day Adonius; a man with millions of supporters.

Sincerely,
Braden Sean Dyreson

Braden Dyreson is a senior majoring in philosophy, film and classic and ancient Mediterranean studies and a columnist for The Daily Collegian. Email him at bsd5216@psu.edu or follow him on X at [@BradenDyreson](https://twitter.com/BradenDyreson).



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About the Collegian

The Daily Collegian and The Weekly Collegian are published by Collegian Inc., an independent, nonprofit corporation with a board of directors composed of students, faculty and profession-

als. Penn State students write and edit both papers and solicit advertising for them.

During the fall and spring semesters as well as the second six-week summer session, The Daily Collegian publishes Monday through Friday. Issues are distributed by mail to other Penn State campuses and subscribers.

Complaints

News and editorial complaints should be presented to the editor. Business and advertising complaints should be presented to the business manager.

TOSS UP STARTER

Despite the season starting soon, quarterbacks are still in the competition phase

By Sam Woloson
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

With Penn State's season opener just 10 days away, James Franklin remains mum on choosing a starting quarterback.

When asked if the team has made a decision at the position, Franklin didn't offer much insight into the competition.

"No, we have not even done it as a staff yet," Franklin said Wednesday.

Although there's been some buzz surrounding freshman Jaxon Smolik, the battle pits a pair of second-year signal callers from the same recruiting class: Drew Allar and Beau Pribula.

"We're still in a competition phase," Franklin said at Big Ten Media Day in July. "Obviously there's a lot of people talking about Drew... (but) that's going to be an interesting competition throughout the entire camp."

The "competition phase" has been customary for the program during training camp. Staff members have said they believe that competition brings out the best in those involved.

With the competitions, though, Franklin said he'd prefer the



Penn State quarterbacks Beau Pribula, left, Drew Allar, middle, and Jaxon Smolik, right, wait for snaps during spring football practice on April 11 at Holuba Hall.

decisions to come "sooner rather than later," especially for the quarterback due to the nature of the position.

A few weeks later, Franklin revealed Allar had taken an apparent lead in the competition.

"I would say Drew's getting

the majority of the reps," Franklin said on Aug. 10, adding that Pribula was getting only "a few" first-team reps.

The quote seemingly confirmed what had been the popular opinion — Allar was in position to be the team's starting quarterback.

The former 5-star recruit won the team's backup quarterback job as a true freshman, playing in 10 games and earning valuable experience.

Despite the discrepancy in practice reps, the coaching staff isn't ready to make a decision just yet, and keeping its roster choices behind closed doors is nothing new for the program.

In 2019, when Sean Clifford and Will Levis battled for the starting position, it took until Aug. 23 — eight days before the season opener against Idaho — for the team to declare its starting quarterback.

Overall, the Nittany Lion

coaching staff has revealed very little on who the opening week-end starters will be, including its ongoing competition at kicker and punter.

One player who has solidified his role is long snapper Tyler Duzansky. According to Franklin, there's "a pretty significant gap" between the sophomore and the other two long snappers on the team.

It remains to be seen when Penn State announces its starter, but both passers have progressed nicely in their second year with the program, according to Franklin.

"They look like guys that are a year or two more experienced, guys that are competent in how to execute and run the offense, and I think both of them have the team's respect," Franklin said.

To email reporter: skw5753@psu.edu. Follow him on Twitter at [@sam_woloson](https://twitter.com/sam_woloson).



Jordan Thomas/Collegian file photo

Sophomore Drew Allar warms up for the Blue-White game in Beaver Stadium in University Park on April 15. Allar is one of the quarterbacks competing for the starting position.



Ken Minamoto/Collegian file photo

Midfielder/forward Payton Linnehan and midfielder Frankie Tagliaferri celebrate Linnehan's goal against Michigan State at Jeffery Field.

Linnehan's destiny

By Lyle Alenstain
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Fifth year standout Payton Linnehan came into the season primed for a bigger role. The versatility that she brings on the pitch will be a big piece in this high-powered team.

With the team's leading goal scorer in Ally Schlegel and assist leader in Penelope Hocking from a season ago now playing at the professional level, the 5-foot-6 forward has big shoes to fill, but she is more than up to the task.

She has all the tools for being a weapon for the blue and white this season. Linnehan knows a thing or two about playing at the international level.

The Douglas, Massachusetts native was on the U.S. Women's national team at the U-15, U-17 and U-23 levels.

Her most recent appearance was in the spring of 2022, playing at the U-23 level.

Linnehan was a big contributor to the squad a season ago as she netted six goals and eight assists, which accumulated 20 points for

the team, providing a serious presence on the pitch.

Women's Soccer vs Michigan, Linnehan

Last year, the fifth-year athlete appeared in 19 games and started in 14 of them. After getting the nod to start against both North Carolina and West Chester, she looks to be a lock-in starter and be a focal point of the offense.

When the lights shined the brightest, Linnehan was the coach Erica Dambach called upon. Of her six goals last year, three of them resulted in game winners, including the Big Ten tournament.

She is a veteran presence that has experience playing in the NCAA tournament. Last year she recorded three goals and two assists in the teams playoff-season run, making an impact to the Nittany Lions Sweet 16 appearance

While unable to capitalize against North Carolina, Linnehan was causing all sorts of fits for the Tar Heels, creating shots for herself and providing opportunities for her teammates.

Visit psucollegian.com to read the full story.

Kaytron Allen's revenge

By Seth Engle
THE DAILY COLLEGIAN

Some running backs like to juke or hurdle to gain extra yardage. Kaytron Allen likes to lower his shoulder and traumatize his opponents.

He's the bad cop to Nicholas Singleton's good, a tandem that burst onto the scene as one of the nation's top rushing attacks in 2022, when both were true freshmen.

Allen rushed for 867 yards and 10 touchdowns while Singleton tallied 1,061 and 12, the latter of which gained national attention this offseason.

For defensive players who might not know his name, Allen has a message.

"I want to dog people," Allen said Monday. "I like to punish people and make them feel me."

It's almost as hard to bring down the 5-foot-11, 221-pound Allen as it is to get him to speak. He's quiet in practices and press conferences, letting his game speak for itself when he bulldozes those in his way or

carries the pile with him into the endzone.

With Singleton's speed and agility, Allen's physicality adds a unique component to James Franklin's offense and another bullet mark for opponents to game plan for.

The pair has fed off of each other's successes on the field, but off of it, Singleton has gotten more love. Allen appeared on just one preseason award watch list — the Doak Walker Award — while Singleton appeared on four, two of which were for player of the year.

"We think we got two No. 1 backs. That's how we treat them internally," Franklin said. "I think the local media and the local fans and our team know how special [Allen] is. They're really good complementary pieces because, although they're both big backs, they have different running styles."

Allen and Singleton both have a minimum of two collegiate years remaining before they can turn professional, inevitable for a duo that played the part of seasoned veterans at just 18.

With much of the workload designated for the young pair,

running backs coach Ja'Juan Seider was surprised when he got a call from Trey Potts, who played good minutes at Minnesota over the past four seasons.

"When he said he wanted to come, I said, 'You sure?'... What you don't want to do is lie to a kid and say, 'Hey, you're gonna come in and you're gonna beat these guys out,'" Seider said. "We got two NFL backs, let's be honest."

Potts isn't a stranger to playing behind some of the nation's best. For his entire college career, Potts backed up All-American Mohamed Ibrahim with the Golden Gophers.

Despite knowing Allen and Singleton would likely be ahead of him on the depth chart, Potts was "willing to bet on himself," Seider said. A native of Williamsport, Pennsylvania, Potts' homecoming made the transition that much easier.

"It's a dream come true to be able to come to my home state, get the opportunity to play in front of this great fan base," Potts said. "It feels even better to be able to come out here and compete and play with his team."

Visit psucollegian.com to read the full story.



Caleb Craig/Collegian file photo

Penn State running back Kaytron Allen poses like the Heisman trophy following his third touchdown during Penn States game vs. Indiana on Saturday Nov. 5, 2022 at Memorial Stadium in Bloomington, Indiana.



Sienna Pinney/Collegian

A long line of cars wait to unload at Pollock Halls.



Tyler Mantz/Collegian

During the Be A Part from the Start pep rally, students formed the S-Zone.



Tyler Mantz/Collegian

Students make their way down Pollock Road to get to class on the first day of the fall semester.

STUDENTS ARRIVED ON CAMPUS THE WEEK OF AUG. 12 TO KICK OFF THE FALL SEMESTER.



Sienna Pinney/Collegian

Abby Chavoya, a first-year student, pushes a loaded cart to her new dorm at East Halls alongside her mom.



Tyler Mantz/Collegian

The Penn State Nittany Lion hypes up first-year students at the Be A Part from the Start pep rally.



Katelyn Supanck/Collegian

Students gather on the HUB-Robeson Center lawn for the Involvement Fair in search of organizations to join during the fall semester.

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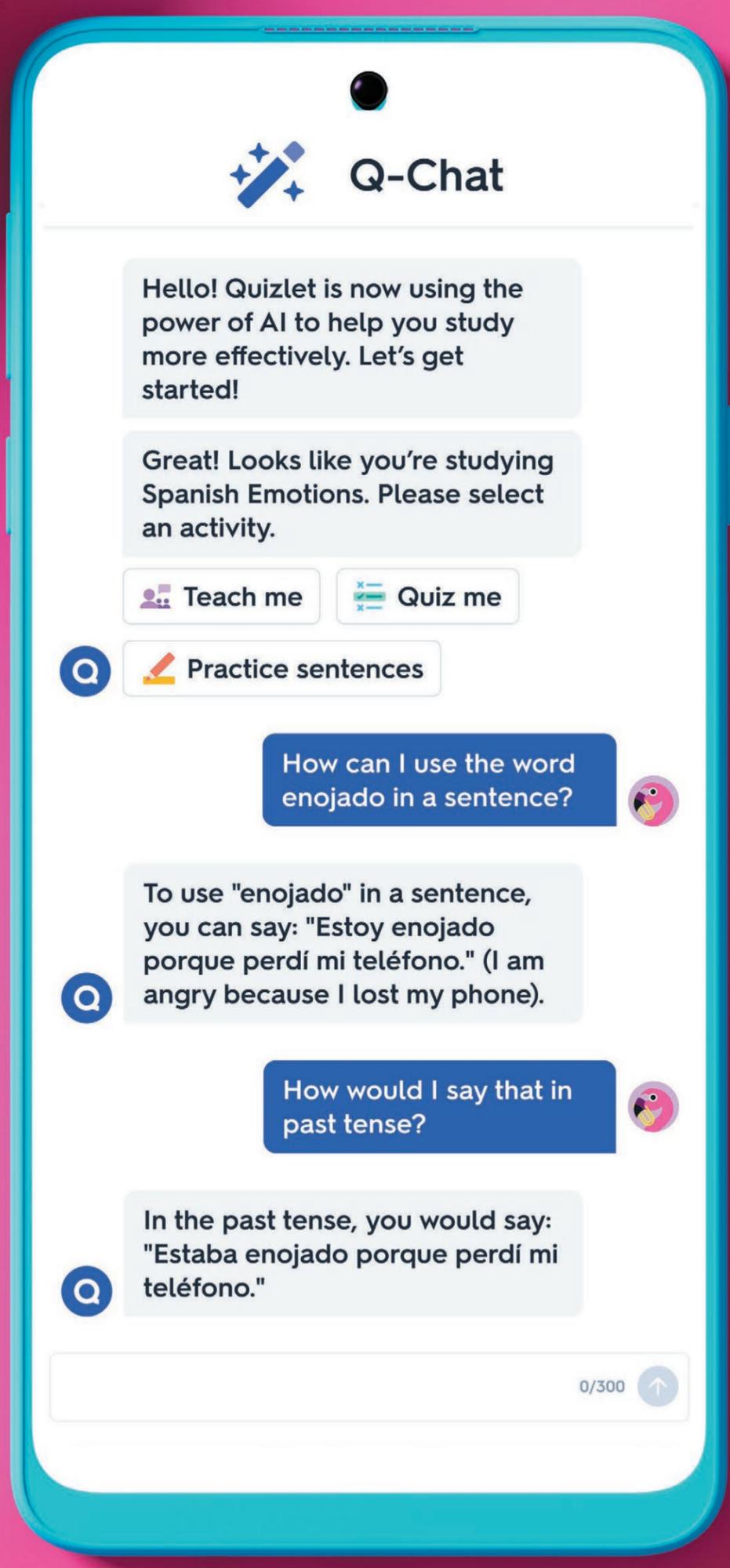


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Any subject explained



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