

**Topic: Jobs and Work**

**Let's get started...**

In the U.S., children often dream about becoming a doctor, nurse, lawyer, teacher, etc., when they grow up. When you were a child, what did you want to be when you grew up? In your culture, what kinds of jobs do children want to have when they grow up?

**New words and Idioms:**

Business hours, minimum age, minimum wage, part-time, full-time, respected, not respected, boring, fulfilling, qualifications, résumé, cover letter, application, workers compensation, to be fired, to be laid-off, to be hired, to be promoted, salary, hourly wage, uniform, etc.

**Background:**

Working is a very important part of the American lifestyle. Some people work at jobs and get paid, and some people volunteer, or work for little or no money. Some people work at home, and some people work outside of their homes. Today we'll be talking about jobs and occupations in the United States and in your native countries.



**In small groups for 5 minutes, ask and answer these questions:**

Interview 2-3 people about their work experiences. Write their names in the left column, and then write yes or no for each category. Use, "Have you ever \_\_\_\_\_?" to ask other people about their work experiences.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Worked the night shift</b>	<b>Had a part-time job</b>	<b>Had to wear a uniform to work</b>	<b>Had special training for a job</b>

**Share your small group's answers with the larger group.**

**Discussion Questions:**

Do you work now? If yes, what kind of job do you have? If no, have you ever worked?

## Eastside Literacy Talk Time Winter 2006

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What is the process for getting a job in your country? Is it similar to or different from the process in the U.S.?

Are there places that you can go to in your native country that can help you find a job? In the U.S.?

In your opinion, what information on an application or résumé is important to employers?

What is important to do or say in a successful interview? How should you dress for an interview?

What are the common business hours in your native country? Are business hours different for different kinds of jobs?

At what age do people usually start working in your country? At what age do people retire? Is there a minimum age required to work in your country?

Do people have part-time jobs in your native country? If yes, what are some examples of common part-time jobs?

What are some common jobs for men and women in your country?

Do you think men and women should be paid equally for the same job?

Are there some jobs that are only for men or only for women?

Is it common for both parents to work outside of the home in your country?

What are some examples of jobs that are respected and/or not respected in your country?

When did you have your first job? Where did you work? What did you do?

What jobs do you think would be boring? Fun? Difficult? Easy? Fulfilling? Why?

What clothing is appropriate for the following workplaces?

- Grocery store
- Office
- Department store
- Bank
- School
- Construction site

What kind of job would you like to have five years from now? Why? What are the qualifications for that job?

If you could have any job that you wanted, what job would you choose? Why?