

Get that job **NOW!**

Focus Questions

1 Read and discuss.

Read the newspaper article and discuss the focus questions with other members of your group. Remember to give your reasons.

How many paragraphs are there in the article?

1

paragraphs

Which paragraph is about being too kind to others?

2

Paragraph number

Which paragraph tells us what we are going to read about?

3

Paragraph number

Which paragraph tells us that being imaginative and professional is the best way to get noticed?

4

Paragraph number

Which paragraph is about what you wear?

5

Paragraph number

Which paragraph mentions what you can talk about and how you can talk about it?

6

Paragraph number

Is this the way to do it?

Reporter: Muna Ali

These days so many people are chasing jobs, it seems that some will do the strangest things to get their dream job. Not being happy with having faith in their own abilities and skills, it has been known that some will try almost anything to get future employers to notice them and give them a **contract**. Here are some strange but true stories that have been sent in by readers which we thought you may find interesting.

The **contrast** between a well-dressed, a not so well-dressed or even overdressed interviewee can make the difference between getting and not getting a job. For example, one woman turned up for an interview wearing her wedding dress, while a man showed up dressed as a cat.

One major **export** company asked interviewees to **produce** a presentation about themselves and their previous work. One candidate shared too much personal information by showing

photos of his last family holiday. In other cases, people have done their presentations through song and even by telling jokes. Needless to say, none of these candidates was offered the office jobs they were after.

Showing that you are a friendly team player who works well on any **project** is important. However, you can be seen to be over-friendly. For example, one person bought coffee and cakes for all the interviewers. Another knew that one of the managers was expecting a baby and gave her a gift for the baby. Yet another gave tickets to a football game to help get the job he wanted.

The **object** of interviews and presentations is to show how good you are at something. Using unusual ways of getting yourself noticed may not be the best way of getting the job you want. However, being creative and being professional will mean that employers will show more respect for your abilities.