So, you want to work in reality TV ?

If your dream is to work in reality television as part of the crew, then there are some things you need to know before you set out on a career in that direction.

The Hours

Say goodbye to a social life! The working hours in reality TV are often extremely long. You might find yourself working 12- to 18-hour days (sometimes longer). Also, your working day changes all the time, you never know what could happen or when. You are always waiting for someone to tell you what to do next. So when you're working on a reality TV show, you probably won't get together with friends very often.

The Money

Until you have shown the producers that you have talent, salaries are often extremely low. But if you're not willing to work for low pay, there are hundreds of people behind you who will. So, you have to be realistic about what to expect when you're starting out. One day, you might earn a lot of money, but in the beginning, you can expect your bank account to be almost empty.

The Subject Matter

Some people are not able to work in reality TV because they feel sorry for the people on the show. As a crew member of a reality show, you might have to watch people in difficult situations. Although it's human nature to want to help these people, it's also your job to help film these moments for a national or global audience. So you have to be certain about your ability to deal with problems well.

The Reputation

Unfortunately, reality TV has a bad reputation. It's not always a pleasant occupation. And because your job is to film people who are sometimes sad or angry, people might think you are an anti-social

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person. You will have to manage this on your own. If you can do this, then your reality TV career might be a great success.

Read the article. Answer these questions.

1 Which of the following happens because you work long hours?

a You are always waiting to be told what to do next.

b You don't have a very good social life.

c Your working day is not organised.

2 Why do you have to accept that you won't earn much at first?

a because other people will be happy to do the job for little money

b because you will soon start to earn a lot more

c because you need to get experience doing the job

3 Why is a career in reality TV difficult for some people?

a because they dislike the people in the show

b because they don't want people on the show to be happy

c because they don't like seeing people who are upset

4 What type of person do you have to be to work in reality TV?

a unfriendly

b relaxed

c confident

5 What do you have to do to have a successful career in reality TV?

a accept the true facts of a situation

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b work well as part of a team

c have lots of experience in television

Match the highlighted words in the text to their meanings.

talent *manage* *crew* *social life* *willing*

1 natural skill or ability

2 to do something successfully

3 a group of people who work together

4 time to enjoy with your friends

5 prepared and happy to do something

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in the box.

talent *manage* *crew* *social life* *willing*

1 I hang out with my friends every day. My _____is great!

2 I am always _____ to help you as much as I can.

3 The production _____ on this new film are great fun to work with!

4 That actor has so much _____. He is amazing!

5 He stayed calm and relaxed, and _____ the situation very well.

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