Teen jobs



Many British and American teeangers aged between 14 and 19 years old have a part-time job. They do all kinds of jobs. Some of them sell things in shops, others work in bars, cafés or restaurants. They babysit, walk their neighbours dogs or even give a hand in farms.

It is quite common for American and British teenagers to have a job. In fact, around 25% of them have one. And they are legally protected. There are laws regulating teenage work.

For example, in the UK, 13 to 15 year olds can't work in a factory and they can only work from 7 am to 7 pm. While they are studying, they cannot work more than two hours a day during weekdays and on Sundays. However, they can work up to five hours on Saturday but no more than twelve hours a week as a whole.

During holidays, they can work from 7am to 11pm. There is no difference between weekdays and weekends but they cannot work more than five hours a day and they are allowed to work up to 25 hours a week as a whole.

What about your country? What do you think? Is it good for teenagers to have a part time job?

Comments:

-I work ten hours a week in a coffee house. I make coffee and tea and do the washing up. I like it and I think it is good because it allows you to be more responsible-. (Amy,16. USA)

-I think teenagers must focus on their studies rather than work. It is better to study hard than earning some money-. (María, 15. Spain)

-When I was fourteen I used to work at riding horses stables. It was dirty work but I love those animals. Now, I'm at university and work in a café. I think it's good to earn your own money-. (John, 19. UK)

-Sometimes there are teenagers that must work because their families don't have much money so they don't have a choice. We can't judge them-. (Jim, 18. Canada)

-Some teenagers don't have to work because they come from wealthy families and they just don't need it. Maybe, they should work to understand other people's lives-.(Helena, 17. Germany)

-Young people must spend their time doing sport or just hanging out with their friends. Life is short!-(Marco, 16. Italy)

-Many students have a part-time job in Japan. It is quite common. They can buy their own things and develop a sense of responsibility-. (Takashi, 17. Japan)

-I think teenagers mustn't work during the academic year. But, it is good to have work experience during the summer-. (Sarah, 15. Australia)

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1. **Complete the following chart with information from the text:**

UK law regulating teenage work
During the academic year
……..hours a day (weekdays) ……..hours on Saturday ……..hours on Sunday ……..hours a week as a whole Starting and finishing times……..
During the Holidays
……..hours a day (weekdays) ……..hours on Saturday ……..hours on Sunday ……..hours a week as a whole Starting and finishing times……..

2. **According to the comments of the teenagers, decide if they are for or against teenage work.**

Amy

María

John

Jim

Helena

Marco

Takashi

Sarah

LIVEWORKSHEETS

3. **Complete the following grid with reasons to be for and against teenage work**
Write at least 5 reasons for and 5 reasons against

FOR	AGAINST
It allows you to develop a sense of responsibility ...	Students must focus on their studies ...

LIVEWORKSHEETS