Reading

1 Read a message board about three people who have unusual jobs. Match each person with the correct photo. What are their jobs? Write a name or simple explanation for each one.

✓ EXAM SUCCESS

You are going to do a True/False activity. What should you do after reading the text quickly for the first time to get a general idea?

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1

DO YOU HAVE AN UNUSUAL JOB?

We want to hear from you!

A In this photo I'm not the one who's going to jump. I'm getting that person ready. That's my unusual job, and it's more difficult than it looks. You have to prepare people both physically and mentally. Some get really frightened so you have to make them feel confident. And you must check all the equipment very carefully. If anything goes wrong, you're responsible. Of course, you mustn't be afraid of heights! I like my job because I'm sociable and I can meet people from all over the world. All sorts of people come to do bungee-jumping. For some of them the jump changes their life. It makes them feel more confident, like they can do anything! It's nice to know that by doing your job, you're making a difference. It can be hard work though. At busy times we get 25 people jumping in an hour.

Ryan O'Connor, Wellington – 6th Mar 2.25 pm

2

3

C I'm a rickshaw driver.

2 Read the texts again and decide if the statements are True (T) or False (F).

1 There are two different sides to Ryan's job. .....
2 Ryan's job suits any type of person. .....
3 Ryan believes that his job can have a positive influence on people. .....
4 Grace has to act in her job. .....
5 Shop assistants never know what Grace's real job is. .....
6 Grace sometimes writes articles in magazines. .....
7 Grace never writes bad things about the shop assistants because she feels sorry for them. .....
8 Some people are trying to get rickshaws off the roads. .....
9 All the personal qualities that a rickshaw driver needs are physical. .....
10 The worst time to find a customer is a week day in the winter. .....

3 CRITICAL THINKING

Think! Then compare ideas with your class.

- Do you think these jobs are important for society? Why/Why not?

4 What do the underlined words in the text mean? Guess and then check in your dictionary.

5 SPEAKING What about *you*?

1 What do you think of the different jobs?
2 Which of the three jobs in the text would you like to do the most? Why?

B A lot of people like shopping. Me, I'm a professional 'mystery shopper'. It's like being an actor, or a spy. For example, I go to a clothes shop and tell a shop assistant that I want to buy a coat. I pretend to be a normal member of the public. I mustn't tell them who I really am. But when I finish, I have to do paperwork, answering questions about the service. Usually shops pay me to do this. The boss wants to know if the shop assistants are doing a good job. Or sometimes magazines pay me because they want to write an article comparing different shops. It's difficult because sometimes you have to say bad things about somebody who may lose their job because of your report. But I suppose shop assistants should always treat their customers well.

Grace Simmons, Manchester – 6th Mar 3.02 pm

Rickshaws are a mixture of a bike and a taxi. Two or three people can sit at the back and you pull them by cycling. Nowadays there are a lot in London. Some taxi and bus drivers say we shouldn't be on the streets because we're dangerous. It's important to stay calm in this job because those drivers often shout at us. But nearly all the work is late at night, when there isn't much traffic. You don't have to have any qualifications to be a rickshaw driver, but you have to be fit and strong. You must be patient too because sometimes you have to wait a very long time before finding a customer. Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights are the busiest. And rickshaws are much more popular in the summer. In the winter you get cold and wet.

Gavin Henderson, London – 6th Mar 4.14 pm

LIVEWORKSHEETS

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