

Module 2 – Jobs related to crime

Student:

Do you know what a courtroom sketch artist does? Do you think that is it a difficult job? Why?

Jobs Related to Crime

Listen to a courtroom sketch artist talking about the secrets of his profession. Take notes while you listen. Decide if the following statements are True or False.

Grammar Tip

Remember that to talk about an action that was completed at some point in the past before something else happened, we use the past perfect tense. It is formed with: *had + participle*.

For example: *I had visited a morgue before I was 18.*

Maureen always wanted to work as a courtroom sketch artist.

True

False

It is easier to draw at a morning trial.

True

False

Maureen needs to hand in her sketches in the morning.

True

False

People without distinguishing features are hard to draw.

True

False

The interviewer isn't surprised by what Maurice says.

True

False



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Script:

Ian: Hello everybody. Welcome to another episode of Jobs, the podcast where we look at the secrets of professions. Today we have Maurice, a courtroom sketch artist in the studio. Hello Maureen, how are you?

Maureen: Hello Ian, fine thank you.

Ian: Please tell us, how did you decide to become a courtroom sketch artist?

Maureen: Well, it was not my plan, because I didn't even know it was a profession.

Ian: Then how did you end up doing it for a living?

Maureen: I had always been interested in working in something related to crime. However, I have always felt sick when I smelled decomposing bodies. I had gone to a morgue once and I almost fainted. Those jobs were not for me. My other passion was the arts. I had always been good at drawing. One day I went to a trial and saw a man doing portraits. I showed him my sketchbook and I started working there.

Ian: Is it a hard job?

Maureen: Sometimes, because you need to draw around a lot of obstacles, people, or columns. Another thing is that people without distinguishing features like wrinkles or beards are harder to draw.

Ian: Do you have to be fast?

Maureen: Of course. You need to hand in your portraits in the evening, so cases in the afternoon are a nightmare and subjects do not always cooperate. They change their facial expressions so fast or they are emotionless, so you need to learn how to capture the best expression, one that transmits the most.

Ian: Wow, I did not know being a courtroom sketch artist was so complicated!