# PERSONAL WORK STORIES

JAMES: I've been working as a (1) _____ for almost five years now. It's a full-time job and can be quite hard at times. I often have to do overtime, especially when there's a big project. I'm in charge of a small team, and it isn't always easy, but I enjoy the responsibility. I have recently applied for a promotion, and if I get it, I'll have even more responsibility. Many people want the same promotion, but I have more experience (2) _____, so I'm hopeful.

LINDA: I used to work in a car dealership, but after nearly six years, I decided to quit and (3) _____ my passion for graphic design. Now, I'm self-employed, working as a freelance designer. I love the job, and being my own (4) _____ has its advantages –I can work from home and choose my schedule. However, it's not always easy. I don't have a (5) _____ income, and I need to find clients all the time, which can be stressful. Despite the challenges, working on creative projects and seeing my business (6) _____ is rewarding.

CARLOS: After years of working night shifts as a (7) _____, I finally decided to change. I got a part-time job at a bank, which has been a big (8) _____. The work is less tiring, and I'm learning new skills that will help me in the future. I'm also studying part-time to get the necessary qualifications for a full-time position. Balancing work and studies is no easy task, but I know it's (9) _____.

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EMILY: I was fired from my last job, and now I'm between jobs. Getting (10) _____was a blow to my confidence, but I've been applying for jobs and trying to stay positive. In the meantime, I'm taking online courses to gain new qualifications and improve my resume. It's not easy to stay motivated during this time; most job offers I see are for part-time or (11) _____jobs, but I'm (12) _____to find something soon.

NADIA: I plan to retire next year after over 30 years of working as a nurse. I love my job, but I'm looking forward to spending more time relaxing and being with my family. I'm a grandmother now, and I want to have plenty of time to enjoy with my (13) _____and help my daughter. Retirement will be a big change, but I'm ready to (14) _____ this new phase of life and make the most of every moment, enjoying activities I love, like (15) _____, reading, or cooking.

BEN: I've been working as a builder for over a decade now, and while the job can be physically (16) _____, I enjoy it. Every project is different, and I get to work on challenging tasks that keep me (17) _____. I often work overtime, especially during big projects, but the extra pay makes it (18) _____it. I'm also considering starting my own business in the future, maybe opening a small (19) _____. I've learned a lot on the job, and I think I could offer a (20) _____.

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