

My Work Experience

How English Works: Look at the phrases that will be in the reading and their meaning.

Vocabulary	Meaning
<i>resume</i>	A document with your work and education experience
<i>current</i>	Now
<i>recent</i>	Not long ago
<i>salary</i>	Your weekly, monthly or yearly pay
<i>requirement(s)</i>	Thing(s) you must do/have
<i>reference</i>	A person who gives a recommendation
<i>benefits</i>	Sick time, paid time off, insurance, retirement

Match the phrases from above in the sentences below.

1. A GED or diploma and a social security number are needed to apply to the Nurse Aide Training program at Carlos Rosario. They are _____.
2. At my interview, the employer asked about my last job and other _____ experience.
3. At student services, a program assistant will help you write a _____ to show work and education history.
4. I can take good care of my children because this job has a good salary and offers excellent _____.
5. The employer wants me to provide a _____ for my new job. Can you please give me one?
6. My _____ job is okay, but I want to find a better job soon.
7. If I continue my education and get a better job, I can expect to get a higher _____.



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(1) Andrea had her first job when she was 14. After school in Nicaragua, she sold fruit and vegetables in the local city market. She didn't work for a company. She worked for her family. She took good care of the food and she spoke with customers. She also counted the money she made from the produce.

(2) When Andrea moved to the United States, she didn't speak any English. She didn't know what kind of job she could get. Andrea's first job in the United States was cleaning offices. She washed windows, mopped and vacuumed floors. The schedule was very difficult. She worked from 8 pm to 5 am. She was tired, but she needed to learn English. She started to take English classes. She understood her boss better, and spoke a little more English. She liked her boss, but she wanted to get a different job.

(3) First, she took more English classes and finally graduated from level 8 at the Carlos Rosario School. Then she heard about the Small Business Program. Next, Andrea began the Small Business Program and worked with the program director Raul Medrano. Together, they made a business plan. After that, Andrea opened "Rainbow Cleaners."

(4) Now, she has 8 employees and a manager at her business. They work in the DC metro area and clean private homes. She finds new clients, manages her employees and the company's money. Andrea is very busy, but happy. When people ask her how she achieved her dream, she tells them two things. She took her previous experiences and ideas and made a goal. Then, she went to school and learned strong leadership and communication skills. "It didn't happen overnight," she says, "but I knew that I could do it!"

After You Read

Check Your Comprehension [here](#)

Share Your Opinion:

1. Do you think it is easy or difficult to open a new business?
2. Would you like to start a business? If yes, what kind of business?
3. What is your goal? What do you need to achieve your goal?