

TRY AN APPRENTICESHIP

Reading comprehension and Vocabulary

1. Read the following text about apprenticeships (pasantías) and answer the questions (1-4)

Try an Apprenticeship

Finding a job can be difficult when you have no experience of the world of work. So, before applying for a job, why don't you get some work experience while you're still at school?

In different countries, teenagers are finding it more and more difficult to enter the work world. Many have found a solution to this problem in summer apprenticeships which can help them to learn new skills, such as computer programming or hairdressing. Besides, apprenticeships also mean earning a small salary.

Summer apprenticeships are very common in the UK and they involve training and getting practical experience in a job you might enjoy. You will have a boss who will teach you to do different things and who will supervise your work to make sure you learn all the necessary skills.

There are plenty of job opportunities to choose from. Think about the skills you want to learn and what type of jobs you might enjoy. Do you really like working with animals? You can apply for an apprenticeship at the local zoo. If you prefer to play football or tennis, you may want to work as a sports coach for children at a summer camp, and if you are creative and you like fashion, you may want to do an apprenticeship in a hair salon. The most important thing is that when you have learned the new skills, you will be able to get a part-time job to earn a salary!

This is exactly what Gemma from Manchester did. She is 16 and did an apprenticeship as a baker last summer. I learned how to make bread and cakes. I also helped to serve customers in the shop. It was a great experience and I might apply for a job as a baker when I leave school.

I might even set up my own shop. Apprenticeships usually last for one month and there are apprenticeship schemes all over the UK, for students aged between 16 and 18.



**What are you waiting for?
Apply for an apprenticeship now!**

- 1- What can you learn from an apprenticeship?
- 2- What jobs are mentioned in the article?
- 3- What must you consider when you choose an apprenticeship?
- 4- What did Gemma learn?

2. Find the following expressions related to work in the text. Do you understand their meaning? Look up in the dictionary the words that don't appear in the text.

be unemployed have a full-time job
earn a salary lose a job work part-time
do an apprenticeship learn new skills
serve customers fire somebody

3. Complete the sentences with expressions from activity 2

- A- **BEING UNEMPLOYED / DOING AN APPRENTICESHIP** is a good way of getting work experience.
- B- My boss **FIRED/SERVED** me last week so now I'm unemployed.
- C- I work 4 hours a day. I have a **PART-TIME / FULL-TIME** job.
- D- **I LEARNT NEW SKILLS / LOST MY JOB** because I was always late and my boss didn't like it.
- E- I don't **EARN/WIN** a good salary as a teacher.
- F- I work from 6 am to 15:00. I have a **PART-TIME/FULL-TIME** job.