



WRITTEN COMPREHENSION

READING STUDENTS AT WORK



Who says British students are lazy? Not us! After doing a survey of typical 15-18 year-old students, we can report that 45% of them had part-time jobs during the school term –usually a Saturday job. They worked, on average, for 8 hours a week. In addition, 62% had a full-time job during school holidays and worked on average 38 hours a week. Did it make any difference if they came from a rich or a poor family? Apparently not. Almost all parents wanted their children to get a job, any job, and the students themselves wanted to work –or at least they wanted to earn money. Some typical students told us about the jobs they had done.

ALEX WHITE

10 'When I was 14 I used to get up at 6 o'clock every morning and delivered newspapers to all the houses in our village. Then one day I fell asleep while we were doing a Maths test and the teacher noticed. He
15 phoned my parents and complained. Now I only work during the school holidays.'

JODIE ENGLAND

'Last summer I worked in a pub. The pub was on the coast so when it closed after lunch I went to the beach. I lay there all
20 afternoon until it was time to start work again at six o'clock. It wasn't like working at all –it was more like being at a party every night.'

AMY HAMMOND

'Last Christmas holiday I worked in the
25 fruit and vegetable department at the local supermarket. I didn't enjoy it at all! My boss was really horrible to me –I don't think she liked students. So after I had worked there for a month, I left.'

TIM SHAW

30 'Last summer my friend Dan and I were complaining about money. So we got buckets of water and some sponges and began cleaning windows. It was hard work but it's amazing what you see in some
35 people's houses!'

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

A) READ THE TEXT AND MATCH THE PICTURES TO THE NAMES OF THE STUDENTS.



B) READ AGAIN AND COMPLETE THE SENTENCES WITH WORDS FROM THE TEXT.

- 1) 45% of British students ...
- 2) 62% of them ...
- 3) Alex White was sleeping in a Maths test because he...
- 4) The pub that Jodie worked in ...
- 5) Amy Hammond didn't like her job because her ...
- 6) Tim Shaw and his friend Dan decided to start...

C) MATCH THE WORDS FROM THE TEXT (1-6) WITH THE DEFINITIONS (a-f).

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1) Survey (line 2) | a) very surprising |
| 2) Delivered (line 11) | b) a round, open container with a handle |
| 3) Boss (line 27) | c) person who tells others what to do at work |
| 4) Complaining (line 31) | d) a study of something |
| 5) Bucket (line 32) | e) saying that you are not satisfied or happy |
| 6) Amazing (line 34) | f) took something to a place and left it there |

ANSWERS	1	2	3	4	5	6