



Last summer I worked in London as an au-pair¹. I worked for a couple and their two children. Their house was huge! I felt like I was the character Pip in *Great Expectations*.² It was a very interesting experience, but when I got back home, I was exhausted and ready for a holiday!

Every morning, I made the beds and once a week I changed the sheets. Later on, I helped in the garden taking care of the plants and flowers and I played with the children. I always helped prepare meals and I washed the dishes after we ate. We usually made easy meals and the children loved it when we made pizza! Sometimes I did the ironing but only once or twice a week. That was a relief because I hate ironing!

In the evening, I took out the rubbish and tidied up the children's toys. When the children were in bed, I sometimes had a cuppa³ with their mum in the living room or we watched a film. The couple were very kind. I received a good salary and every Friday the couple gave me an extra 20 quid⁴ for spending money. I would like to go back and work for the same family next summer.



¹ au-pair: (French) a helper usually from a foreign country who lives as part of a host family; nanny

² *Great Expectations*: a novel by Charles Dickens

³ cuppa: (informal) a cup of tea

⁴ quid: (informal) pounds; currency in the UK

- 1 The writer spent the summer in a very big house.
- 2 The writer changed the bed sheets every morning.
- 3 The writer doesn't enjoy ironing.
- 4 The children tidied up their toys every evening.
- 5 The writer doesn't like films.
- 6 The writer's salary was £20.

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