

Finding a Job



A Thematic Unit for Low Beginning or High
Beginning ESL Learners

By

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Oscar is from Guatemala. He is studying English at Tri-County OIC in Harrisburg, PA.

Oscar's Story

When I first came to the U.S., I wanted to work but I didn't know how to get a job. I didn't speak good English and I was afraid people would ask me questions. But my mom made it easy for me by calling a temp agency. Now I work and I am very happy.

How did you get a job when you came to the United States?

How did you feel about getting a job?

Playing with Language

- A. Listen to the story
- B. Listen again and write the missing words in the blanks below.

When I first _____ to the U.S., I _____ to work but I didn't _____ how to get a job. I didn't _____ good English and I _____ afraid people would _____ me questions. But my mom _____ it easy for me by calling a temp agency. Now I _____ and I _____ very happy.

- C. Read the story to a partner
- D. Copy the story

Doing It In English

Tell what you can do to find a job.
Check (✓) **Yes** or **No**.



Search the Internet ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**



Read the newspaper ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**



Talk to friends ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**



Fill out an application ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Talking About It

Oscar didn't know how to look for a job. What are some ways that people look for a job in the U.S.?

Work with a partner to create a list of ways to look for a job.

My Partner's and My Ways to Get a Job

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Share your ideas with another group to add to your list.

Creating a Picture Dictionary

Students will work in groups of 3 people to create a picture dictionary page of the word list. Draw the word or words that come to mind or are in the dictionary for the following:

brochure

salary

employer

industry

health care

hospitality

classified ads

Doing It In English – Adverbs of Frequency

Adverbs of frequency (***always, often, sometimes, rarely, and never***) are often used in English to tell **how often** something is done.

Many times a question will look like this:

How often do you _____?
(verb)

Many times an answer will look like this:

I _____
(Adv. of Freq.) (verb)

Always = 100%

Often = about 75%

Sometimes = 50%

Rarely = about 25%

Never = 0%

- Ex. A. **How often** do you go to the market?
B. I **sometimes** go to the market.

- A. **How often** do you take a shower in the morning?
B. I **always** take a shower in the morning.

Directions: Answer the following questions by checking the correct answer.

1. How often do you come to English class on time?

☐ Always ☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never

2. How often do you study English at home?

☐ Always ☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never

3. How often do you talk to your family in your country?

☐ Always ☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never

4. How often do you talk about jobs with your friends?

☐ Always ☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never

5. How often do you listen to music?

☐ Always ☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never

Getting to Know Each Other

Directions: Interview five (5) other students by using different questions beginning with "How often do you.....? Record the students' answers.

Student 1 – Name _____

Question: _____

Answer: _____

Student 2 – Name _____

Question: _____

Answer: _____

Student 3 – Name _____

Question: _____

Answer: _____

Student 4 – Name _____

Question: _____

Answer: _____

Student 5 – Name _____

Question: _____

Answer: _____

Listening In: The Teacher

Now listen to the teacher and check the appropriate box for what you hear the teacher say.

1. How often does the teacher read books?

☐ Always ☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never

2. How often does the teacher stay up late?

☐ Always ☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never

3. How often does the teacher visit his family in California?

☐ Always ☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never

4. How often does the teacher go to Wal-Mart?

☐ Always ☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never

5. How often does the teacher write letters to friends?

☐ Always ☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never

6. How often does the teacher listen to music?

☐ Always ☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never

7. How often does the teacher shop for food?

☐ Always ☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never

8. How often does the teacher talk on his cell phone?

☐ Always ☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never

More Stories from Harrisburg, PA

Read the story below and answer the questions that follow.



Ilian's Story

Before I came to the U.S., there were no jobs in Puerto Rico. I came here to get a job. Now it is difficult for me. I never worked before. My English is difficult. I can work in a warehouse or at a hotel.

How do you think Ilian feels about getting a job?

How would you feel if you were Ilian?

Read the next story and answer the questions that follow.

Victor's Story

When I was in Puerto Rico, I thought about coming to the United States. I felt frustrated in Puerto Rico. I worked construction, but there was no work. Now, I am worried about working. I want a good job.



Victor feels frustrated and worried. These are **negative** or **bad** emotions or feelings. What are some other bad emotions or feelings that people feel when they are looking for a job? List them below.

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

What are some **positive** or **good** emotions that people feel when they are looking for a job? List them below.

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Read the next three (3) stories. Think about one person who is similar to you and one person who is different than you.

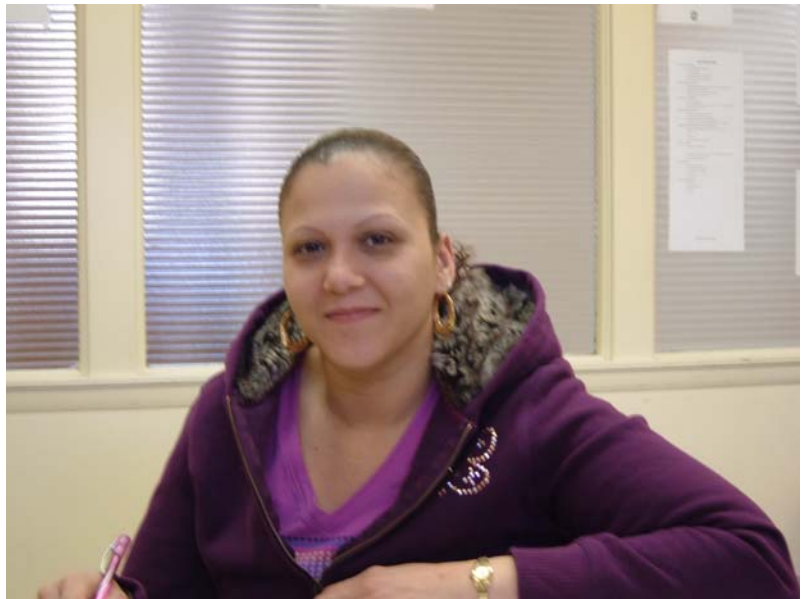


Dil Maya's Story

In Bhutan I didn't go to school. Later, in Nepal, I didn't work. Now, in the United States, I have little English. When I get a job, they send me home.

Yanitza's Story

I came here to the U.S. because my sister, Evelyn, called me in P.R. and told me about the better opportunities I can have here. That's how I got here. At first, I didn't like it, but the opportunities we had as soon as we got here were good. A week later I started work. But right now I don't work, but I take English class to see if I can do better. Sometimes my children help me. They correct me when I need it.





Arelis's Story

I liked my job. I was working, but they laid me off. Now, I have to find another job. It's difficult because I don't have English. But I know I will find something soon.

Who is the person similar to you? Why is she similar? Who is the person different than you? Why is she different? Write the person's name and the reasons why she is similar or different in the boxes below.

Similar

Name: _____

Reason 1: _____

Reason 2: _____

Reason 3: _____

Reason 4: _____

Different

Name: _____

Reason 1: _____

Reason 2: _____

Reason 3: _____

Reason 4: _____

Collaborations: Creating a "Finding A Job" Help Guide

With your class, make a help brochure for future students who are looking for a job. Write what people can do to find a job on one side of the brochure. Write comments that will help other students on the other side of the brochure. Create or find a nice picture about finding a job for the cover.

Job Ideas
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Comments
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Cover Idea



Looking Back: Thinking about how we search for a job

Think about your learning. Check the correct answer below to show how well you can do these things. Share your ideas with the class.

	<u>I Can Do It On My Own</u>	<u>I Can Do It With The Teacher's Help</u>	<u>I Don't Understand</u>
Use the Internet	_____	_____	_____
Read the Newspaper	_____	_____	_____
Talk to Other People	_____	_____	_____
Fill Out a Job Application	_____	_____	_____

In this unit I learned _____			

_____.			
I want to study more about _____			

_____.			
Because of this lesson, I want to _____			

_____.			

Learning Log

Checklist for Learning

I. Vocabulary: Check (✓) the words you know. Add more words if you wish.

Frequency Words

- _____ always
- _____ often
- _____ sometimes
- _____ rarely
- _____ never
- _____
- _____

Other Words

- _____ brochure
- _____ salary
- _____ employer
- _____ industry
- _____ hospitality
- _____ health care
- _____
- _____

Job Search Words

- _____ Internet
- _____ newspaper
- _____ fill out
- _____ application
- _____ network
- _____ classified ads
- _____
- _____

II. Language: Check (✓) what you can do in English. Add more things if you wish.

I Can

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| _____ search for a job | _____ create a brochure |
| _____ talk to people about finding a job | _____ |