How to Tell if Your Boss is Horrible

The Devil Wears Prada

1. Based on Andy’s experience, what are some obstacles and challenges a young person will face in the workplace?

Andy has had little to no experience in the workplace. Andy since she has no experience cannot find a job but she cannot get experience without getting a job. This paradox is present for many young workers, often time’s people will have to do free internships to gain experience. However Andy gets a job with no experience which is great because she will gain experience in a high prestige job while still gaining a salary which is better than many young people.

1. What employability skills does Andy have?

Andy has little experience however we learn throughout the movie that she is not worthless, Andy is actually a valuable employee. Many of Miranda’s assistants have been fired or have quit because the job is too tough for them, however Andy does not give up, and Andy is persistent and resilient. Andy is also very resourceful, Andy is able to juggle all the tasks which Miranda puts forward to her which for many people would be nearly impossible but Andrea can handle it. She is very kind Andy sticks up for Miranda after all Miranda has done for her, Andy consoles her during her divorce and she warns her that she is being backstabbed which are very kind things to do since Miranda is very abusive to her. Finally Andrea Sachs is loyal when Andy finds out that Miranda is getting backstabbed and will lose her job Andy tells her even though her next boss would be less abusive to her.

1. Using Andy as an example, how can a job interfere with your social, family, and personal life?

Andrea Sachs’s life is turned upside down by her job. Miranda requires that Andy be ready to work every day at any hour. Miranda often when she is busy gets a phone call that will interrupt her life and she is forced to answer it. One time Miranda is eating with her friends however she receives a call from Miranda and has to leave. This is similar to many people’s lives, many people receive emails and calls after work hours and this can interfere with their lives. Many people feel obligated to respond to messages because they feel replaceable and if they do not than they may lose their job. Sometimes jobs can cripple your attempt to have a social and family life because often workers are required to work after hours when they should be socializing or bonding.

1. Does your boss have the right to contact you whenever he or she feels necessary? Why or why not?

A boss should not have the ability to contact me at any time especially after work hours. The 40 hour work week was set out so worker’s needs and employer’s needs would be balanced. Previously workers would be abused and forced to work super long hours and not see their family because they risked losing their job. The problem is that when a boss contacts an employee after work hours that is actually expanding the amount of hours spent working which gives employers the ability to abuse workers. A job is supposed to provide an employee with a better life however if an employer can contact an employee whenever than that employee does not have a life, they are working for the right to work even more which is not fair in any way.

1. Would you be willing to do personal errands for your boss to please him or her? Why?

I would do errands for my boss on the sole condition that it would be on company time. If I was paid to do errands during work hours it would be fantastic I would be getting paid to do things that are not very difficult and require little thought. I would do errands for rare occasions however I could not do that as a full time job as I need experience. If I am working at a job not gaining experience for a resume than I have no hope of getting a good job because no employer will hire an employee with 0 experience in the field. So in summary I would do errands for my boss if I would get paid, it was on company time and it was not a full time career it would be once in a while.

1. What would you be willing to sacrifice to ensure that you fulfill your dreams/goals?

I would sacrifice a lot to achieve my dream, nothing good can come without sacrifice unless you are rich. I would sacrifice many things however there are a few things I could not do, I would not change my personality and I would not do anything that would interfere with my ethics. Many people got to high positions by betraying their ethics, Mark Zuckerberg backstabbed his friend Eduardo, and Elon Musk convinced the board of directors to fire Chief Executive Officer of Tesla Martin Eberhard so he could takeover. Besides the previous points however my dream is the most important part of my life, achieving my goals in life are extremely important to me and take priority over many things.

1. Would you betray your family and/or friends for a job promotion?

I would not betray anyone to get a promotion let alone my friends or family. A job in a capitalist society is where an employee will do a task for a salary to allow an employee to live their lives better. This contradicts the question, a job is supposed to provide people with a better life for them and their family, betraying them for a job is contradictory. A salary is supposed to give people a better life, by betraying friends and family a job is actually giving people a worse life, so employees would be working to have a worse life.

1. Would you change who you are (personality, image, attitude, etc.) in order to keep a job?

I would never change who I am in order to keep a job. A job is supposed to provide an employee with a better life it should not require employees to change their lives. Changing who you are so that you can keep a job is unhealthy and unfair. If a job demands that a person do such a thing than that job is not worth it because a person would be throwing their entire life a way for a job which is probably not that important. Obviously there are exceptions though, if an employers asked me to wear certain clothing to work because there is a dress code or if there is an event than that is justified however anything that is on the inner, mental level is unjustifiable.

1. What career lessons did The Devil Wears Prada teach you?(Provide 4 examples)

The Devil wears Prada taught me to manage my priorities in life. In the movie Andy changes everything about her to keep a job however that ends up destroying her entire life. However Andy also understands that jobs are very important so she keeps the job because she knows that the experience is very important. I learned that people need to understand the importance of things and whether the loss justifies the benefits.

The movie also taught me to be resilient and to not complain. In the film Andrea Sachs is told to find the unreleased new Harry Potter book, however instead of complaining and saying it is impossible she actually works and completes the task. Even though her boss was ridiculous and asked for something near impossible she stayed resilient and worked hard, it eventually payed off for her. Often employees will be told to complete hard tasks which may seem impossible however you cannot give up you always must try and it will work out in the end.

I learned about the importance of proper etiquette in the workplace. In the movie Miranda is looking through different dresses and an assistant compares two belts that look very similar and Andy giggles. Miranda than precedes to scold Andy for that behaviour and lecture her on the importance of such decisions. Another time Andy tells Miranda that her name is actually Andrea not Emily however her boss looks at her with disgust because you are not supposed to contradict your boss. These scenes taught me how important it is depending on the workplace to understand proper etiquette, it is not appropriate to laugh at a decision your boss is making and workers should often take tasks with intense seriousness.

Finally I learned to understand the value of yourself in the workplace. In the Devil wears Prada, Andy is constantly forced to complete absurd tasks and is abused, in the end though Andy understands that she is worth more than this job and she can do something better so she quits. This movie taught me to understand your worth, to not let bosses belittle me or abuse me. However on another hand it is important to understand your role in a company, you should know that you are not worthless however one must also understand that they are not godlike people should know their place.