**Unit 5**

**Conservation**

W: Hi, Steve.

M: Hi, Penny. Good to see you.

W: Are you all packed now?

M: Yeah, I'm ready to go. I just hope I haven't forgotten anything.

W: When are you off?

M: The taxi's picking me up at 7 tomorrow.

W: You're going to France, right?

M: Yeah, for a holiday. I'll be working on a farm there.

W: Work? That's not my idea of a holiday!

M: I don't think it'll be too hard. They want me to work in the garden, not in the fields. They've got a big garden, and they need someone to look after it.

W: I didn't know you were interested in gardening.

M: Not really, but there might be some building work in the garden. That's more my type of thing.

W: It still sounds like hard work. I wouldn't call it a holiday.

M: Well, I only have to work five hours a day, and in exchange, I get free board and lodging. So, it's like a free holiday. Well, almost free.

W: Sounds great. Where exactly are you going?

M: It's in the center of France. Hold on a minute. I've got a photo on my phone. Here, take a look.

W: Nice location!

M: Yeah, and this is the local town.

W: So, it's not all work?

M: No. I have lots of time off. I'm planning to visit a few places on weekends, and I'm going to spend a weekend in Paris.

W: You know, looking at these photos, I'm changing my mind. How did you find out about this?

M: On the Internet – there are lots of sites. Why not come with me? It'll be an unforgettable experience.

W: Yes, let's do it!

Questions:

1. Why has the man packed up?

2. What is the man interested in?

3. What does the man plan to do on weekends while in France?

4. What does the woman decide to do, according to the conversation?

**Passage**

Once, I had a wonderful job at a marvelous company. I enjoyed flexible working hours, an understanding boss, and a high salary. I loved my job. However, after six years of trying out various professional roles, I felt that I had outgrown my passion for the fixed positions available at the company.

I must admit, having a lot of money is nice. Money can buy you things, nice things. Yet, the popular saying is true – money cannot buy you happiness, and having a lot of money doesn't make you a successful person. After several years, I realized that the more money I made, the less satisfied I became. Time flew by, and my days started to blend together. I found myself deeply longing for something more meaningful.

Upon realizing that I was trading my time for money, I began to explore other sources of income. I've started and ended businesses, turned hobbies into professional pursuits, and tested out different investment strategies.

In the end, I've learned that it doesn't matter what you are doing. As long as you do something that reflects your passion, you will feel great and achieve a sense of fulfillment. I've also learned that starting something from scratch and watching it grow is deeply satisfying.

Through my quest for passion, I've finally discovered that working online as a freelance writer is just my cup of tea. It enables me to share ideas and lessons learned, which gives me a sense of accomplishment. For the first time in my life, I feel like I am truly living my life's purpose.

Questions:

1. Why did the speaker become dissatisfied with her job at the company?

2. What can help us achieve a sense of fulfillment, according to the speaker?

3. What job does the speaker find most suitable for herself now?

**Lecture 2**

Today, I'm thrilled to have the opportunity to talk about a profession that is not only challenging but also fascinating: interpreting. As an interpreter myself, I can assure you that this is a dynamic career, filled with numerous interesting and rewarding experiences.

I still vividly remember a conference where I interpreted for a well-known author from Spain. During the conference, I successfully conveyed his powerful ideas to an audience that couldn't understand his language. Witnessing the audience's reactions – their laughter and even their tears – was incredibly rewarding. This experience constantly reminds me of the profound impact interpreting can have on people.

One of the most incredible aspects of being an interpreter is having the opportunity to broaden our horizons. As interpreters, we often play a crucial role in various events, conferences, and meetings, where we interact with people from diverse backgrounds and cultures. Such experiences truly open our eyes to different cultures and help us gain a better understanding of diverse viewpoints. It feels like embarking on a never-ending journey of exploration and knowledge acquisition.

Another amazing aspect of being an interpreter is the privilege of witnessing history unfold right before our eyes. We often find ourselves in high-level diplomatic negotiations or international conferences, where critical decisions are usually made. Just imagine having a front-row seat to conversations that could shape the course of countries or even the world. As interpreters, we are the indispensable bridge between cultures, facilitating effective communication at those crucial moments.

Moreover, being an interpreter provides countless opportunities for personal development. Each task presents unique challenges, from mastering technical terminology for a science conference to conveying the emotional depth and subtleties of a powerful speech. Our abilities to think and respond quickly, maintain composure under pressure, and adapt to various speaking styles constantly improve with each experience.

So, if you have a passion for languages, cultures, and the art of communication, why not explore the fascinating world of interpreting?

Questions:

1. Why did the speaker find it rewarding to interpret for the Spanish author?

2. Why can being an interpreter broaden one's horizons?

3. Why do interpreters have the privilege of witnessing history unfold before their eyes?

4. How does interpreting contribute to one's personal development?