

Reading comprehension: Europass

Situation:

You are planning to do a work placement in the Ireland next summer. Your teacher gives you this EU leaflet about the *Europass*.



A keyword in the EU is 'mobility' – the possibility to move around the member countries to work full-time, to do short work placements, or to study. There can, however, be a problem.

5 Education and training systems are often very different from country to country and it is not easy for employers or colleges and universities to understand exactly what qualifications someone has. Employers and trainers frequently
10 have other questions, too. What languages can you speak? How well? Have you ever worked in a foreign country before? For how long? What did you do there?

To address this problem, in 2004 the Council of
15 Europe developed the **Europass**. It is a personal portfolio of *five* documents which together help workers and learners to demonstrate their skills, qualifications and work experience in other parts of Europe. The five documents have the same
20 format in all EU countries.

- **The Europass CV or Curriculum Vitae** is the backbone of the portfolio. It is a summary of your personal details, education and training, work experience and your skills and interests.
25 It is possible to complete, store (and update) the CV online, or you can download the CV as a print document.
- **The Europass Language Passport** enables
30 you to describe your language skills using the six-step scale (A1, A2, B1, B2, C1 and C2) which is defined by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.



In addition, you show on this passport what practical experience you have of using a language – for example if you have ever lived
35 in the country where it is spoken. You can also produce your Language Passport electronically or as a print document.

- **The Europass Certificate Supplement and the Europass Diploma Supplement** are two
40 separate documents which explain your qualifications (giving background information about your course) so that employers, colleges and universities in other EU countries can
45 understand and assess your competences. They are provided by the Europass Office in your own country. The Certificate Supplement is for those who have vocational qualifications and a certificate from a vocational college,
50 the Diploma Supplement for those who have a higher (university) diploma.

- **Europass Mobility** is a written record of the
55 time you have spent working or learning in another EU country. It lists exactly what you did, where, for how long, and what skills you practised – like using the telephone, looking after hotel guests or working in an engineering workshop. These experiences have to be part
60 of your college or university course, or a work placement which is organised by the EU. The document is completed not by you but by your trainers or employers.

(438 words)

Aufgabe:

Lesen Sie den Text und vervollständigen Sie die Sätze.

- 1 Unter Mobilität versteht man die Möglichkeit ... in andere länder zu reisen
- 2 Eine Schwierigkeit besteht für Arbeitgeber und Ausbildungsstätten jedoch darin ... dass bildungssysteme in anderen ländern anders sind
- 3 Die 5 Dokumente des *Europass* helfen... die erfahrungen darzustellen
- 4 Der *Europass Lebenslauf* kann online ... erstellt, bearbeitet und gespeichert werden
- 5 Der *Europass Sprachenpass* zeigt, welche ... sprachen man kann
- 6 Der *Europass Mobilität* dokumentiert ... wie lange man in anderen ländern gearbeitet hat

Source : Christie, David (2009): *Business expert. Wirtschaft & Verwaltung*. Stuttgart: Klett