Lesson 4 The double life of Alfred Bloggs

These days, people who do **manual** work often receive far more money than clerks who work in offices. People who work in offices are frequently referred to as “white collar workers” for the simple reason that they usually wear a collar and tie to go to work. Such is human nature, that a great many people are often willing to **sacrifice** higher pay for the **privilege** of becoming white collar workers. This can give rise to curious situations, as it did in the case of Alfred Bloggs who worked as a **dustman** for the Ellesmere **Corporation**.

When he got married, Alf was too embarrassed to say anything to his wife about his job. He simply told her that he worked for the Corporation. Every morning, he left home dressed in a smart black suit. He then changed into overalls (工作服) and spent the next eight hours as a dustman. Before returning home at night, he took a shower and changed back into his suit. Alf did this for over two years and his fellow dustmen kept his secret. Alf’s wife has never discovered that she married a dustman and she never will, for Alf has just found another job. He will soon be working in an office as a junior clerk. He will be earning only half as much as he used to, but he feels that his rise in status is well worth the loss of money. From now on, he will wear a suit all day and others will call him “Mr. Bloggs”, not “Alf”.