**ESL Podcast 1072 – Working Part-Time Jobs**

Luisa begins the dialog by saying to max ‘ are you still here’ this is one of those questions you ask when you’re surprised about something obviously luisa can see that max still wherever they are . she says ‘ i thought you got off at 3;00’ . to got off work means to finish the work schedule to be able to leave the play where you work someone says ‘what time do you get off’ they means what time do you get off work when you stop the work what time do you stop working . max says ‘ i pick up the second shift’ . a shift s-h-i-f-t refers to the period of time when people work usually this ..use for job when people work at that particular location more than 8 hours or that there are people working at that location for more than 8 hours that maybe for example a play where there are someone working 24 hours a day where one person is not going to work 24 hours straight so they break up a day into shifts so if you work the day shifts you’re working probably from 8 in the morning turn around for 4 or 5 in the afternoon if you are working a 9 shift you’re working perhaps from 4 or 5 in the afternoon to midnight if you’re working we call the grey yard shift you’re probably working from 11 o’clock at night or midnight to 7 or 8 in the morning .those are shift them division of the work day in the play that usually opens from 8 hours . max says he picks up the second shift . to pick up here means to get to ..he was working one shift in out he pick up the second shift which means of course he was working more 8 hours a day . why has max done it well he says i could use the money .when someone says ‘ i could use the money’ he means that he would be able to a benefit from getting more money .he has some need of extra money . lusia says ‘but i thought you had another part time job in the evenings’ a part time job is a job usually that is ..40 hours per week .in the united states 40 hours per week is considered false time in the last 40 hours we might call it part-time .lusia thought that max has another part-time job.max says ‘ i normally do, but the restaurant where i work has been cutting back my hours’. When we talk about someone cutting back on something we mean that he is using less service or he reduces in the number of something . the chosen phrasal verb to cut back then means to reduce the number of something ,in this case we’re talking about the restaurant where max works cutting back his hours . his hours refers to the number of hours that he can work . max says he’s trying to pick up as many extra shifts here as i can . lusia says .. ‘and don’t you work at the amusement park on the weekend’. A amusement a-m-u-s-e-m-e-n-t park is a large park usually that has lots of we would call ride in them ..people especially children can play game and getting into machine that go really fast for example Disneyland is in example of the amusement park near the southern California . lusia asks max is still working at the amusement park on the weekend he says ‘i do half the year’ meaning i do work there part of the year but it’s winter and the park only keeps a skeleton crew on during these months .max is saying that the amusement park where he normally works in the summer time only has the skeleton crew during the winter time . the phrase skeleton s-k-e-l-e-t-o-n crew c-r-e-w refers to a very small number of workers the minimum number of workers you can have that play . if the business doesn’t have very many customers that might have very few employees and we might call that the skeleton crew. If during busy time the company has more employees this is the case with the amusement park they have more skeleton crew . the word crew just refers a group of people . the word skeleton is normally used to describe the bone of the body the bone of the animal. Max says in the meantime meaning during the winter season working a temp agency which gives me the short-term assignments .a temp t-e-m-p agency is a company that finds people temporary job. The word temp is short for temporary meaning short term not permanent not for long time .they are of course many company that find workers find people to work for the company that just need workers for short period of time. Max says the temp agency gives him the short term assignments. Short term refers to short amount of time perhaps a week perhaps even a day i use the work for a temp agency when i was in college i would call up every morning and see they had any work for me and they would send me to job that would last maybe one day maybe two or three days sometimes as long as month .temp agency are very popular now especially when the economy is not doing so well company don’t want to hire employee for time . luisa says ‘i don’t know how you juggle all these jobs’. The verb to juggle j-u-g-g-l-e usually refers to throwing object .. the air and keep in the ..in the air we refer to someone who doesn’t say juggled .but here the verb means to handle many different things at the same time to be able to do many different things at the same time . max says ‘i have no choice i have no other action . i have to piece together an income if i want to pay rent’. To piece p-i-e-c-e together something means to put together to assemble and income i-n-c-o-m-e refers to money you get for working . max is saying that he has the work a little bit at this job a little bit at that job in order to make enough money to pay for his rent. Luisa says ‘ have you ever thought about going back to school to qualify for other work ,something full-time’. To qualify q-u-a-l-i-f-y for something means heavy skills and or education in order to be able to do something so for example of you want to be a doctor you have to study for many years in order to qualify for that kind of job. At least i hope you’ve studied many years of your doctor if not please don’t demand doctor .luisa is asking max has thought about going back his school to qualify for some kind of jobs that would be full-time that would be 40 hours a week . max says ‘ sure , all the time’ meaning i have thought about it a lot . he says ‘ i’d like a better job, one with benefits and a reliable salary’. Benefits b-e-n-e-f-i-t-s refers to thing such as health insurance and vacation time and sick pay money you get when you can’t work because you’re sick , these are common benefits that you get when you have a full-time job. Salary s-a-l-a-r-y refers to money that you get to work at the certain play usually by the month or by the year when we talk about a salary we’re talking about money you get regardless of how many hours you work the to kind of way of getting pay one is by these hours when you get pay a certain amount of money for every hours you work, another way of getting pay is by salary when the getting pay honest salary we would say you are getting a certain amount of money and are expected to do the job even it takes more than a normal 40 hours a week . luisa says ‘ what’s stopping you’ what’s preventing you from going that school. Max says ‘i have to pay for something called food’ max is making a joke he says that he can’t afford to go back to school he doesn’t have enough money to go back to school because the edition ..that he rents, he also has to eat and takes it to buy food .he finishes by saying ‘ i haven’t met my fairy godmother yet’. A fairy f-a-i-r-y godmother m-o-t-h-e-r is a character from children story , story that we tell children usually involves in the woman who has some sort of magical power ,the fairy godmother is the common character in certain fairy tell that told a children these are ..story about magical events . here max is using the expression to mean that he hasn’t found someone who is just going to give him money to pay for his expense and to go to school.