Luisa begins a dialogue by saying to Max “Are you still here?” It is one of those question you ask when you surprise about something obviously Luisa can see that Max still whoever they are. She says “I thought you got off at 3 o’clock.” To get off of work means to finish your work schedule to be able to leave place where you work. Someone says “What time do you get off?” They mean what time do you get off of work? When do you stop work? What time do you stop working? Max says “I pick up a second shift” A shift s-h-i-f-t refers to a period of time when people work usually this term 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. It might be for example a place where someone is working 24 hours a day. Well one person is not going to work 24 hour straight so they break up the day into shifts so if you work the day shift you’re working probably from 8 in the morning to around 4 or 5 in the afternoon if you work in the night shift you will be working perhaps from 4 or 5 in the afternoon to midnight if you’re working what we call the grave yard shift you’re working probably from 11 o’clock at night or midnight to 7 or 8 in the morning. Those are shifts that the vision of the work day. In the place that usually open for more than 8 hours. Max says he pick up a second shift. To pick up here means to get, to obtain he was working one shift and now he pick up a second shift which means of course he is working more than 8 hours per day. Why has Max done this? Well he says “I could use the money” When someone says I could use the money he means that he would be able to benefit from getting more money. He has some meat of extra money. Luisa says “But, I thought you had another part time job in the evenings.” A part time job is a job usually that is less than 40 hours per week. In United State 40 hours per week we can consider full time if it is less than 40 hours we might call it part time. Luisa 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 last of it or he is reducing the number of something. The 2 word phase verbs to cut back then mean to reduce the number of something. In this case we talk 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 try to pick up as many extra shift here as I can. Luisa then asks “and don’t you work at the amusement park on the weekend?” And amusement a-m-u-s-e-m-e-n-t park is a larger park usually that has lot of when we would call right in them place where people especially children can play game and getting to the machine that go really fast for example Disney land is an example for amusement park here in Southern Califolia. Luisa asks Max is still working at amusement park on the weekend. He says “I do half the year” meaning I do work there past of a year but in the winter and the park only keep a security crew on during the months. Max is saying that the amusement park where he normally works in summer time only has the skeleton crew during the winter time. The phase skeleton s-k-e-l-e-t-e-o-n crew c-r-e-w refers to a very small number of workers. The minimum number of workers you can have that place. If the business doesn’t have many customers it might have very few employees and we might call that skeleton crew if during busy time the company has more employees this is case with the amusement park. It has a skeleton crew. The word crew just refers to a group of people. The word skeleton normally use describe the bone of your body or the bone of an animal. Max says in the mean time meaning during this winter season I’m working for a temp agency which gives me short term assignment. A temp t-e-m-p agency is a company that find people temporary job. The word temp is short for temporary meaning short term not permanent not for a long time. They are of course many companies that find workers, find people to work for company that just need worker for short period of time. Max says the temperance give him short term assignment. Short term refers to a short amount of time perhaps a week, perhaps even a day. I used to work for temp agency when I was college I would call up every morning and see if they have any work for me and they would send me to job that would last maybe one day maybe two or three days sometime it is long as month. Temp agency are very popular now especially when the economy not doing so well. Companies don’t want to hire employee full time. Luisa says “I don’t know how you juggle of the jobs”. The verb to juggle j-u-g-g-l-e usually refers to throwing object upon the air and keeping them up in the air. We refer to someone who does that as they juggles 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 options, 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 the money you get from working. Max says that he had to work a little bit this jobs, a little bit that jobs 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 to have the skills and or education in order to be able to do something so for example if 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 study in many years if you are a doctor if not please don’t be my doctor. Luisa asking Max has thought about going back to school to qualify for some kind of job that would be full time that would be 40 hours a week. Max says “sure, all the time” meaning I have thought of it a lot. He says I like a better job one with benefit and they reliable salary. Benefits b-e-n-e-f-i-t-s refers to things such as health insurance and vacation time and sick pay money you get when you can’t work because of sick. There are common benefit that you get when you have full time job. Salary s-a-l-a-r-y refers to money that you get to work at certain place usually by the month or by the year. When we talk about salary we’re talking about money you get regarded of how many hours you work. The 2 kinds of way of getting pay one is by the hours when you get pay a certain amount of money for every hour you work. Another way getting pay is by salary when you’re getting pay on the salary we would say you’re getting a certain amount of money and I expected do your job even it takes more than the normal 40 hours a week. Luisa says “What stopping you what preventing you from going back to school”. Max says “I have to pay for something called food”. Max is making a joke here he saying that he can’t afford to go back to school, he doesn’t have enough money to have go back to school because addition pay his rent, he also have to eat and to eat here is to buy food. He finishes by saying “I haven’t met my fairy god mother yet.” A fairy f-a-i-r-y god mother g-o-d m-o-t-h-e-r is character from children’s story - story that we tell children usually involving a woman who has some sort of magical power. A fairy god mother is common character in certain fairy tale that are told to children they are made up story about magical advance. Here Max is using the expression to mean that he has found someone who just going to give him money to pay for his expenses and to go to school.