We will begin the dialogue by saying to Max: “Are you still here?” It’s one of the questions you ask when you surprise about something obviously that we can see that Max still wherever they are. He says: “I thought you got off at 3:00” To get off of work means to finish work schedule, to be able to leave the place where you work. Someone says: what time do you get off? They mean what time do you get off of work, will you stop working, what time do you stop working. Max says: “I picked up a second shift”. Shift s-h-i-f-t refers to period of time when people work, usually it is term we use for job when people work at that particular location more than eight hours or they are people are working at that location for more than eight hours or may be for example a place where there are someone working 24 hours per day. Well, one person is not going to work 24 hours straight so they break up the day into shift, so if you work the day shift, you are working probably from 8 morning to around 4 - 5 in the afternoon. If you work in a night shift you still be working perhaps from 4 - 5 in the afternoon to midnight. If you are working….shift, you are working probably from eleven o’clock at night or midnight to seven or eight in the morning. Those are shifts then division of the work day in the place that usually open for more 8 hours. Max says he picked up a second shift, to pick up here means to get to attend he is working one shift and now he pick up a second shift. It means of course he is working more than 8 hours a day. Why has Max done it and he says: “I could use the money.” When someone says I could use the money, he means that he could be able to use benefits from getting more money. He has some need 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 24 hours per week, in United State 24 hours per week can be considered as false time. In less than 24 hours per week, we can call it part-time. Luisa says Max had 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 in something we mean that he is using less of it or he reduces the number of something. The phrase verb “to cut back” then means to reduce the number of something, in case we are talking about the restaurant where Max worked are cutting back his hours, his hours refers to the number of hour that he can work. Max says he is trying to pick up as many extra shifts here as I can. And Luisa 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 large park usually that has lots of what we would call rise in them, the places where people especially children can play games and get into the machines that go really fast, for example. Disneyland is an example of amusement park in South California. Luisa asks Max still work at the amusement park on the weekend. He says: “I do half the year”, meaning I do work there half of the year, “but it’s winter and the park only keeps a skeleton crew on during these months”. Max says the amusement park where he normally works in the summer time only has a 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 worker you can have in the place. If business doesn’t have very many customers that may have very few employees and we may call that skeleton crew. If during busy time the company has more employees this is in case of amusement park that they have skeleton crew, the word Crew that refers to a group of people, the word skeleton is normally used to describe the bones up the body or the bones up of an animal. Max says in the meantime, meantime is during the winter season, “I’m working for a temp agency, which gives me short-term assignments. A temp t-e-m-p agency it is a company that finds people temporary jobs, the word temp is short of temporary meaning short term not permanent not for 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 temp agency gives him short-term assignments. Short-term refers to a short amount of time perhaps a week, perhaps even a day, I used to work for a temp agency when I was in college, I was called up in the morning and she has any new work for me. And they would send me to job that was at last maybe one day, may be two or three days, sometimes as long as a month. Temp agencies are very popular now especially when a company is not doing so well, the company doesn’t want to hire employees 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 objects up in the air and keep in the…in the air. We refer to someone who doesn’t say juggle, 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 option, 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. Income i-n-c-o-m-e refers to the money you get for working. Max is saying that he has to work a little bit in this job, a little bit in 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 to have these skills and education in order to be able to do something. So for example you want to be a doctor, you have to study for many years in order to qualify or that kind of job, I hope you study many years to be doctor, if not please don’t be my doctor. Luisa is asking of Max that thought about going back to school to qualify for some kind of job that would be full-time, that would be 40 hours per week. Max says: “Sure, all the time” meaning I have thought of 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 things such as health insurance and vacation time and sick pay money you get when you work because of your sick. These are common benefits 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 the certain pay usually by the month for by the year when we talk about talking about money you get regardless of how many hour you work. There are two kind of getting way one is by the hour when you get pay amount of money for every hour you work. Another way of getting pay is by salary, when you are getting pay on the salary, you would say: “you are getting pay certain amount of money and expected to do your job even you take more than the normal 40 hours per week. Luisa says: “What‘s stopping you?” what’s preventing you from going back to school. Max says: “I have to pay for something called “food” Max is making a joke, he says he can’t afford to back to go to school, he doesn’t have enough money to go back to school because it….. his rent, he also has to eat, and to eat has to buy food. He finishes by saying: “I haven’t met my fairy godmother yet!” a fairy f-a-i-r-y godmother g-o-d-m-o-t-h-e-r is the character from children’s story, story that tells children usually involving a woman who has some sort of magical powers. The fairy godmother is common character in certain fairy tales that are told to children that made up story about magical events. Here Max is using this expression to mean that he hasn’t found someone who is going to give him money to pay for his expensive and to go to school.