ESL 1072 WORKING PART-TIME JOBS

Luisa begins our dialog by saying to Max “Are you still here? “ this is one of those questions you ask when you are surprised about something, obviously Luisa can see that Max still was there 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 the place where you work. If someone ask what time do you get off they means what time you get off of work, when you stop working, what time do you stop working . Max says I picked up a second shift. A shift refers to a period of time when people work, usually this term used for job when people work at a particular location more than 8 hours or that the people working at that location for more than 8 hours, that might be for example a place where there’s someone working 24 hours a day. Well , one person is not going to work 24 hours a day straight so they break a day into shifts. So if you work a day shift, you’re working probably for 8 hours in the morning turn around 4-5 pm. If you work a night shift, you’ll be working perhaps from 4-5 pm to midnight. If you’re working we call a graveyard shift, you’ll be working probably from 11 o’clock or midnight to 7-8 am. Those are shifts there. To vision of a work day in a place that usually open a day more than 8 hours. Max says “I picked up a second shift”. To pick up here means to get, to obtain. He was working one shift and now he picked up a second shift, which means of course he’s working more than 8 hours a day. Why has Max done that 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 need of actual money. Luisa says “but I thought you have another part-time job in the evenings. A part-time job is a job usually that is less 40 hours a week and in United State 40 hours per week can be considered false time, even less 40 hours we might call it part-time. Luisa had thought that Max had another part time job Max says “I normally do but the restaurant I worked has been cutting back my hours. When we talks about someone cutting back on something, we means that he’s using less of it or he’s reducing the number of something. The truth of phrase verb is to cut back then to reduce the number of something. In this case we talk about the restaurant Max works cutting back his hours. His hours refer to the number of hours that he can work. Max says “I try to pick up as many extra shifts here I can. Luisa says then asks “and don’t you work at the amusement park on the weekends”. And amusement park is a large park usually that has a lot of what we would call ride in them, especially children can play games and get into the machine that go really fast for example Disney land is an example of the amusement park in the California. Luisa asks if Max is working in amusement park on weekends. He says “I do half the year” means I do work that half of a year, but it’s winter and park only keep skeleton crew on during these months. Max says that the amusement park where he normally works in the summer time only has their skeleton crew during the winter time. The phrase “skeleton crew” refers to a very small number of workers, the minimum the number of workers you can have in a place. If a business doesn’t have many customers, they might have a few employees, and we might call that a skeleton crew if during busy time the company have more employees. This is a case with the amusement park they have skeleton crew. The crew just refers to a group of people. The work skeleton is normally used to describe the born of your body or of born of an animal. Max says “in the meantime” meaning during the winter season I’m working for a tempt agency, which gives me short-term assignments. A tempt agency, it is a company that find people temporarily job, the word temporary short for temporary meaning short term, not permanent, not for a long time. There are of course many companies that find workers, find people to work for companies that just need workers for a short period of time. Max says “ the tempt 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 tempt agency when I was in college, I would call up every morning and see if there’s any work for me and they would send me to a job may last maybe one day, maybe two days or three days, sometimes as long as a month. Tempt agencies are very popular now especially when the economy is not doing so well, the companies don’t want to hire an employee for time. Luisa says “I don’t know how you juggle with all the jobs”. The verb ‘to juggle” usually refers to throwing an object upon the air and keep it upon the air. We refer to someone who doesn’t have their 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 together something means to put together to a sample. An income refers to money you get from working. Max says he had a little bit 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 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 many years as a doctor if not please don’t imagine a doctor. Luisa says that if max has thought about going back to school to qualify for some kinds 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 benefits and a reliable salary. Benefits refer to things 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 get a full time job. Salary refers to money that you get to work at a certain place, usually by the month or by the year. We talk about the salary, we’re talking about the money you get regardless of how many hours you work. The two kinds of way of getting paid what is by the hour when you get paid a certain amount of money for every hour you work. Another of getting paid is by salary, when you’re getting paid on salary, we will say you get a certain amount of money as expected to do a job even you take more than normal 40 hours a week. Luisa says “what’s stopping you? What’s preventing you from going back to school. Max says “I have to pay for something call “food”. Max is making the 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 he rent he also has to eat, and take it as by food. He finishes by saying “I haven’t met my fairy godmother yet. A fairy godmother is a character from children’s story, story that we tell the children, usually involving a woman who has some sort of magical power. The fairy godmother is common character in certain fairy tale that told the children we made up a story about magical events. Here Max uses the expression to means that he hasn’t found someone who’s just going to give him money to pay for his expense and to go to school. Now let’s listen to the dialog this time at a normal speed.