**Students at work**

Many students nowadays have a job. Whether it be in the evening, weekend, summer holiday or in the gap year, if it doesn’t interfere with their education, most of them refer to it as a positive experience and an introduction to the world of work.

STUDENT 1:

"Last summer I worked as a laborer on a building site. My dad's a carpenter and he found me the job. They're finishing a new shopping center and they needed people mostly to carry things around and clean up. I worked every day from 8 o'clock until 5 in the evening and I sometimes did overtime too. It was hard work and you got really dirty by the end of the day. But the pay was good and I managed to save up quite a lot of money.'

STUDENT 2:

'Over the summer holiday I'm working as a waitress in a restaurant. I'm there every evening until about 10 o'clock but I also do lunchtimes so that means I have practically no free time at all, just one day off a week. That's the main thing I dislike. On the other hand, the regular customers are really friendly and there's a fantastic atmosphere in the place so I enjoy it most of the time.'

STUDENT 3:

"I work four evenings a week as a delivery boy for a takeaway pizzeria. We use motorbikes to deliver the pizzas and you have to be really fast because they guarantee delivery within 10 minutes. It can be a bit dangerous sometimes if the traffic is bad or the roads are icy. The good thing is you can make a lot of extra money in tips - if you don't let the pizzas get cold!'

STUDENT 4:

'Every morning from 6 o'clock to 8 o'clock I work as a paperboy for our local newsagent's. I deliver newspapers to about 100 houses. The worst thing is having to get up and go out really early even in the winter when it's freezing cold. Sunday is a bad day too because the newspapers are so heavy with extra supplements and magazines. The nice thing is that, if I work quickly, I can finish earlier.'

STUDENT 5:

"I make some extra money as a babysitter two or three times a week, in the afternoon or the evening. I don't earn a lot but on the whole it's a pretty easy job. Usually in the evening, when the kids have gone to bed, I can just watch TV or read a book. But I have had some bad experiences with very young children: they start crying for their mum and it can take ages to calm them down.”