

Vocabulary: Work experience 词汇：工作经验

When you were at school, the last thing you probably wanted to do was spend your weekends going to work. There was homework to do, sport to play and fun to be had. But our parents probably persuaded us to find a job to earn some money and get some **life experience**. When I was a teenager I had a **paper round**: delivering newspapers to people's homes. I then progressed to a **Saturday job** in a supermarket: **stacking shelves** and working at the **checkout**.

Today in the UK you are allowed to work from the age of 13, and many children do take up **part-time** jobs. It's one of those things that is seen almost as a **rite of passage**. It's a taste of **independence** and sometimes a useful thing to put on your **CV**. Teenagers agree that it teaches valuable lessons about working with adults and also about managing your money. So, that's no bad thing!

Some research has shown that not taking on a Saturday or holiday job could be **detrimental** to a person later on. A 2015 study by the UK Commission on Employment and Skills found that not participating in part-time work at school age had been blamed by employers' organisations for young adults being **ill-prepared** for **full-time employment**. But despite this, recent statistics have shown that the number of schoolchildren in the UK with a part-time job has fallen by a fifth in the past five years.

So, does this mean that British teenagers are now more afraid of **hard graft**? Probably not. Some experts feel that young people feel going out to work will **hinder** their performance at school, and they are under more pressure now to study hard and get good exam results - and a good job in the long term. However, Geoff Barton, general secretary of the Association of School and College Leaders, told BBC News that "Properly **regulated** part-time work is a good way of helping young people learn skills that they will need in their working lives." In reality, it's all about getting the right balance between doing part-time work and having enough time to study and rest.

Many young people actually want to work because it gives them a **sense of freedom**. One 13 year-old girl called Rachel, who has a Saturday job in a shop, told the BBC that "I enjoy my job because I'm earning money and it helps my **confidence** speaking to people and **socialising** with people I work with." That seems like something worth getting up for on a Saturday morning. Did you do a part-time job when you were at school?

词汇表

life experience	生活经历
paper round	(通常由中小學生做的) 上门送报服务
Saturday job	周六工作, 业余零工
stack shelves	码放货架上的物品, 整理货架
checkout	付款台, 结账处
part-time	兼职的
rite of passage	成人仪式
independence	自主, 自立, 独立
CV	简历
detrimental	有危害的
ill-prepared	准备不足的
full-time employment	全职工作
hard graft	艰苦奋斗
hinder	阻碍, 妨碍
regulated	(按照规定或法律) 管理的
sense of freedom	自由感
confidence	自信
socialise	交往, 交际

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. True or false: Part-time jobs for children are only done on a Saturday?
2. What have employers blamed for adults being ill-prepared for full-time work?
3. Why have some school children decided not to do a part-time job?
4. Which word used in the article means 'a situation where things are equal'?
5. What has happened to the number of British children doing part-time work?

2. 请在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. Experts say smoking cigarettes can have a _____ effect on your health.

hinder	detrimental	regulated	hard graft
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2. The sailor was _____ for his trip and his yacht ended up hitting a reef and sinking.

ill-preparation	ill-preparing	ill-prepared	ill-prepare
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3. Fans say the athlete's _____ has been worth it and she deserves to win the gold medal.

confidence	socialising	hard graft	independence
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4. Since Li has had her baby she's cut her working hours and now works _____.

part-time	full-time	Saturday job	socialising
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5. Quitting my job and moving to the countryside has given me a new _____.

freedom sense	sense and freedom	sensible freedom	sense of freedom
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答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. True or false: Part-time jobs for children are only done on a Saturday?
False. A Saturday job is a general term we use to describe part-time work done by teenagers on any day of the week but it is often Saturday when they are not at school.
2. What have employers blamed for adults being ill-prepared for full-time work?
Not participating in part-time work at school age had been blamed by employers' organisations for young adults being ill-prepared for full-time employment.
3. Why have some school children decided not to do a part-time job?
So they can study hard and get good exam results.
4. Which word used in the article means 'a situation where things are equal'?
Balance. "To get the right balance."
5. What has happened to the number of British children doing part-time work?
It has decreased. The number of schoolchildren in the UK with a part-time job has fallen by a fifth in the past five years.

2. 请在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. Experts say smoking cigarettes can have a **detrimental** effect on your health.
2. The sailor was **ill-prepared** for his trip and his yacht ended up hitting a reef and sinking.
3. Fans say the athlete's **hard graft** has been worth it and she deserves to win the gold medal.
4. Since Li has had her baby she's cut her working hours and now works **part-time**.
5. Quitting my job and moving to the countryside has given me a new **sense of freedom**.