

“WE COULD HAVE ANYTHING WE WANTED”

How it all began :

I found an advert on an agency's website for jobs at a very big theme park. I sent my CV by fax and e-mail. Two days later I received a long letter and a contract, about 10 pages long, describing in enormous detail the job, housing, working hours, etc. I left in early July, just after my exams.

The job :

On the first day there was a meeting in the Human Resources office. They told us about the different jobs we could choose – selling hamburgers, working on rides, in shops, etc. You were paid \$5.75, and worked 40 hours a week, but you could work 60 hours if you

wanted. You got paid overtime then \$7.50 an hour. I got a job in the gift shop because my English was not bad. I made the right decision, because the shop was air – conditioned ! Some people who worked in the hamburger shops really suffered.

Housing :

I lived in a big apartment, with three other students : a Russian, a Scot and a Pole. There were shuttles to work for the employees all the time, even at midnight.

Best memory :

Every few weeks, the park would stay open late at night for employees only. From midnight to 3 am, we could have anything we wanted, rides (with no queues !),

food ... I had the greatest time !

The biggest surprises :

One of our supervisors was only 19 years old ! In the States, if you're competent and motivated, they give you responsibilities. But if you do something wrong, you can get fired really easily. You usually get three warnings, but a strange thing happened to a French student who worked there. He was clearing off tables in a hamburger place. There were some french fries left on the table and he ate one before throwing them away. His supervisor saw him and fired him immediately. I couldn't believe it !

Today in English, April 2000

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Les candidats au CAP liront le texte jusqu'à "I had the greatest time" et répondront aux questions I, II et V. Les candidats au BEP traiteront l'ensemble des questions.

I Répondez en anglais aux questions suivantes. Faites des phrases complètes.

- 1) How did Gregory find his job in the U.S.A ?
- 2) When did he leave for the U.S.A ?
- 3) Where in the theme park did he work ?

II Dites si ces affirmations sont vraies (right) ou fausses (wrong). Justifiez toutes vos Réponses en citant le texte.

- 1) Gregory lived alone in the U.S.A.
- 2) He got a job in the gift shop because he spoke good English.
- 3) Employees had to walk to work.
- 4) Every week, employees could enjoy the theme park at night.
- 5) It's illegal to work 60 hours a week.

III Traduisez en français.

De "but if you do something wrong ..." à "a French student who worked there".

IV Ecrivez en toutes lettres, en anglais, les valeurs et nombres suivants :

- \$5.75
- 19
- 60

V Réécrivez les phrases en remplaçant les mots soulignés par le pronom personnel qui convient. Ex : Gregory visited the park = He visited the park

The park would stay open late at night.
I lived in a big apartment with three other students.
His supervisor saw him and fired him.
A strange thing happened to Gregory.

VI Rédigez un paragraphe d'environ 50 mots dans lequel vous répondrez aux questions suivantes :

- Would you like to work in the U.S.A or in another foreign country ?
- Why or why not ? (minimum two reasons).

BEP	CAP
3 pts	6 pts
5 pts	10 pts
3 pts	
3 pts	
2 pts	4 pts
4 pts	

Vocabulary :

- ad(vert) : publicité
- ride : (ici) attraction
- overtime : heures supplémentaires
- shuttle : navette
- fired : renvoyé
- warning : avertissement

CAP / BEP TERTIAIRE			SESSION 15 JUIN 2001	
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