

Reading Stories for Information

Lan's Work Schedule

Lan works at Target in the electronic department. She works part time in the evenings and on the weekend. Last week she worked 5 days. On Monday she worked from 5:00 to 9:30. On Tuesday she worked from 4:30 to 9:00. On Wednesday she worked from 4:30 to 8:30. On Thursday she worked from 4:30 to 9:30. On Friday she didn't work. She had a day off. On Saturday she worked from 2:00 to 8:30. On Sunday she was off too.

1. What department does Lan work in? _____
2. What days did she have off? _____
3. How many hours did she work on Tuesday? _____

My Busy Day Off

Yesterday was my day off. I was very busy. I went grocery shopping at Cub Foods. I went to the bank to deposit my paycheck and get some cash. I had to write a lot of checks to pay the bills. I paid the cell phone bill, the electric bill, the credit card bill and the rent! Then I went to the post office to mail them and to buy stamps. I also cleaned my bathroom and kitchen because they were dirty and messy. I ate an apple, cheese and crackers for lunch. My children came home after school. We talked about their day. My daughter had a good day at school. She drew a picture for me. My son had a bad day at school. Sometimes he doesn't understand his school work and he gets angry. I usually help him with his homework at night. I read a couple books to the kids before they went to sleep. Then I took a shower and went to bed. I was tired!

4. Why did he go to the post office? _____
5. Why did he clean the bathroom and kitchen? _____

6. Who had a good day at school? _____
7. What did he eat for lunch? _____

The Lopez Family

David and Maria Lopez are married. They have two children. They lived in Texas for 8 years. Now they live in San Jose, CA. David was a mechanic in Texas, but now he is working as a busboy in a restaurant. He doesn't make a lot of money. He wants to get a better job. Maria is studying English at an adult school, but she wants to get a job soon.

8. How many years did the Lopez family live in Texas? _____
9. What did David do in Texas? _____

10. Who is not working right now? _____

11. Where do they live now? _____

David, Maria, and their two children live in a two bedroom apartment. Their rent is \$1,300 a month. They like their apartment, but Maria's mother is coming to live with them, so they need to move to a larger apartment. Also, some of their neighbors are noisy. They tell the manager, but he doesn't do anything about the noise. David and Maria want to move to a larger apartment with three bedrooms. They can afford \$1,500 a month rent for the larger apartment.

12. Why do David and Maria want to move? _____

13. What do they tell the manager? _____

14. How much rent can they afford for a larger apartment? _____

David has been working as a mechanic at Sam's Auto Shop for 6 months. He works Monday through Friday from 8:00 to 5:00. He is making more money now than when he was a busboy at the restaurant. He also receives medical and dental benefits for his family. Starting next month, he will be able to put money away in a retirement plan through work. He wants to talk to his boss about working overtime. David would like to earn some more money by working weekends.

His wife Maria is also working. She is a cashier at Save-Money Supermarket. She likes her job, but she has to work weekends. She is still studying English at the adult school. She wants to help their children with their schoolwork. David and Maria are lucky that Maria's mother lives with them. She can watch the children while David and Maria are at work, and she can pick them up from school.

15. Why is Maria studying English? _____

16. What does David want to talk to his boss about? _____

17. Who watches the children when David and Maria are working? _____

A New Life

Felipe Sanchez, his wife, Altagracia, and their two children moved to Texas from Venezuela three years ago. Though Felipe was a dentist in Venezuela, and Altagracia was a lawyer in Venezuela, in the United States, they are owners of a small coffee shop. They would like to work in their professions, but they need to go back to school to study more English. Their sons, Rodrigo and Martin, are in fifth and seventh grade. They are doing well in their English studies.

18. What was Felipe's job in his country? _____

19. What do he and his wife do now? _____

Kim and Yung Park are married and have two children. They moved from Korea to the United States three years ago. They lived in San Francisco for the first year and then they moved to Orlando.

Kim works in a restaurant at night. Yung works in a daycare during the day. Yung was a teacher in her country and Kim was an accountant. They both want to get better jobs. Kim is studying English now. Yung will begin studying English next month.

20. How have they lived in Orlando? _____

21. Who will start studying English soon? _____

Amina's Work Goals

Amina is a cashier. She is working part time because two of her children are still not in school. The problem is that she doesn't get benefits because she is only working part time. Her husband, Ahmed, doesn't have benefits either but soon he will be taking a class to get his commercial driver's license. Then he will get a higher salary and great benefits. Amina and Ahmed each earn \$8.50 an hour. It is difficult to pay all the bills for their large family, but Amina likes her job anyway. She is happy she has the opportunity to practice English with her customers. She knows this will help her learn English more quickly.

Right now Amina is taking a nursing assistant class twice a week. She is not only learning the skills she needs but also a lot of English vocabulary. Soon she will take her test then hopefully she can get a nursing assistant job.

22. When is Amina's nursing assistant class? _____

23. Why doesn't she receive benefits? _____

24. What does she like about her job? _____

25. What class is Ahmed taking? _____