



Vocabulary: jobs 词汇: 工作

Have you ever had a summer job? For many young people, summer is a heady period where education stops and fun begins. That said, holidays, festivals and time spent with friends cost money. And the very group who have the time to **capitalise on** the fun summer has to offer may not have the **funds** to do so. The solution? A summer job.

The concept of **cash-strapped** students and younger members of society being **gainfully employed** over the summer period is not a new one. And there are opportunities out there for those who want to earn. For me it was **tending bar** at a bowling alley. **Vacancies** can range from roles as **mundane** as fry cook, to **seasonal work** at a theme park, or a **cushy** job with comfortable conditions. In many cases, the jobs only pay **minimum wage**, which may only **tide you over**. But the money is not the only thing that's gained.

"Summer and Saturday jobs prepare young people for successful careers in later life, teaching vital **'soft skills'**," says UK Work and Pensions secretary Ester McVey in the Daily Mail. Indeed, when talking about their experiences of summer jobs, people asked for a BBC News article said they got "invaluable training" and learnt skills such as **punctuality**, **tolerance**, and the importance of **hard graft**. These opportunities are thought to be so important that the UK government has placed 20,000 summer job vacancies on a dedicated portal on its Find a Job website.

This move comes at a time of apparent need. The percentage of young people working while studying has more than halved since 1997, falling from 42% to 18% in 2014. Those are the findings of a UK government report on the death of the Saturday job. Ester McVey believes this is because young people are choosing to focus more on education rather than earning extra money. But that isn't the only problem. It isn't always easy to get a job, as 20-year-old Liberty O'Hagan, a student from Worthing, found. She told the BBC employers see summer workers as a waste of **training** resources since they inevitably return to university. Not to mention, by working all summer, you may feel you have missed out on the experiences and opportunities your friends have had – travelling and having fun.

While a summer job may not be a dream job, it can teach you things for "a successful future," says Ester McVey in a piece for the Telegraph. What students may consider a means to an end, can, in fact, become a **worthwhile** career-making **endeavour**.

词汇表

capitalise on	从…获利
funds	资金
cash-strapped	缺钱的
gainfully employed	被高薪聘用
tend bar	做酒吧招待
vacancy	职位空缺
mundane	单调的, 千篇一律的
seasonal work	季节性工作
cushy	轻松的、安逸的
minimum wage	法定最低工资
tide you over	帮助你渡过难关
soft skills	软技能, 指沟通、社交技能
punctuality	守时
tolerance	宽容、容忍
hard graft	苦工、繁重的工作
training	训练
worthwhile	有价值的
endeavour	努力

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. True or false? *The concept of summer jobs is a new one.*
2. According to Ester McVey, how do summer and Saturday jobs benefit young people?
3. What has the UK government done to promote summer jobs?
4. What has happened to the number of young people working while studying?
5. Which expression in the text means 'something you do only because it helps you achieve something else'?

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. I like being a builder, but it's not exactly a _____ job. You're often exhausted!

mundane	cushy	gainful	worthwhile
---------	-------	---------	------------

2. Young people these days don't work like we used to. In my day work was nothing but _____.

tending bar	seasonal work	soft skills	hard graft
-------------	---------------	-------------	------------

3. The most important thing is: never be late. _____ is very important at work.

punctuality	training	funds	tolerance
-------------	----------	-------	-----------

4. I have a second job at the weekends _____. I often make cocktails!

working bar	employing bar	serving bar	tending bar
-------------	---------------	-------------	-------------

5. I've been a _____ for years. I work summers in parks and winters on the slopes.

temporary worker	seasonal worker	part-time worker	unreal worker
------------------	-----------------	------------------	---------------

答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. True or False: *The concept of summer jobs is a new one.*

False. The concept of cash-strapped students and younger members of society being gainfully employed over the summer period is not a new one.

2. According to Ester McVey, how do summer and Saturday jobs benefit young people?

'Summer and Saturday jobs prepare young people for successful careers in later life, teaching vital 'soft skills'.'

3. What has the UK government done to promote summer jobs?

The UK government has placed 20,000 summer job vacancies on a dedicated portal on its Find a Job website.

4. What has happened to the number of young people working while studying?

The percentage of young people working while studying has more than halved since 1997, falling from 42% to 18%.

5. Which expression in the text means 'something you do only because it helps you achieve something else'?

A means to an end.

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. I like being a builder, but it's not exactly a **cushy** job. You're often exhausted!

2. Young people these days don't work like we used to. In my day work was nothing but **hard graft**.

3. The most important thing is: never be late. **Punctuality** is very important at work.

4. I have a second job at the weekends **tending bar**. I often make cocktails!

5. I've been a **seasonal worker** for years. I work summers in parks and winters on the slopes.