

EPISODE 7  
LEVEL B1 - B2

READING COMPREHENSION



WORK: GETTING PAID



At last I have a job that **pays well** (= I get a lot of money in it)! Last year I was **on a wage** (= I earned money depending on the number of hours you work) and I never knew if I was going to **have enough money to get by on** (= have enough money to survive) next month. Sometimes I really had to **tighten my belt** (= start spending less) at the end of the month. But now I have a **salary** (= a set amount of money that is paid monthly), plus I am **on commission** (= I receive a few percent of every sale I make). Also, many **perks** (= additional benefits) come with this job: I got a company car, a laptop and a mobile phone. Now, I **am never in the red** (= I never have debts). I get a bonus (= extra money) twice a year if I reach sales targets and I get **sick pay** (= money while I am sick and cannot work) and I have four weeks of **paid holidays** (= holidays when I get money despite I don't work) a year. I've **put aside** (= saved up) quite a lot of money in this job already and I don't think I will need to **dip into my savings** (= use the money which was put aside) any time soon. This money is there **for a rainy day** (= a time of need or trouble).

More contexts for the new words:

- His job is **well-paid** / **poorly-paid**.
- Please **pay attention** while I am talking to you.
- You're going to **pay** me for this!
- Sorry, sir, this is a **pay toilet**.



EXERCISE 1

Match the columns to make correct expressions.

- |               |                      |
|---------------|----------------------|
| 1. to tighten | <i>a. pay</i>        |
| 2. to be on   | <i>b. aside</i>      |
| 3. paid       | <i>c. commission</i> |

- |                 |                      |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| 4. a rainy      | d. into your savings |
| 5. to dip       | e. holidays          |
| 6. sick         | f. your belt         |
| 7. to be in     | g. day               |
| 8. to put money | h. the red           |



## EXERCISE 2

Complete the questions with the correct words (the first letter is given) and answer them.

1. Do you earn a s..... or a w..... ? Do you receive any b..... for doing your job well?
2. What kinds of additional p..... do you receive in your company?
3. Are you good at putting money a..... for a r..... day?

## ENGLISH IN USE



Look at this sentence from the text:

*This money is there for a rainy day.*

The word 'money' is an uncountable noun in English. Uncountable nouns:

- do not have plural forms
- are followed by the singular form of the verb
- are preceded by singular demonstratives (*this, that*)
- go together with quantifiers *much* and (*a*) *little*
- to express the idea of 'one', you need to use an extra phrase, such as *a piece of, a bottle of, a kilo of, etc.*

Remember that uncountable nouns are usually words describing substances or things which cannot be divided into separate parts (*water, rice, electricity, etc*) and abstract concepts (*love, happiness, scenery, etc*).

Some other tricky uncountable nouns are: *information, news, furniture, advice, luggage.*

## IDIOM CLOSE-UP



A/ Mom, I'd really really like a new computer!

B/ We can't afford a new computer! **MONEY DOESN'T GROW ON TREES**, you know!

If you say that **money doesn't grow on trees**, you say that you should be careful how much money you spend because there is only a limited amount and getting money is not easy.

## PHRASAL VERBS CLOSE-UP



1. If you **SPLASH OUT**, you spend a lot of money on things, especially things which are pleasant to have but which you do not really need.

*He **splashed out** on a holiday last month.*

*From time to time, I like to go shopping and just **splash out**!*

2. If you **FORK OUT**, you pay for something, especially something you would rather not have to spend money on.

*I needed to **fork out** for two wedding presents within the last two weeks, I'm broke!*

*They **forked out** over \$100 for front-row seats, that's crazy!*



### EXERCISE 3

Choose the correct option to complete each sentence:

1. If you fork out for something, you

- a) *may regret it later*
- b) *buy something you don't really need*
- c) *put aside some money*

2. If you splash out on something, you

- a) *spend a little money for small pleasures*
- b) *you enjoy the process of buying the things*
- c) *you go shopping and buy more items than you planned to*

3. Someone might tell you that money doesn't grow on trees if you

- a) *wanted to borrow z 100 PLN from them for the third time this month*
- b) *earned twice as much as usual in one month*
- c) *started saving for a rainy day*

## NEWS



## WHAT PEOPLE WANT FROM WORK

Each and every one of us go to work for different reasons. But there are some **underlying principles** which rule people's motivation to work and job satisfaction. Where exactly is money in this picture?

Some people work because they love what they do; others work for **personal fulfillment**. Others like to accomplish goals and feel as if they are **contributing** to something larger than themselves, something important. There are, basically, as many different reasons as there are employees. Whatever your personal reasons for working, **the bottom line**, however, is that almost everyone works for money. Whatever you call it: compensation, salary, bonuses, benefits or remuneration, money pays the bills.

### GLOSSARY

- **underlying principles** – the main, though sometimes not obvious rules of how something works
- **personal fulfillment** – a feeling of pleasure because you are getting what you want from life
- **to contribute to sth** – to help to cause an event or situation, to give to achieve something together with other people
- **the bottom line** – the most important fact in a situation

<b>KEY TO EXERCISES</b>
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#### Ex.1

- |      |      |      |
|------|------|------|
| 1. f | 4.g  | 7. h |
| 2. c | 5. d | 8. b |
| 3. e | 6. a |      |

#### Ex.2

1. salary, wage, bonuses
2. perks
3. aside, rainy

#### Ex.3

1. a
2. b
3. a