

Reading

1. Look at the questions. Then read the article. Check (✓) the questions the article answers.

- ___ 1. How much money do teens earn?
- ___ 2. Why do teens work?
- ___ 3. What kinds of jobs do teens have?
- ___ 4. Why is it good for teens to work?
- ___ 5. Why is it bad for teens to work?

Teens and Jobs

It's 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and 17-year-old Talia Shire is getting ready to leave...no, not for school, but for work. She works 20 hours a week as a Bedford Falls tour guide. She has less time for friends and stays up late to finish her homework, but Talia thinks it's worth it. "It helps me out with public speaking and I get to meet people from different cultures."

A job as a tour guide is a little unusual, especially for a teenager, but a part-time job is not. Teens do all kinds of work, from working in restaurants, stores, and parks to tutoring and babysitting. Why do they do it? Mostly, of course, for the money.

Stacey Hong, 17, is saving for college. She has been a babysitter for five years, first for relatives and later for eight families. She says work gives her more than just money. "It helps you manage money better, and it helps you accept responsibility," Varo said. "It helps you mature. When I work, I have to take care of the kids."

In fact, teens say a sense of responsibility is one of the biggest benefits of a part-time job. They also say they have more confidence, know how to manage their time better, and now know what the real world is like. Sometimes they also learn what they want to do in the future. Jason, 16, never thought he wanted to be a teacher, but his tutoring job has changed his mind. "I help my kids learn things that their teachers couldn't teach them. That's so cool."

2. Answer the questions.

- 1. Do you or any of your friends have a part-time job? _____
- 2. Do you want to have a part-time job? Why or why not? _____

