

The Podcast – Boris

Listen to an interview with Boris, a French professional working in the UK.

- 1** Which of the following facts are confirmed by the interview?
- It was always Boris' ambition to work in the UK.
 - Travel is a big part of Boris' job.
 - Boris likes variety in his work.
 - He thinks there are fewer opportunities in the UK than in his country.
 - Boris finds it hard to explain why he came to the UK.
 - He says it is difficult to find a job in the UK.

Listen again and answer the following questions.

- 2** Fill in the gaps in the summary below:
- Boris works for a consultancy that deals with _____ goods. He got his job from an advert in the _____. Boris had to do _____ interviews to get his current job. His employer wanted to test his _____ before giving him the job. Boris sometimes gives advice to _____ and _____ about how to get a job in the UK.
- 3** Boris describes three main elements to his job. What are they?
1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
- 4** Employers often ask Boris one particular question at interview. What is this question and how does Boris answer it?
- 5** According to Boris working in the UK compares favourably to working in his country of origin. What does he like about working in the UK?
- 6** What does Boris mean when he says 'you'll be given an opportunity to prove yourself'?
- 7** Boris talks about having a dream job that is very different from his actual work. If you could do any job at all what would your dream job be? Work with a partner and discuss what your dream jobs would be and why?

Why not try out the careers test on this web site to see whether you are suited to your dream job http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio1/onelife/work/what_job/values.shtml



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Teacher's Notes

- 1 The following statements are confirmed:
 - Travel is a big part of Boris' job.
 - Boris likes variety in his work.
 - Boris finds it hard to explain why he came to the UK.
- 2 Possible answers are highlighted in red.

Boris works for a consultancy that deals with **hazardous/dangerous** goods. He got his job from an advert in the **Oxford Times/newspaper**. Boris had to do **two** interviews to get his current job. His employer wanted to test his **English** before giving him the job. Boris sometimes gives advice to **family** and **friends** about how to get a job in the UK.
- 3 Boris works in international sales. Three main parts of his job that are mentioned are:
 1. Travelling abroad
 2. Meeting with customers/agents/companies
 3. Following up meetings to try to make a sale
- 4 Employers always ask Boris why he came to the UK.

He can't easily answer this question. There were many reasons that he came to the UK and not all of them were within his control.
- 5 Boris likes the fact that working practices in the UK seem more flexible than in his country. He thinks that employers are more likely to give a potential employee a chance simply because they have a good feeling about the person. Employers do not rely solely on information contained in a CV. In the UK you have a greater opportunity to prove yourself.
- 6 Boris means you will get the opportunity to show what you can do in real life situations.
- 7 Ask students to present each other's ideas of dream jobs to the whole class.

Make a class list of dream jobs and then get the whole group to decide on the best one.

Note on the transcript:

A few words in the transcript of the podcast are marked by wavy underlining. These are either grammatical errors or else a misuse of a word or phrase. With stronger students, you may consider eliciting a corrected transcript.

Suggested corrections:

<u>that job</u>	<i>this job</i>
<u>things like I would prepare</u>	<i>for example I might</i>
<u>I would try</u>	<i>I might try</i>
<u>the usual interviews you would be involved in</u>	<i>normal interviews</i>
<u>speak in English quite properly</u>	<i>speak good English</i>
<u>articulate my English more or less properly</u>	<i>communicate effectively in English</i>
<u>your chance</u>	<i>a chance</i>
<u>it doesn't</u>	<i>it may not</i>
<u>did I come</u>	<i>I came</i>
<u>I always have this question coming through</u>	<i>this question always comes up</i>