

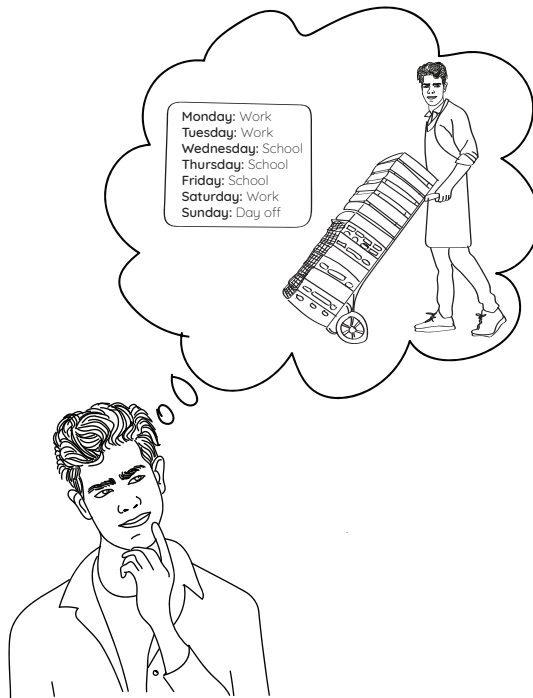


Amir Looks for a Job



Written and Illustrated by Lauren Piovesan

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ESLREADS.COM

Amir Looks for a Job Level 3

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This story has been checked for cultural appropriateness by Iman El-Mohammad and Mohyeddine El-Mohammad, members of the Australian-Syrian community.

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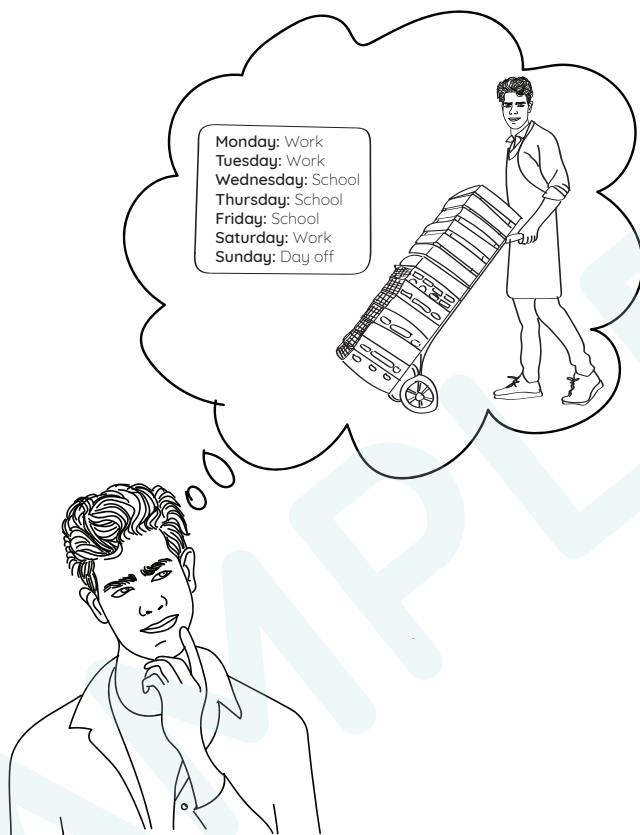
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This is Amir, his younger sister Yara and his mum Farida. They had been living happily in their new country for over a year. But recently, Amir's grandma, who still lived in his home country, had gotten sick. Amir was worried about her.



She needed to see the doctor and buy lots of medicines. It was expensive! Amir really wanted to help her but he didn't know how. He still really wanted to attend school and thought that if he stayed, he could get a better paying job later.



Then, Amir remembered that his friend from school had a part-time job working two nights a week in a fast-food restaurant.

“Maybe I can do the same,” thought Amir. He decided he would try and get a part-time job too.



While Amir hadn't worked in his new country before, he had had many jobs back home. He worked in a small grocery store once and he liked it. "Maybe I can be a shelf-filler because I already have experience in it," he thought.



Amir began to get excited at the idea of getting a part-time job, but he didn't really know where to start. Getting a job back home was different because he knew lots of people that could help him. In this country, he was starting from scratch.



When Amir went to school the next day, he couldn't stop thinking about his problem. Since he couldn't focus on school work, he decided to ask for help. "Excuse me Miss, I need a job but I don't know how to get one. Could you help me?"



Amir's teacher explained how to get a job.

"First, you need to write a résumé. Then, you need to look at job advertisements online. Once you find a job you like, you can write a cover letter and send it to the employer," she said.



“Wow that’s a lot of work,” thought Amir.

Luckily, his teacher had recommended that he try the community centre for help. “They have volunteers that can help you apply for a job,” said his teacher. Amir decided to give it a go.



He worked with a volunteer called Meera to write his résumé. On the résumé, he had to include a lot of information, but in very short sentences. “It’s because an employer doesn’t have time to read through all the résumés,” explained Meera.



Amir listed his work experience, education, skills and referees. Once he had typed up his résumé, Meera showed him how to use a popular website to search for jobs. They filled in the search to find a part-time job in a grocery store closeby.



Many different grocery store jobs appeared. After looking carefully at the options, Amir chose five which were close to his house, and which fit his experience level and skills. “I have done all of these duties before,” he thought confidently.

Night Fill

- Food Group
- Eastown, FOQ
- Part-time

Company

Food Group is a local, specialist grocery store importing the best quality goods from all around the world. With one in every state, we have something for everyone.

Role Description & Duties

Starting in the afternoons or evenings, your work in restocking our shelves is vital in keeping the store ticking and our customers happy. Regular use of store equipment including pallet jacks, cutting tools, PPE for cold areas as required will be tools provided to support you.

Skills

- Customer service
- Teamwork
- Willing to learn
- Reliable and punctual

Requirements

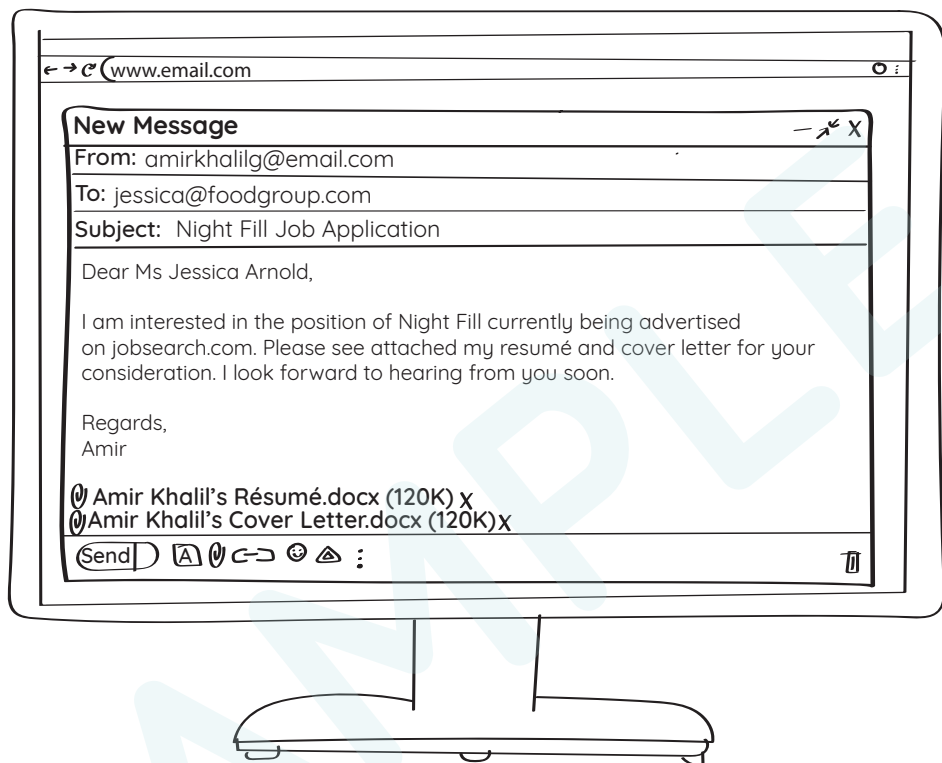
- Forklift license preferred
- Night fill experience preferred

Availability

Monday, Thursday and Friday from 6pm-11pm.

To apply, send your résumé and cover letter to Jessica Arnold at jessica@foodgroup.com.au

Then, Meera and Amir looked for the skills on the job advertisement. They thought of examples of when Amir had used skills like customer service and teamwork. They included the examples in a cover letter for the employer to read.

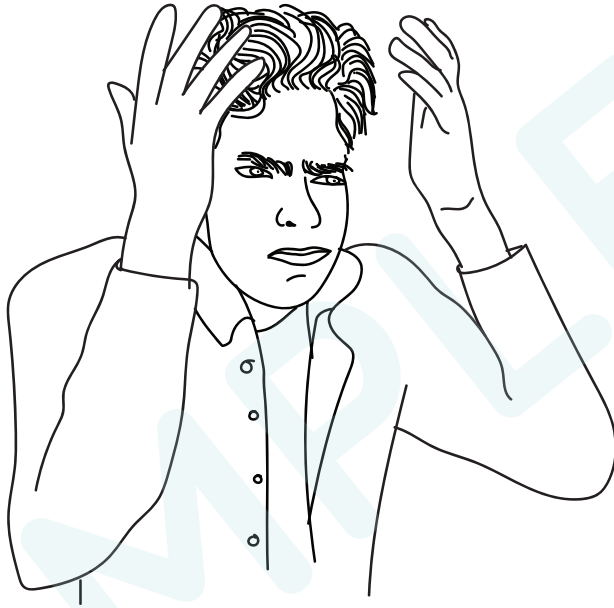


Once he had finished writing a cover letter for each job, he saved it and opened his emails.

Amir emailed his résumé and cover letter to the employer. After sending all of the emails, he sat back in his chair and smiled.



After two weeks, Amir still hadn't heard back from any of the stores that he had applied to. "What is going on?" he wondered. Amir decided to call the stores to see if the jobs had been filled. Every job had been taken!

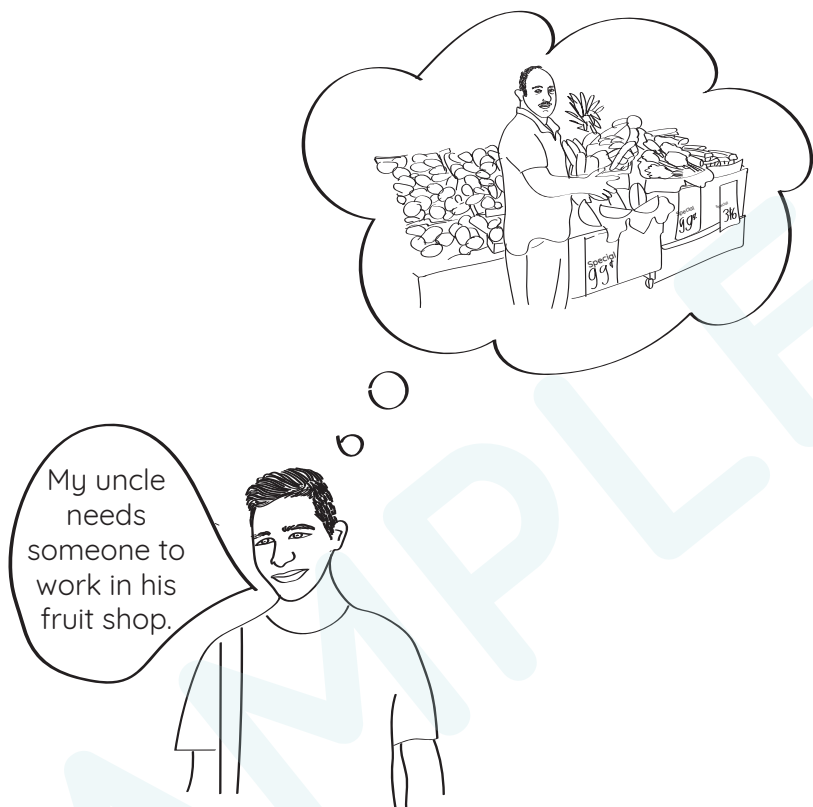


Amir was really disappointed. He thought he had a real chance of getting one of those jobs. He started worrying about his grandma again. “How am I going to earn money now?” he thought.



The next morning, Amir was walking to school with his friend Sami. He was still feeling upset as he told Sami about his problem.

“Why didn’t you say you were looking for a job!” said Sami excitedly.



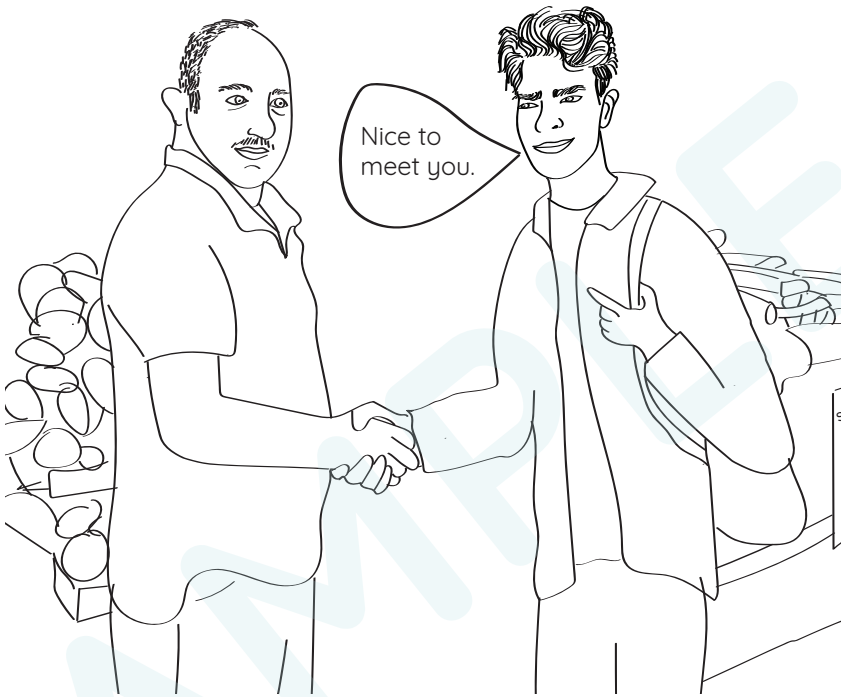
“My uncle has been looking for someone to help with stacking shelves and moving produce for a while now,” said Sami

“Wow, that sounds too good to be true!” thought Amir in disbelief.



“Come with me after school and meet my uncle if you like,” suggested Sami.

“Yes please,” said Amir eagerly. After school, Amir and Sami walked to the fruit shop nearby.



Sami introduced Amir to his uncle who was the owner of the fruit shop. They shook hands.

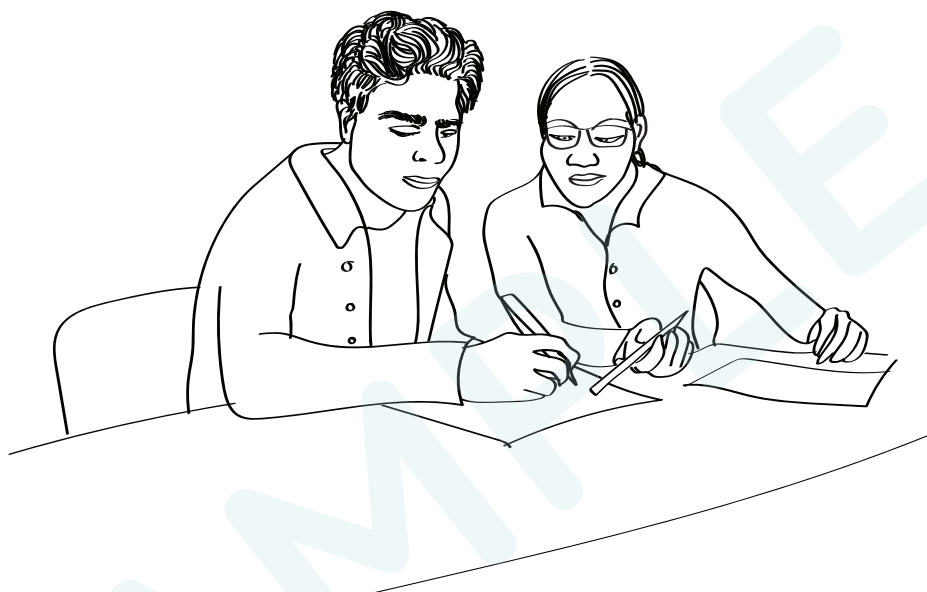
“Nice to meet you Fadi,” Amir said politely.

“Do you speak Lebanese Arabic?” Fadi asked.

Amir nodded. He had lived in Lebanon for a year.



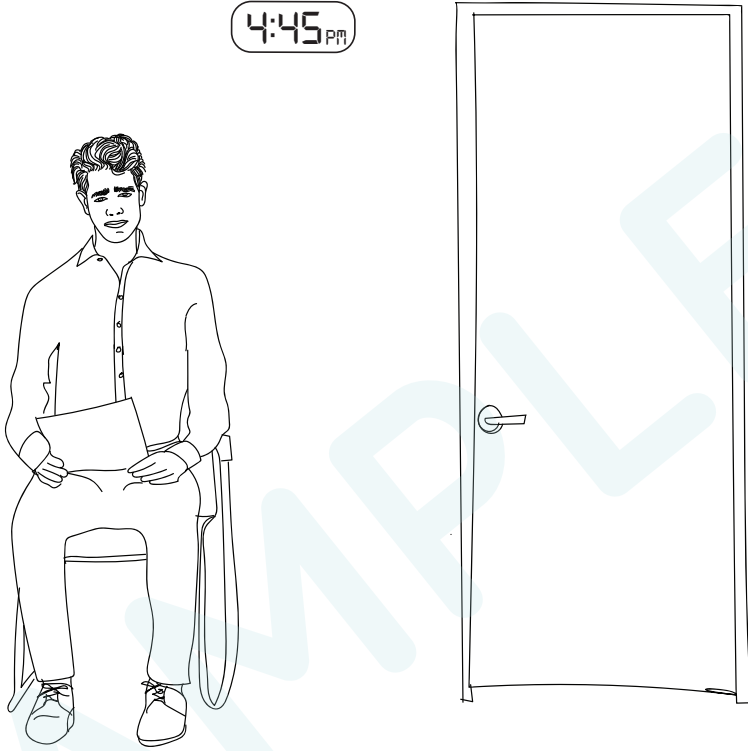
Fadi smiled and invited Amir to come for a job interview the next day. Amir had never done a job interview before! "What do I do? What am I going to wear? What is he going to ask?" he thought. Amir decided to find out.



At school, Amir asked his kind teacher for help again. She gave him a list of 10 questions that he might see in an interview and told him to prepare answers. “Thank you!” said Amir. After class, he quickly left and headed home to practise.



Amir carefully wrote his answers to each question and practised them over and over. He started to remember his answers without looking at the paper. "I think I am ready," he thought. Next, he searched his wardrobe for a suitable outfit.



On the day of the job interview, Amir was scared. He put on his nice, clean clothes and took some deep breaths. He arrived at the interview 15 minutes early to make a good impression. Fadi smiled and invited him into his office.



Fadi asked Amir many difficult questions.

Some were on his prepared list and some were completely different. While it was tricky to think of the answer on the spot, Amir made sure he responded to every question.



The day after the interview, Amir's phone rang. He rushed to answer it. It was Fadi.

"Congratulations Amir, you've got the job!" he said. Amir was relieved to be able to help out his grandma and he was excited to start his new job.

Ana Sees the Doctor



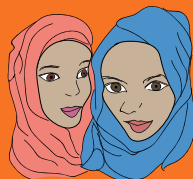
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Jok Feels Stressed



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Zahra Has an Appointment



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Illustrations by Anna G. Quinn

Sayed's Test



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Taw Meh Can Speak



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Milad Goes to the Library



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Amir Looks for a Job

Recently, Amir's grandmother had become ill and he wanted to help her out. He decided to try and find a part-time job. Do you think he will be able to find one?



Pre-Level 1

Level 1

Level 2

Level 3

Level 4