

Unit 13

Lisa (England) – Clip 1

A lot of people when they leave school ... um ... in the UK, go to university. Um, it's the norm to move away from the city you were born or the city you've grown up in to go to university. Um, I, for example, moved from Newcastle to Sheffield when I'd just turned 18 to go to university ... um ... and I think a lot of people move away from their hometown ... um ... to a different— maybe a bigger, city. Um, ... um ... a lot of people move away to go to university because university in the UK's not just about academic study and about learning ... um ... or, you know, completing a course. It's a real life experience ... um ... and people want to make the most of it. So they don't want to stay at home and live with their parents while they're at university. They want to have the experience of sharing a flat, sharing a house ... um ..., you know, even cooking for themselves, washing for themselves.

A lot of the time this is the first experience that young people have had away from their parents for a long time ... um ... and it really does teach you a lot about looking after yourself, ... um ... a lot about how to manage your finances, ... um ... organising yourself. Um, you know, you don't have your parents saying to you, 'We're doing this at the weekend...' — you have to find things to do for yourself ... um ... and when you arrive at university usually you live in a halls of residence or a flat. Um, I lived in a self-catered flat ... um ... with 11 other people, so it was a big flat. There was 5 boys and 7 girls ... um ... and although I got on with the majority of them it was quite difficult living in quite a small flat. We had, like, two showers between all of us, ... um ... we had two really small kitchens, and things can get a bit tense ... um ... when you're living in a really— ... um ... you know, in close proximity to so many other people that you don't really know that well, that you don't really see that often maybe.

Lisa (England) – Clip 2

Um, I didn't choose to study French at university, partly because I had been doing it for so long and was a little bit bored and tired of it ... um ... and partly because it wasn't feasible to study all three languages for the full time at university. I could have studied a bit— a little bit more French in first year, but I think it would have been too much to study three languages ... um ... at university. Um, and then as part of my course I went to live abroad for a year in my third year. Um, I went to Madrid for about 8 months ... um ... and there, yeah, my Spanish improved from the first day that I went there. Um, although I might have forgotten some grammar when I was over there ... um ... you know, my conversational Spanish just improved without me really thinking about it, just from meeting so many Spanish people, reading, you know, the free newspapers on the metro, ... um ... reading street signs. In Spain, unlike a lot of countries, they don't always have English below the Spanish - they don't always translate things like street signs ... um ... and, you know, signs in the underground and things like that. So, you know, often you can't get by without knowing a little bit of the language.

Mark (Australia)

I started to get into the hospitality industry after I finished school. I then went to a hospitality college in Melbourne. After that I then went up to the resorts in Australia to work on some of the islands for one year. After that I went to a— a business school ... uh ... did a business degree majoring in

hospitality and then continued on to the hospitality industry, also working in several bars, restaurants, catering sort of services throughout my— me— my years.

Now I just work in the hotels. I've changed in the last 2 years, I never used to work for a hotel before. I stumbled on this job a couple of years ago, it— it fell on my plate so to speak, and I thought I would try— try hotels out. I didn't know how it was going to go. I was only going to plan on doing it for around one year, 12 months' time, but I enjoyed it, I fell in love with it, I thought it's great dealing with different guests every day, their problems, their issues.

Jeremy (USA)

All of my experiences in job hunting have been extremely disheartening, because I feel that there is a failure rate that is at first very difficult to ... uh ... kind of, get acquainted with and to accept. Um, I mean, when you put an application in, I think it's one time out of ten that you'll get a response, maybe one time out of twenty-five that you'll get o—offered an interview and, you know, one out of a hundred, maybe, on a good day, that you'll actually get the job you're applying for. So I think it's a very depressing process for everybody, and that was when the economy was doing pretty good. Um, and I think, like, job-hunting, when you're starting to do it, you just have to get used to the idea that you're gonna fail over and over and over again until you finally get lucky, for reasons that are, a lot of the time, beyond your comprehension. And I'd like to think that my CV — or my résumé — looks good but, you know...