

Learn English

Writing home Episode 9

In episode 9, Robert tells Milton about a job. Do you think Milton will apply for it?

Before listening

Do the preparation task first. Then listen to the audio and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Match the definitions (a-h) with the vocabulary (1-8).

Vocabulary

Definition

- 1. a magazine
- a. a person who fights in an army
- 2. Game of Thrones
- a series
 an extra

5. a soldier

6. a beard

7. an application

8. disappointing

- b. a group of television programmes with the same charactersc. a thin book that is published regularly with news, articles and photos
- d. an actor who has a small and unimportant part, often in the background
- e. the name of a popular television programme
- f. hair on the lower part of the face
- g. not as good as you hoped
- h. a written request to be considered for a job

Tasks

Task 1

Are the sentences true or false?

		Answer	
1.	Milton has a lot of free time at the moment.	True	False
2.	Robert sees an advert on a noticeboard.	True	False
3.	Game of Thrones is looking for actors to play new main characters.	True	False
4.	Robert thinks Milton looks like Jon Snow.	True	False
5.	Milton is interested in the job.	True	False
6.	Mei knows Game of Thrones.	True	False
7.	Mei thinks Milton looks like Jon Snow.	True	False
8.	Milton is pleased with Mei's answer.	True	False



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Task 2

Circle the three correct answers for each question.

- 1. Why is Milton so busy?
 - a. He's delivering pizzas every evening.
 - b. He's teaching Robert Portuguese.
 - c. He's writing lots of emails to his family.
 - d. He's looking for work as an actor.
- 2. What type of extras does Game of Thrones need?
 - a. men aged 20 to 50
 - b. tall and in good physical condition
 - c. without any visible tattoos
 - d. actors who can speak several languages
- 3. Which of these describe Milton?
 - a. in good physical condition
 - b. tall
 - c. without any visible tattoos
 - d. aged 20 to 50
- 4. What else does the job require?
 - a. must work seven days a week
 - b. must be available all of September
 - c. must go to Belfast
 - d. must work for at least two weeks
- 5. What does Mei say about Game of Thrones?
 - a. Its name means something a bit different in Chinese.
 - b. She watches the show.
 - c. It's a popular programme.
 - d. Milton looks like one of the main characters.
- 6. How does Milton feel about the Portuguese lessons?
 - a. He doesn't want to keep going.
 - b. He likes Robert.
 - c. He feels confident about teaching.
 - d. He finds it hard to answer Robert's questions.

Discussion

Have you ever helped a friend find work?





Transcript

Milton: Hi, Alfredo. I'm sorry I haven't been in touch for a while – busy, busy, busy! Good busy or bad busy, I can hear you ask – well, both really. I'm still delivering the pizzas every evening, giving Portuguese lessons to Robert and looking everywhere for an acting job. I know people said it was hard to be an actor, but I didn't think it would be this hard! But I was having a drink with Robert after the lesson, as usual – we both get really tired after an hour, student and teacher! – and Robert was looking at a magazine I had ...

Robert: So, this is where you look for acting jobs, is it?

Milton: Huh?

Robert: This magazine? Acting jobs?

Milton: Uh, yeah. I buy it every week. I'll buy you a drink if you find something good ...

Robert: Just ... give ... me a minute. Ah ha! Here you are. Perfect.

Milton: What?

Robert: Game of Thrones.

Milton: Game of Thrones? What – the Game of Thrones?

Robert: Yes, the Kingdom in the North and Jon Snow and the Mother of Dragons and all that. There's an advert. They want people for a new series of *Game of Thrones* ...

Milton: A new series?!

Robert: Yes, a new series. They want extras – you know, not speaking parts – soldiers and things like that. And you know – I've never said anything before, Milton, but you do know you look exactly like Jon Snow, don't you?

Milton: Jon Snow? Me?

Robert: You just need long hair and a good beard – you're his twin brother. 'Wanted: Men aged 20 to 50' – that's you – 'in good physical condition' – that's definitely you – 'tall' – well, not so sure about that one – 'no visible tattoos' – let's have a look, turn your head. Yes, that's you.

Milton: Let me see – give it to me. 'Must be available all of September – must be prepared to move to Belfast, Northern Ireland, for at least two weeks.' Well, I could do that for two weeks – or more. And it's good money.

Robert: Can you do any of the fighting stuff? You know, with the sword – swish, swish, swish – or a knife. They'll probably like that.

Milton: Hmmm.

Robert: I think you were going to buy me a last drink – and then it's home and write the application. And who knows, Jon Snow's Brazilian twin brother will be discovered in the snow and ice ... Um, mine's a pint of bitter, please. When you're ready ...





Milton: So there you are. An extra on *Game of Thrones*. I've just sent the application. Wish me luck. Jon Snow's Brazilian brother is on his way! Mei will be impressed – I hope! Do you think they watch it in China? I wonder if she thinks I look like Jon Snow? Hang on – I can hear her outside.

Milton: Hi, Mei.

Mei: Hi.

Milton: Do you watch Game of Thrones? In China? Jon Snow? The Mother of Dragons?

Mei: Game of Thrones? Of course. But in Chinese we call it 权力的游戏. It means 'Game of Power', I think. It's very popular.

Milton: Do you think I look like anyone? In the programme? If I had long hair and a beard.

Mei: Um, I'm not sure. Maybe, um, a soldier?

Milton: A soldier? Nobody else ...?

Mei: Who then? Who do you think you look like?

Milton: No, it's OK. Robert just said I looked like somebody.

Mei: Well, I'll ask Robert if you won't tell me - next time we meet ...

Milton: So that was a bit disappointing! Just a soldier. Anyway, let's see what happens with the application. I don't want to keep on delivering pizzas and giving Portuguese lessons, although I really do like Robert a lot. He's funny and interesting, but he's always asking questions – 'Why is it like this?', 'Why do you say it like that?', 'Why can't I say it like this?' And I never know the answers. I just speak Portuguese – I don't know why I say what I say. Anyway, time to go. So, still no news from Mum? I hope everything's OK with her. Let me know as soon as you hear anything. Ciao.



Answers

Preparation task

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

Task 1

- 1. False
- 2. False
- 3. False
- 4. True
- 5. True
- 6. True
- 7. False
- 8. False

Task 2

- 1. a, b, d
- 2. a, b, c
- 3. a, c, d
- 4. b, c, d
- 5. a, b, c
- 6. a, b, d

