

This story is about Sam. Sam is looking for a job. Sam is from Mexico. He arrived in Austin last year. He looked for a job. He could not find a job. His English was not good. He went to Austin Community College. He improved his English. Now he is looking for a job again. He is talking to his friends about jobs. He hopes someone will know about a job opening. This is called networking.

Read these conversations to see how Sam networks.

Sam: I am looking for a job, Jan. Do you know about any job openings?

Jan: My friend Amy works at a doctor's office. They need someone to answer the phones and schedule appointments.

Sam: That is not a good job for me. I don't like to speak English on the phone. I can't understand people on the phone. Thank you for the idea.

Sam: Hello, Beth. I am looking for a job. Do you know about any job openings?

Beth: My husband works as a chef in a restaurant. They need another cook. Can you cook?

Sam: I do not know how to cook. That is not a good job for me. Thank you for the idea.

Sam: Hello, Debbie. I am looking for a job. Do you know about any job openings?

Debbie: My school is looking for another teacher. We need someone to teach the three year old class. Have you ever taught?

Sam: No, I have never taught. I don't like small children. I think I would be a bad teacher. This is not the job for me. Thank you for the idea. Please think of me if you hear of any other job openings.

Before reading this conversation, look at page 170, letter A

Sam: Hello, Erica. I am looking for a job. Do you know about any job openings? Does your company need help?

Erica: My company does not have any openings. But I have a friend who works for Dell. He assembles components. He just got a job there. He says they are hiring people for the assembly line. You should apply there.

Sam: I will apply there. That sounds like the perfect job for me. Thank you so much.

Sam called Dell.

Sam: Hello, my name is Sam Martinez. I am looking for a job. I heard you have job openings on the assembly line. I want to apply for the job.

Ms. Johnson: Yes, Sam. We have a few job openings. Have you worked on an assembly line before?

Sam: Yes. I worked for General Electric in Mexico. I assembled parts for refrigerators.

Ms. Johnson: Please fill out the online application. Attach your resume. I will call you for an interview.

Sam: Thank you very much. I will send in my application and resume.

This is Sam's resume:

Name: Samuel C. Martinez

Address; 2447 Avenue C, Austin, TX 78701

Phone: 512-458-8322

Email: sam.martinez@gmail.com

Personal:

Born: August 5, 1987 in San Diego, California

Married with one child.

Social Security No.: 527-39-9998

Education:

2011: Austin Community College

9 hours of English classes including English conversation, reading and writing

2006: graduated San Isidro Catholic High School, Monterrey, Mexico

Skills:

operate assembly line machinery

drive a forklift

Employment History:

2006-2009 General Electric Co., Monterrey, Mexico

operated a drill press on an assembly line making refrigerators

2004-2006 McDonalds Restaurant

worked part time as assistant manager while in high school

Ms. Johnson called Sam for an interview. Read his interview.

Ms. Johnson: Hello, Sam. Have a seat. I read your resume. Tell me about your job at General Electric.

Sam: I worked on the assembly line there for two years. I was employee of the month twice. I had the second highest productivity rate in the factory.

Ms. Johnson: Why did you leave General Electric?

Sam: My wife and I moved to the United States. My wife was accepted to the University of Texas. She is working on her college degree.

Ms. Johnson: Do you have plans to go to college?

Sam: I cannot think about college now. I have a wife and daughter to support. I must work.

Ms. Johnson: Have you ever been fired from a job?

Sam: No, I haven't. I liked my job at General Electric. But my wife and I decided to move back here. We think the opportunities are better here. We want to be successful.

Ms. Johnson: Is there anything else you want to say.

Sam: I am a hard worker, I never missed a day of work at General Electric. I want to improve myself. I want to provide support for my family. You will not regret hiring me, Ms. Johnson.

Ms. Johnson: OK, Sam. Thanks for coming in. You will hear from us soon.

Discussion:

Do you think Sam will get this job?

What questions would you ask Sam at the interview?

Do you have a resume?

Have you looked for a job in the United States?

Is it hard to get a job in your country?

Is it hard to get a job here?