

Mike's Job

Mike: Hello Janis.

Janis: Hi... So Mike, is it okay if I ask you some questions about your job?

Mike: That would be great Janis.

Janis: So, what is your job?

Mike: I'm an accountant.

Janis: An accountant?

Mike: Yes. Yes, I am.

Janis: And where do you work?

Mike: I work for myself at Bingham and Company, by Granville Island.

Janis: Ahh. So you have your own business?

Mike: That's correct.

Janis: Hmmm. And what do you like about your job?

Mike: I like that I get to meet lots of people in my day and I like that I have lots of variety in my work.

Janis: A lot of variety? Oh, that's good. So, what do you dislike about your job?

Mike: There's too many time deadlines in my job sometimes.

Janis: Oh, okay. So like for taxes, you have to have everything done by a certain time?

Mike: That's correct. Every month end is a deadline for somebody.

Janis: Oh, okay. That would be hard.

Mike: That would be hard.

Janis: And how many hours do you work a week?

Mike: Uh, during the tax season... uh, maybe...

Janis: One hundred?

Mike: Yes. Eighty to a hundred.

Janis: Really?

Mike: Yup. During the regular week, maybe forty probably... around that.

Janis: Okay. And what are your hours usually?

Mike: We usually start at 10:00 and go till whenever I run out of gas... run out of energy. Sorry.

Janis: What is the starting salary for an accountant?

Mike: Probably an accountant right out of school would start at about \$30 000.

Janis: Okay. And do you get any benefits?

Mike: I do not personally because I am the owner, but um, people would normally get benefits, yes.

Janis: Okay. And how long have you had your own business?

Mike: Uh. For fourteen years I think.

Janis: Fourteen years?! Okay.

Mike: Fourteen. I think so.

Janis: And before that did you...?

Mike: I worked for a company before that.

Janis: For a company before that... And what are the duties for your job?

Mike: Uh. For the kind of job that I have, we do a lot of income tax work for people and for businesses.

Janis: Okay. So what did you do to get this job? What did you do to start your own business?

Mike: To start your own business? Well, you have to find clients at first. So I worked for someone and then I had a few clients of my own. And then I just sort of... They just, they kept...the clients just kept coming so...

Janis: Okay. Ha ha. Did you advertise?

Mike: Uh. No, actually. No, I just found them through word of mouth.

Janis: Really? Oh, okay.

Mike: It's great.

Janis: Umm. So you didn't need a resume or anything like that?

Mike: I didn't need a resume. No, because my boss was hiring.

Janis: Ha ha ha. What education or special training do you need for this job?

Mike: Uh. For the designation I have you have to have a university degree and that's pretty much it. But you can do accounting work... There's all kinds of different accounting work, but you can do some of it with a college programme or just a bookkeeping course.

Janis: Oh, really. Okay. And Mike where are you from?

Mike: From London, Ontario.

Janis: Me too. Ha ha. And how long have you been in Vancouver?

Mike: I think sixteen years... Yes, sixteen years.

Janis: Yeah? And what kind of job would you like to have in the future?

Mike: I'm happy doing my own business, but at the same time, I would like to be the treasurer of a hockey team.

Janis: The treasurer of a hockey team. Why?

Mike: Because I like hockey and I like accounting.

Janis: Okay. Thank you, Mike.

Mike: Thank you, Janis