

Talking about internships

Pre-task:

Is gaining work experience a compulsory part of your university course?

- If yes, do you think this is a good idea and why?
- If not, do you think that work experience should be a compulsory part of a university course?



Image 1

Task 1:

Compare the current situation with regards to internships in your country, e.g.

- Is it common for students to do one or more internships? To what extent does this depend on the field of studies?
- How important do you think it is to gain work experience as a student for the industry you would like to work in after graduation?
- Are students usually paid for work experience? To what extent does this depend on the industry or size of company?

Task 2:

Exchange your views on the following questions:

- To what extent do you consider internships to be useful work experience and to what extent do you think employers exploit interns as cheap labour?
- Should there be a minimum wage for interns?
- To what extent do you think that employers have too high expectations that university graduates already possess work experience?
- Would it be an option for you to do an internship after graduation?

Task 3:

If you could do an internship with any company or organisation in the world, what would you choose as your 'dream internship'?

Follow-up activity:

Do some research to find out whether there is a minimum wage for interns in your countries. Compare and discuss your findings at your next tandem session!

Sources

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