

**CAREER
PATHS**

TAXI Drivers

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Express Publishing

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Get ready!

1 Before you read the passage, talk about these questions.

- 1 What are some typical working shifts for cab drivers?
- 2 Why are breaks important for a cab driver?



break



daytime shift

evening shift

Reading

2 Read the employee guide from a cab company. Then, mark the following statements as true (T) or false (F).

- 1 The cab company is busiest in the morning.
- 2 Part-time employees choose shifts after full-time employees.
- 3 Employees are allowed to work a 15 hour shift.

Vocabulary

3 Match the words or phrases (1-7) with the definitions (A-G).

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> shift | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> full-time |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> daytime | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> minimum |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> morning | 7 <input type="checkbox"/> graveyard shift |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> weekend | |

- A working for a period during the night
 B occurring early in the day
 C the lowest amount of something that is allowed
 D a set time when someone works
 E occurring while the sun is out
 F occurring on Saturday and Sunday
 G working a standard number of hours

 A photograph of a spiral notebook with a handwritten shift schedule.

Day	Shift
Monday	4am 4pm
Tuesday	4am 4pm
Wednesday	off
Thursday	4am 4pm

 A small blue box with the word 'shift' is overlaid on the notebook.

shift

Busy B's Cabs: Employee Guide

Working Your Assigned Shift

We know that most drivers prefer **morning** and **daytime** shifts. However, our busiest time is later in the day. This means some employees will work the **evening** and **graveyard** shifts. We will accommodate special requests whenever possible. We let **full-time** employees choose their shifts first. You will probably get a **weekend** shift if you are a **part-time** employee. You may work longer than your assigned **shift**. However, please remember to get enough rest. Company policy allows you to work a **maximum** of 14 hours in a 24-hour **period**. Then, you must take a **break** for a **minimum** of ten hours.

4 Read the sentences and choose the correct words or phrases.

- The driver worked the **morning/evening** shift so she could attend school earlier in the day.
- Employees are not allowed to work for an entire 24-hour **graveyard shift/period**.
- The driver took a **shift/break** to eat his lunch.
- Drivers are not allowed to work more than the **minimum/maximum** number of hours.
- An employee who works one day per week is considered **part-time/full-time**.

5 Listen and read the employee guide from a cab company again. What can an employee do if he or she needs to work a particular shift?

Listening

6 Listen to a conversation between two cab drivers. Choose the correct answers.

- What is the main idea of the conversation?
 - why the woman cannot work her shift
 - what time a particular shift starts
 - which shift is the most popular
 - whether the man will work the woman's shift
- What is the man's concern about working the evening shift?
 - It is later in the day than his usual shift.
 - It would require him to work on his day off.
 - It is more stressful than the graveyard shift.
 - It would require him to work more than the maximum number of hours allowed.

7 Listen again and complete the conversation.

Cab Driver 1: Hey, Lou. Are you working on Wednesday?

Cab Driver 2: I work the 1 _____ that night. Why do you ask?

Cab Driver 1: I need 2 _____ my evening shift. Do you think you could help me out?

Cab Driver 2: I don't know. I can't work both shifts. That's more than the 3 _____ of fourteen hours.

Cab Driver 1: Oh, right. How about 4 _____ the graveyard shift?

Cab Driver 2: I guess that'll work. Then I just work 5 _____.

Cab Driver 1: Great! I'll tell the dispatcher 6 _____ in the schedule.

Speaking

8 With a partner, act out the roles below based on Task 7. Then, switch roles.

USE LANGUAGE SUCH AS:

- Are you working ...?*
- I can't work ...*
- How about if ...?*

Student A: You are a cab driver. Talk to Student B about:

- your shift
- his or her shift
- changing shifts

Student B: You are a cab driver. Talk to Student A about changing shifts.

Writing

9 Use the employee guide from Busy B's Cabs and the conversation from Task 8 to fill out the shift change request form.



Busy B's Cabs
Shift Change Request

Employee requesting change: _____

Your current shift: _____

Please describe the change you want to make:
