

LESSON NOTES

Intermediate S1 #1

A Swedish Job Interview

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SWEDISH

1. Annie: Hej, jag heter Annie och jag söker jobbet som servitris.
2. Lennart: Hej! Har du arbetat på restaurang förut?
3. Annie: Ja, jag har arbetat på en snabbmatsrestaurang förut, så jag är stresstålig och serviceinriktad.
4. Lennart: Det låter bra. Vilka tider och dagar kan du jobba?
5. Annie: Jag kan arbeta alla dagar i veckan, men helst inte tidiga morgonar. Jag är rätt så morgontrött.
6. Lennart: Det är okej. Kan du komma in imorgon och provjobba?
7. Annie: Absolut! Vi ses då!

ENGLISH

1. Annie: Hi, my name is Annie and I'm applying for the waitress job.
2. Lennart: Hi! Have you worked at a restaurant before?
3. Annie: Yes, I've worked in a fast food restaurant, so I can handle stress and I am service-oriented.
4. Lennart: That sounds good. What times and days can you work?
5. Annie: I can work every day of the week, but I would rather not work early mornings. I'm pretty tired in the morning.

CONT'D OVER

6. Lennart: That's fine. Can you come tomorrow and do a trial work day?
7. Annie: Absolutely! See you then!

VOCABULARY

Swedish	English	Class	Gender
servitris	waitress	noun	common
snabbmatsrestauran g	fast food restaurant	noun	common
stresstålig	can handle stress	adjective	
serviceinriktad	service oriented	adjective	
att söka	to search	verb	
det är okej	it is okay, that is okay	phrase	
att provjobba	to test work	verb	
absolut	absolutely	adverb	
helst inte	rather not	verb, expression	
morgontrött	tired in the morning	adjective	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Anna fick jobbet som servitris.</p> <p>"Anna got the job as a waitress."</p>	<p>Jag skulle aldrig vilja arbeta på en snabbmatsrestaurang.</p> <p>"I would never want to work at a fast food restaurant."</p>
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<p>Min pappa är stresstålig och bra på att laga mat.</p> <p>"My dad can handle stress and is good at cooking."</p>	<p>För att få jobbet måste du vara serviceinriktad.</p> <p>"To get the job you have to be service-oriented."</p>
<p>Det tar tid att söka jobb.</p> <p>"It takes time to search for a job."</p>	<p>Det är okej om du kommer senare.</p> <p>"It is okay if you come later."</p>
<p>Jag skulle vilja provjobba på en cirkus.</p> <p>"I would like to do a work trial at a circus."</p>	<p>Jag vill absolut komma på din fest!</p> <p>"I would absolutely like to come to your party!"</p>
<p>Jag äter helst inte sniglar.</p> <p>"I'd rather not eat snails."</p>	<p>Jag hatar att han är så morgontrött.</p> <p>"I hate that he is so tired in the morning."</p>

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

***att söka* "to apply for," "to search for"**

Att söka literally means "to search," "to look," or "to seek." It can also mean "to apply for."

You can use *att söka* when you are looking for something, searching for something, or applying for a job. *Att söka jobb* literally means "to search for work," but is used more as "to apply for a job" or "to seek employment."

You can use this verb both for abstract and actual things. *Jag söker efter min katt*, "I am searching for my cat," and *Jag söker meningen med livet*, "I'm searching for the meaning of life," both use this phrase.

When this word means "to search" or "to look," it can sound a bit formal. Then you can use *att leta* instead. *Jag letar efter dig* would be "I am looking for you."

For example:

1. *Jag söker efter en trevlig man med humor.*
"I am searching for a nice man with a sense of humor."

***att låta bra* "to sound good"**

Att låta means "to sound" and *bra* means "good."

You can use *att låta bra* both when you hear an idea that sounds good, or when you hear music that sounds nice.

You can also use *att verka bra* meaning "to seem good," in the sense of "the idea sounds good." *Det verkar som en bra idé* would be "That seems like a good idea."

For example:

1. *Jag tycker Pers förslag låter bra.*
"I think Per's suggestion sounds good."

***helst inte* "rather not "**

Helst is an adverb and it means "best." *Inte* means "not." Put together, they mean "rather not."

You use this expression when you would prefer to not do something. It doesn't mean that you can't do it, just that you don't really want to.

You can answer a yes or no question with *helst inte* if you want to make your negation less strong.

For example:

1. *Jag äter helst inte varma mackor varje dag.*
"I'd rather not eat toast every day."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of this Lesson is Talking about Past Experiences Using the Present Perfect and Adjectives

Hej! Har du arbetat på restaurang förut?

"Hi! Have you worked at a restaurant before?"

1. *Perfekt*, the Present Perfect in Swedish

We can use the **present perfect** to talk about situations that began before now, but continue into the present.

You'll notice the form of the perfect by the presence of *har*, "has" or "have," before the main verb and that the main verb is found in the supine or past form.

For example, *Jag har redan ätit middag*, meaning "I have already eaten dinner."

Ätit, "eaten," is the supine or past form of *att äta*, "to eat," and with *har*, "has, have," before it, the verb shows that the eating happened prior to (or before) now.

The auxiliary verb is in its present tense form (*har*), and the the main verb, on the other hand, is put into its supine form. Let's look at one more example.

1. *Jag har sovit.*
"I have slept."

In the dialogue, Lennart asks Annie, *Har du arbetat på restaurang förut?* meaning "Have you worked in a restaurant before?"

This is an example of the present perfect, in Swedish called *perfekt*, in a question form.

Notice how the structure is "have" *har* + "you" *du* + past participle of *arbeta*. It's in the present perfect because Lennart is asking Annie whether she has worked in a restaurant before now.

Annie answered:

1. *Jag har arbetat på en snabbmats restaurang förut*
"I have worked in a fast-food restaurant before."

Here are some general examples of statements in the present perfect.

For example:

1. *Jag har redan ätit middag.*
"I have already eaten dinner."

The person has finished eating dinner not too long ago; therefore, it is connected with the present.

1. *Elvis har lämnat byggnaden.*
"Elvis has left the building."

Here, news is being spread about what Elvis did; therefore, it is in the present perfect tense.

1. *Angelica har läst boken tre gånger redan.*
"Angelica has read the book three times already."

We describe the number of times Angelica has read the book in the present perfect because of its tie to the present.

1. *Vi har haft hunden sedan april.*
"We've had the dog since April."

The act of having the dog has continued up until now; therefore, it is in the present perfect.

2. Compound Adjectives to Describe Personality

Mixing words to create new adjectives

In Swedish we sometimes put two words together to make them into one new word with a stronger meaning. So if you learn these base words below, you can get a general idea of what the new word means.

Tålig

If you add the word *-tålig* to a noun, it describes someone or something who can handle negative things well.

- ***stresstålig* meaning "to be able to handle stress" or "stress resistant"**

To be *stresstålig* means to be able to cope with stress well.

- ***vattentålig* meaning "water-resistant"**

When you add *-tålig* to *vatten*, it means that the product can handle water well.

- ***stryktålig* meaning "resistant to beating"**

Stryktålig is used for either a person who can get beaten up without getting hurt easily, or a thing which you can be rough with, without it breaking.

For example:

1. *Jag skulle vilja köpa en vattentålig och stryktålig telefon.*
"I would like to buy a water-resistant and damage-resistant phone."

Morgon

There are some words which you can add to the word *morgon* "morning," to describe your personality in the morning. You may also use other times of the day.

- ***Morgontrött* meaning "tired in the morning"**

Morgontrött means that you are tired in the morning, and literally means "morning tired."

- ***Morgonpigg* meaning "alert in the morning"**

Morgonpigg means that it's easy for you to wake up in the morning and that you don't feel tired early in the morning. *Pigg* means "alert" or "lively."

For example:

1. *Jag är en morgonpigga människa, så jag vaknar alltid innan klockan fem.*
"I'm a morning person, so I always wake up before five."

You can also combine *kväll*, "evening," to make words like *kvällspigg*, "alert in the evening," or *kvällstrött*, "tired in the evening."

Glad

You use the word *-glad* after a noun to describe someone who happily does something or likes something.

- ***pratglad* meaning "talkative" or "chatty"**

We use this word when describing someone who likes talking, and does it a lot. *Prat* means "chat" or "talk," and *glad* means "glad" or "happy."

- ***matglad* meaning "to like to eat" or "happy with food"**

We use this word when describing someone who likes eating, and does it a lot. *Mat* means "food."

For example:

1. *Din flickvän är verkligen pratglad.*
"Your girlfriend is really talkative."

You can use almost any noun with *-glad*.

Examples from the dialogue:

1. *Ja, jag har arbetat på en snabbmatsrestaurang förut, så jag är stresstålig och serviceinriktad.*
"Yes, I have worked in a fast food restaurant, so I can handle stress and I am service oriented."

2. *Jag kan arbeta alla dagar i veckan, men helst inte tidiga morgonar. Jag är rätt så morgontrött.*

"I can work every day of the week, but I would rather not work early mornings. I am pretty tired in the morning."

Sample Sentences

1. *Har du varit medlem i något band förut?*
"Have you been a member of a band before?"
2. *Han är väldigt pratglad och trevlig.*
"He is very talkative and nice."
3. *Jag har gått till skolan varje dag i tio år.*
"I've gone to school every day for ten years."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Part-time Jobs in Sweden

In Sweden, many students have part-time jobs. Common jobs are in restaurants or supermarkets. If you are under the age of 13, you cannot work between 22:00 and 6:00 in the morning. You are at most allowed to work 2 hours on a school day, and 7 hours on a school-free day. A person who is over the age of 16 can work up to 8 hours a day, 40 hours a week. A person under the age of 18 is not allowed to work between midnight and 5:00 in the morning. They also must have a break after 4.5 hours of work. Sweden has strict laws that protect working young people. The salary is also pretty high for part-time jobs, even though the salary you get depends on your age. A 16-year-old might get around 60SEK an hour while a 20-year-old might get 110SEK an hour. If you don't earn more than 18,824 SEK a year as a youth, you don't have to pay taxes.

9 SEK = 1 EUR

8.5 SEK = 1 USD

*all data is from 2015

Useful expression:

1. *kronor i timmen*
"crowns per hour"