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WEI'S PART-TIME JOB

Level 1 - A1/A2 Starter (1) Graded Reader from I Talk You Talk Press

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Chapter One

Wei Liu is from Beijing, China. He is studying English at a college in New York. He loves studying English, and he loves living in New York. But it is expensive. He needs money. So, he has a part-time job. He has no lessons at college on Friday mornings, or on Saturdays and Sundays. So he works at a hotel on Friday mornings, Saturday mornings and afternoons, and Sunday mornings and afternoons. In the morning, he cleans the hotel rooms. In the afternoon, he helps on the front desk.

The hotel is small and cheap. It has a manager and ten workers. Wei likes his manager and his co-workers. Everyone is very kind.

It is Friday morning. Wei arrives at the hotel at 9:00am. One of his co-workers, Sandra, is in the staff room. Sandra is 50. She likes Wei very much. She helps him with his job, and with his English.

"Good morning, Wei. How are you today?" says Sandra.

"I'm nervous," says Wei.

"Nervous? Why?" asks Sandra.

"Because I have an important English test this afternoon. I want to study this morning, but I have to work."

Sandra smiles. "Did you study last night?"

"Yes, I did," says Wei. "I studied until two am this morning!"

"Two am? That's late! Are you tired?" asks Sandra.

"Yes, I am," says Wei. "Working and studying is hard. But I need the money."

"I understand," says Sandra. "My son is a student. He has a job, too. Students need money. Good luck in your test this afternoon. Let's start work. I am going to clean the rooms on floors two and three. You are going to clean the rooms on floors four and five."

"OK," says Wei. He puts on his work jacket. "Let's start."

They walk out of the staff room and go to the cleaning room. They pick up clean sheets, clean towels and cleaning items. Wei puts everything on his cart and walks to the staff elevator. He goes up to floor five.

I'm going to work quickly today, he thinks. My test starts at three pm. I want to study a little before the test.

Wei gets out of the elevator. He knocks on the first door, and opens it. He goes into the room.

Sometimes the rooms are very clean. Sometimes, they are very dirty. This room is dirty. He cleans the bathroom and changes the sheets on the bed.

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I don't like this job, he thinks. I don't like cleaning toilets and changing sheets. But, I need the money.

He goes to the next room. This room is cleaner. He cleans the bathroom and changes the sheets quickly. He goes to the next room, and then the next. When he finishes the 5th floor, he takes the elevator down to the 4th floor.

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