

**Topic:** Employment  
(IOM, Overseas Processing Entity, Nepal)

**Activity:** Reasons to Get a Job

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**Objectives**

- Advantages of taking any job, no matter how basic
- Reasons to start working as soon as possible

**Lesson Time**

15 minutes

**Materials**

- Handouts of a refugee story (see sample provided)
- Life story graphs (see samples provided)

**Practice**

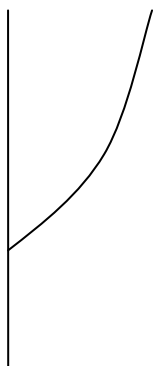
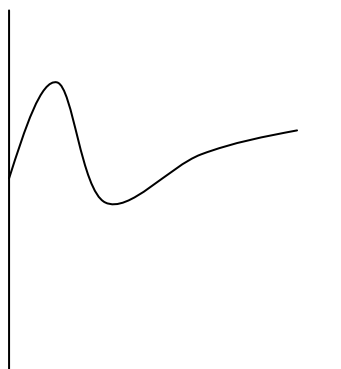
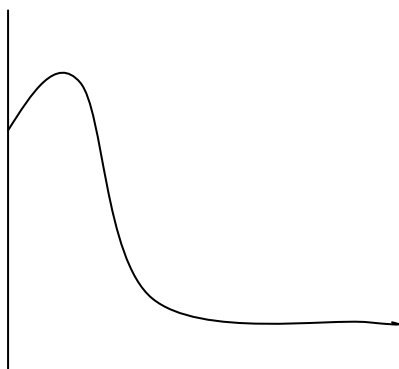
1. Ask participants to brainstorm the advantages of taking *any* job in the U.S. Ensure the most obvious things such as livelihood (food, shelter, clothing) are included, but also things such as improving English, self-respect, making friends, etc.
2. Divide participants into small groups to read the story of the Bhutanese refugee.

**Discussion**

- What did you find out about Binod? How did his life pass in the U.S.?
- What benefits did he get in taking his first job offered in the U.S.?
- What would you do if you were in Binod's place? Why?
- What did you learn from this activity?
- Which graph represents the life story of Binod in the U.S.? Why do you think so?

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Life Story Graphs:



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## A Story of a Bhutanese Refugee

Binod Katuwal was a Bhutanese refugee. He was living in Sanischare Refugee Camp, Nepal for 17 years. He was a teacher in the camp. Though he was a teacher, his work-related English was not good and he had no other technical skills. By IOM's third-country resettlement process, he went to Syracuse, New York, in the United States of America on the 7<sup>th</sup> of August, 2008. Binod was a hard worker and was ready to take any kind of job in the U.S. He knew that public assistance was temporary. Two months after his arrival, Binod was offered a job as a dishwasher in a hotel. This was a very low-paying job: just enough to pay his rent and buy food. However, he was a fast learner and he worked very efficiently. As time went by, his English improved and he made a lot of new friends. After one month, Binod's boss came to him and said, "I have been watching you for a month. You are a good worker. You are efficient," and made Binod a doorman, a better job than his first one.



After six months, because of his working experience in the United States, Binod found a job as cashier in a restaurant. One day, he made called his best friend, Harka, who lived in the Sanischare Refugee Camp.

Harka: "Hi, Binod! How are you doing there? Are you still feeling depressed?"

Binod: "No, I am good right now. Initially, I was feeling lonely but now I have many good friends. We work together in the same restaurant. Now I have a job as a cashier. I am feeling satisfied. My friends also respect me because of my job. You know, U.S. society respects self-reliance."

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