

Topic: Employment

Activity: Types of Employment: A Lesson Plan for Use With Refugees From Burma

Objectives	Participants will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ explain why employment in the United States is important for all employable adults in a family✓ identify types of jobs and employment which may be available✓ explain employable skills they have and skills required for specific jobs
Lesson Time	60 minutes
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Refugees from Burma in the United States</i> (http://www.cal.org/co/videos/Burmese/Refugees_from_Burma.html)• Internet access, laptop, projector, and screen, or DVD, television, and DVD player• Flipchart paper, markers, tape• <i>Types of Employment: Images Worksheet</i>, 1 per participant (included)• Writing implements, 1 per participant• Optional: <i>Types of Employment: Quotes Worksheet</i>, 1 per participant (included)
Introduction	<p>Briefly talk about the importance of employment for employable adults in the United States.</p> <p>Think-pair-share. Participants spend a minute thinking about the types of jobs they have had in the past. (Remind participants that a mother or housekeeper is a job!) In pairs, participants share one job they have had with their partner.</p> <p>Bring the large group together and ask for some of the jobs participants have held. Record these on a flipchart.</p>
Viewing Activities	<p>Tell participants the group will now watch a 22-minute video of interviews with refugees from Burma resettled in the United States. Distribute <i>Types of Employment: Images Worksheets</i> and writing implements to participants. Tell participants to watch for the images on the worksheet, and check them off when they see them in the video. Ask participants to pay special attention to the different types of employment in the video.</p> <p>View <i>Refugees from Burma in the United States</i>.</p>
Practice	<p>In small groups, participants discuss the types of employment they saw in the video, and what skills would be needed to perform that job. Encourage participants to refer to the images on their worksheets to remember what happened in the video.</p> <p>Bring the large group together and ask for highlights from the small group discussions. Record the skills required for some of the jobs in the video on a flipchart. Tell participants that their first job in the United States will probably be an entry-level position.</p> <p>Think-pair-share. Participants spend a minute thinking about the skills they have. (For example, skills participants have used in previous jobs mentioned earlier in the</p>

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Discussion Questions

Variations

session.) In pairs, participants share one employable skill they have with their partner.

Bring the large group together and record some of the employable skills in the room.

- Why is employment important in the United States?
- What are some entry-level jobs that could be available to you?
- What are the employable skills you already have?
- How might you learn more employable skills?

1. Discuss other types of entry-level employment positions with participants. Share images of some other entry-level jobs.
2. When working with more literate participants, distribute *Types of Employment: Quotes Worksheet*. After viewing the video, participants complete the worksheet and discuss their answers in small groups. These quotes can also be utilized during the large group discussion to highlight specific employment topics discussed in the video.

Key English Vocabulary

business
job
to find

employment
skill
to make

entry-level job
to earn a living
to work

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Types of Employment: Images Worksheet

Directions: As you watch the DVD, look for the images below.
Put a check (✓) in the box next to the image when you see the image.



Rebalka Koe



Mya Tha Tun



Kweh Htoo



Mar Koe



Saw Bik



Ma Mae Hu Shi

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Types of Employment: Quotes Worksheet

Directions: Read the quote from the DVD. Decide if this statement is positive, negative, or neutral, and what the statement is saying about employment.

Quote	Positive, negative, or neutral?	What does this say about employment?
<p><u>Ma Mae Hu Shi:</u> After I got my job, the volunteers came to our house and taught us English.</p>		
<p><u>Saw Bik:</u> I was lucky because I got a job right away. I heard that some people had to wait several months to get a job. I work at Perdue, at a chicken plant. It's a two hour drive from here.</p>		
<p><u>Kweh Htoo:</u> At first I was very tired at this job. My feet, my legs were all aching. But later on, I got used to it. I've been doing this job for over a year now.</p>		
<p><u>Rebalka Koe:</u> When I got to America I thought, because I'm not educated, how can I find a job? What could I do? What kind of job could I get? How do I live? I can't speak English. How do I earn a living?</p>		
<p>After my parents got laid off from their work, we had to do something. My mom decided to start a small business. We started with a very small amount of investment. Now we've extended the business and you see how we are doing right now.</p>		
<p><u>Mya Tha Tun:</u> We're building this loom for people who don't have a job, people from Burma who can't find a job. They can work here, making clothes.</p>		

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