A Job at the Museum (B1 · English B1)

Tekst / Transcript

Nadia had always wanted to work at the city museum. As a child, she visited it every Saturday with her grandmother. Her secret ambition was to work in the big room with the old maps. When she left school, she studied history for four years. Then she took an extra course in administration, because museums also need people who can manage papers and money.

Last spring she finally saw the advertisement she was waiting for. The museum needed a young person for its education team. Nadia wrote her application in one evening and read it three times before she sent it. She was nervous, because she knew that many people wanted the same job. Two weeks later, an email arrived with a date and a time. She had an appointment with the director on a Tuesday morning.

The meeting went better than she expected. The director asked about her studies and her first employment in a bookshop, where she had worked on Saturdays. He wanted to know if she had any qualification in teaching, and Nadia showed him her certificate from the university. She explained that she would qualify as a museum guide in June, after one last exam. The director smiled and said that she was already qualified enough for the work he had in mind.

Nadia started in July. Her first assignment was to prepare a short tour for school groups. She wrote the text herself, and an older colleague checked it for her. The museum also worked with a travel agent who brought tourists from other countries, so Nadia sometimes gave the tour twice a day. She had no authority over other workers, and she did not want any yet. For her, the biggest achievement of that year was hearing thirty children clap at the end of her tour. She now tells her friends that this profession is hard but wonderful, and that she cannot imagine any other one.

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