

vide meaningful work experience or too specific to be useful outside a particular company. Yet interns are reluctant to assert their rights, fearing that causing any trouble might put at risk future career opportunities at the company where they are interning.

Indeed, for new graduates, doing an internship is increasingly seen as mandatory. Martin Birchall, managing director of High Fliers Research, a graduate-recruitment organization, says the recent recession has intensified competition for jobs. "In the past, work experience was 'nice to have,'" he says. "Now it has, in effect, become a prerequisite" to employment. This, critics say, unfairly tilts the job market toward candidates with money. Since only people who can support themselves independently can spend weeks or months working for free, internships are not an option for many students.

Complicating the problem are agencies that connect graduates with internships in exchange for substantial fees. One such company, CRCC Asia, charges graduates from Western countries more than \$5,000 for placement in internships with Chinese companies. According to the agency's London director, Edward Holroyd Pearce, employers favor applicants with an insider's perspective on the Chinese business world. Recent graduate Sophie Corcut would agree. She landed a position at a global management consultancy soon after returning to England from a CRCC Asia-arranged internship in Beijing. While critics say such agencies put internships even further out of reach for the disadvantaged, the agencies argue they open positions to a wider range of candidates than before. In fact, they do give graduates with no personal or political connections to a company a chance to work there — provided, of course, they have the money.

(11)

What is one thing employers must do to meet U.S. Department of Labor conditions for internships?

- 1 Allow interns to do some of the work of paid employees so they can gain practical knowledge of the workplace.
- 2 Confirm that candidates for internships do not have paid work experience at another company.
- 3 Ensure that their company does not make money as a direct result of the activities of interns.
- 4 Provide interns an opportunity to move into full-time employment as soon as a position becomes available.

(12)

What does the author of the passage say about people working as unpaid interns?

- 1 They see their internship as a way to gain specific skills without having to commit to a particular employer or company.
- 2 They often lack confidence because paid workers at the companies where they are interning tend to be critical of them.
- 3 They find that the experience contributes more to their overall academic performance and progress than they had expected.
- 4 They feel they must accept the work they are assigned in order to avoid hurting their chances of being employed later on.

(13)

How has the increase in unpaid internships affected the job market?

- 1 People without the financial means to spend time gaining internship experience find themselves at a disadvantage when searching for a job.
- 2 New graduates who have completed internships are increasingly demanding higher starting salaries from employers.
- 3 Companies no longer guarantee their interns that they will be offered full employment after their internship has ended.
- 4 Companies are becoming more likely to hire former interns than people who have actual work experience.

(14)

Sophie Corcut's example illustrates the point that

- 1 Chinese companies are more likely to hire foreign graduates who have completed an internship in their home country.
- 2 Westerners who begin their career in China may have problems getting hired when seeking employment in companies outside of Asia.
- 3 doing an internship in China can provide graduates from Western countries with experience that makes them more desirable to potential employers.
- 4 it is possible for recent graduates to find internships at certain companies in China without having to pay expensive fees to an agency.

Listening Test

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Part 1 <Dialogues> | 1 question each | Multiple-choice |
| Part 2 <Passage> | 2 questions | Multiple-choice |
| Part 3 <Real-Life> | 1 question | Multiple-choice |

Part 1

CD 26

No. 1

- 1 It will help him forget work.
- 2 He likes historical movies.
- 3 It is based on a book he read.
- 4 He heard it got a good review.

CD 27

No. 2

- 1 She has missed a career opportunity.
- 2 She has done well in her new job.
- 3 She will miss living near her family.
- 4 She will be happy to leave San Francisco.

CD 28

No. 3

- 1 Wait in line.
- 2 Watch the fireworks.
- 3 Look at the arts and crafts.
- 4 Listen to the band.