Activities/worksheets

Introduction
You are going to listen to an interview with a self-employed person, Laura, who is from Ecuador. Laura now lives in London with her family. She is a self-employed domestic cleaner. Laura talks about her job, what is involved and why she is a self-employed domestic cleaner.

You will use your listening skills to correct mistakes and answer questions. You will form questions and practise saying key words. You will also read and write notes, complete web/research activities and have the opportunity to discuss and voice your opinions on the blog. Most of all, you will be able to learn what it's really like to be a self-employed domestic cleaner in the UK.

The first activity is a web search activity. If you do not have access to computers, you may want to read the answers to this activity. You can also jump to the second activity.

The interview with Laura is divided into to two sections. Please read 'Before you listen!' first. Then complete the listening activities.

Before you listen!

It is a good idea to have a dictionary so that you can find the meanings to new words. It is also very helpful to have a pen/pencil and notebook. You can write lists of words or phrases you have learned. You can then practise the new words/phrases. If you practise a lot, you can remember them!

Before you listen, you can choose to learn the easier way or the harder way.

The easier way:

Look at the activities before you listen.

Use a dictionary to find meanings to words you don't understand.

Then listen to the interview.

Listen to parts of the interview separately.

Listen to the interview for as many times as you need to.

Read the transcript after you have listened.

Then do the activities.

The harder way:

Listen to the interview.

Only listen to the whole interview once.

Do the activities.

Worksheet 2a: Websearch / page 1

You want to find out a bit more about being self-employed in the UK and what kind of jobs you could do.

1. You are going to look at a table (Table 2.14) showing the most common types of self-employed jobs in the UK. The information in the table shows the most common jobs that men and women typically do. (But of course, men and women can do any jobs if they want to because of the equality laws in the UK).

Table 2.14 Most prevalent occupations of the self-employed in the UK, July 2007 to June 2008

	Men	Thousands	Women	Thousands
1	Construction trades n.e.c. (5319)[1,2]	178 (6%)	Childminders and related occupations (6122)	80 (7%)
2	Taxi cab drivers and chauffeurs (8214)	153 (5%)	Teaching professionals n.e.c. (2319) [3]	55 (5%)
3	Carpenters and joiners (5315)	140 (5%)	Cleaners, domestics (9233)	52 (4%)
4	Painters and decorators (5323)	90 (3%)	Shopkeepers, wholesale & retail dealers (1234)	50 (4%)
5	Plumbing, heating & ventilating engineers (5314)	81 (3%)	Hairdressers / barbers (6221)	46 (4%)
6	Farmers (5111)	81 (3%)	Accounts, wages clerks & bookkeepers (4122)	40 (3%)
7	Shopkeepers, wholesale & retail dealers (1234)	76 (2%)	Therapists n.e.c. (3229)[4]	36 (4%)
8	Gardeners and grounds(wo)men (5113)	74 (2%)	Beauticians and related occupations (6222)	30 (2%)
9	Electricians, electrical fitters (5241)	68 (2%)	General office assistants or clerks (4150)	27 (2%)
10	Managers in construction (1122)	60 (2%)	Medical practitioners (2211)	23 (2%)
11	Retail and wholesale managers (1163)	56 (2%)	Hotel and accommodation (1221)	20 (2%)
12	Bricklayers, masons (5312)	47 (2%)	Managers and proprietors in other services (1239)	20 (2%)
13	Labourers, building & woodworking trades (9121)	47 (2%)	Authors, writers (3412)	20 (2%)
	Total self-employed men	2,987	Total self-employed women	1,220

1 Four digit codes from Standard Occupational Classification 2000 (SOC 2000) are included in brackets after description. n.e.c. means not elsewhere

classified.

2 This code includes: Builder (building and contracting), Builder and decorator, Building contractor, General builder, Steel fi xer, Steeplejack.

3 This code includes: Examiner (examination board), Nursery manager (day nursery), Owner (children's nursery), Principal (dancing school/evening institute), Private tutor, Teacher of English as a foreign language, TEFL.

4 This code includes: Acupuncturist, Dietician, Masseur, Orthoptist, Osteopath, Psychotherapist.

Source: Annual Population Survey, Offi ce for National Statistics. From: Report RT41-Article2_tcm77-108586[1] Women in Business by Peggy Causer & Neil Park, Office for National Statistics

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Worksheet 2a: Websearch / page 2

Please tick (✓) the correct box ☐

1 a. What is the most common form of self-employment in the UK?

Therapists ☐   Farmers ☐   Construction trades ☐

  b. How many self employed hairdressers/barbers are there in the UK?

46,000 ☐   27,000 ☐   56,000 ☐

  c. Which one is a skilled trade?

General office assistants ☐   Authors, writers ☐   carpenters and joiners ☐
or clerks

2. You are not a skilled trades(wo)man / You do not have a professional occupation / You have a professional occupation but your English is not very good / You do not have a UK approved Driver's Licence

a. Which of the following jobs could you do? (Tip: There are two!).

Electrician ☐   Hairdresser/barber ☐   Domestic cleaner ☐   Taxi driver ☐

Unskilled labour eg: Gardener ☐   Painter & decorator ☐

b. Which of the following jobs might be seasonal?

Electrician ☐   Hairdresser/barber ☐   Domestic cleaner ☐
Taxi driver ☐   Unskilled labour eg: Gardener ☐   Painter & decorator ☐

3. You have decided you want to find out more about self-employed cleaning. Please log on to the following website:

https://nextstep.direct.gov.uk/gettingajob/findingajob/labourmarketinformation/Pages/default.aspx

Scroll down the page. Under 'Asset Skills', download the 'cleaning' pdf document

Please answer these questions on 'key facts' about the cleaning industry:

Worksheet 2a: Websearch / page 3

a. What percentage (%) of migrant workers make up the English cleaning workforce? *(You will find this information under 'Key Facts')*

17% ☐   37% ☐   27% ☐

b. What is the estimated market value for contract cleaning in the UK? *(You will find this information under 'Key Facts')*

£5.6 billion ☐   £5.6 million ☐   £5.6 trillion

c. Why are there indications that the demand for domestic cleaners may increase?(You will find this information under 'Occupational trends')

People in England do not ☐   Cleaning is a ☐   People working longer hours ☐
like cleaning   necessity   so don't have time to clean

Worksheet 2b: First listening

You are about to hear an interview with Laura, who is self-employed. Below is a summary of what Laura says but there are some mistakes! First read the sentences.

As you listen, underline and correct the mistakes in each sentence:

1. Laura is from Ecuador, but she has lived in the Middle East for almost three years.

2. She works as a hairdresser.

3. She used to be a cleaner in Ecuador.

4. She has been self-employed for three years.

5. She likes working for herself because she can spend more time with her pets.

6. She got advice in London about starting a business.

7. She would like to work as a cleaner in Spain.

8. In London Laura's clients trust her with their cars.

9. Laura cleans the House of Commons.

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Worksheet 2c: Second listening

Listen again and complete:

Try to match the 2 halves of the interviewer's questions below. Then listen to the interview again and check your answers.

Can I start by	do the same job in your home country?
Where are you	you receive any advice or help?
How long have you	you been self-employed?
What do you	do you work?
Did you	asking your name?
How long have	from?
Did	do?
Where	been in the UK?