

WOULD YOU LIKE TO WORK FOR COMPANY LIKE SEMCO?

Yes, I'd like to work for a company like Semco. This firm is democratic, and modern. I've never heard about such a company which exists in Poland or generally East – Europe. The biggest advantage of Semco is the way in which all workers as well as managers are treated. For example: no separate offices of managers or parking – spaces.

I believe that very comfortable is that all people who work for Semco company are allowed to choose what time they begin and finish their jobs. I like it that workers of Semco make decision their bosses used to make. They decide their own production targets. I like also that each employee gets a share of the profits. More over they take part in a special courses when they are taught how to understand their company financial. This kind of running business in encourage to work. It causes that the people like their job. They don't cheat their bosses and they work effeciently.

ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF LIVING AND WORKING IN A BIG CITY

The charms of live in small or large locality can be different. In my opinion it depends on way of approach to life. In young age life in larger city lets more possibilities of development for example we can choose better high school or else as well as we have wider choice of major of studies. In larger city we have to deal with quicker technical development. There exist larger possibility of finding work (more institution of employment, schools, offices and so on).

Culture and sport is more developed in big city (cinema, theatres, operas, exhibitions, sport clubs, more sport facilities and so on), and also larger possibility of development of ourselves interests (youth culture and educational centres and so on). If somebody dislikes cultures he can go to pubs or discoes, there are many of them, where he can meet with his friends.

To next advantages, which concern youth not only but public too belongs among other things larger quantity of shops and malls, better developed infrastructure.

Living in a big city have defects too, among other things problems from moving as regards larger distances, traffic jam. Life is unhealthy and very stressful because of smog and noise.

Most inhabitants are forced to live in blocks of flats where they are quite anonymous.

In addition to all this, the crime rate in most big cities is very high. Some people never go out in the evening because they are afraid of being robbed. They are scared to live their flats because of the possibility of burglary.

LIVING AND WORKING IN THE SMALL TOWN

The charms of live in small or large locality can be different. In my opinion it depends on way of approach to life. I think that in small city people have smaller possibility of education and development, smaller life perspectives connected with job. Culture and sport as a general are more faintly developed in small locality, and man is less anonymous.

Man who lives in small city can't go to the cinema, and he spends his free time in front of television set only. There are not enough places to meet with friends. In my opinion life in small town is more boring and it's not especially attractive for teenagers.

To advantages of living in small city we should rate among other things the fact of access to target place on foot, greater quiet, cheaper life and so on.

In small town there aren't enough institution of employment, especially big companies. So there are also great problems with finding a good and suitable job and the unemployment rate is really high. Besides, in case of serious medical disorders, people have to go to a big city to be hospitalized or to see a specialist. People in small town usually works hard in the fields.

But there are also many people, especially elderly people who notice values and advantages of living in small localities. This concerns especially localities situated near forest and water. Also more and more rich people build their next houses in such places, in aim get away from chasing for money and because they search for silence.

WHAT DO YOU GENERALLY LIKE DOING AT THE WEEKENDS?

When you are a student it's hard to get much free time. I study at Warsaw Schools of Economics and "PROFESJA" College, so it's harder to get spare time for me.

After a long and tiring day at school I like to spend my free time in a nice way, with my family or friends.

When it's sunny and warm I go out. When it's cold, rainy and dull – I stay at home.

I like riding my bicycle. I like to go to the forest, where the air is fresh, but sometimes I ride round the city to see if sth interesting is going on.

I often visit my friends and I like when they visit me. My friends and I often go for walks and it doesn't matter if it rains or the sun shines. Going for long walks and cycling are favourite outdoor activities of mine.

In the evening I like going to the cinema or a discoes. Sometimes I also like going to the pub. But I like to go to discoes very much. That's the way when I feel the most relaxed.

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO DOING IN THE NEAREST FUTURE?

It's really hard to say anything about my future now. I still have many years of studying. I hope that I'll finish my studies and I'll find a good job later.

Of course I'm going to have a family in the future but I want to travel first and to build up my professional career. I want to have two children: a son and the daughter. I'd like to have big house with swimming pool and beautiful garden. If this house is in the forest it will be the best. But this is in the distant future.

Right now school is the most important for me. I also would like to visit all my family. I have big family but most of them live abroad. It will be possible in the nearest future. In July I'm going to Canada to visit my aunt. I'd like to visit monuments and places there as many as possible because I've never been there and I count on my aunt.

I'd also like to start learning English more. It has always been my dream to have a good skills of this language. I'd like to learn more about Englishmen, their culture, everyday life, habits and customs.

When I'm a third year student, I will write a thesis and get Bachelor's degree.

I'm positive I'll have a busy but comfortable life. I really hope so.

WHICH CITY IN POLAND OR IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU LIKE TO LIVE IN AND WHY?

I'd like to live in Los Angeles. It's one of the most wonderful cities on the West Coast of America. Los Angeles is generally called "the city of dreams".

I'd like to live in this city because I think that it's beautiful city. My friend have been living there for five years but I've heard a lot of this city.

There are full of luxurious and modern hotels, banks and offices towering above the city. The walls of the buildings are made of glass reflecting the sunshine.

The greatest tourist attraction, of course is Hollywood, the glamorous centre of the film industry with numerous studios.

Visitors are also attracted by Disneyland, a fabulous playground for children and adults. I dreamed of visiting the house of Miki Mouse, Donald Duck and so on all my life.

Los Angeles, with its mild climate, unique atmosphere and interesting sights, is one of the favourite holiday destinations for all tourists. And not only tourists but many also rich and famous people decide to settle down in the elegant Beverly Hills district, Malibu or the Santa Monica suburb known for its beautiful beaches, clean air and relaxing atmosphere.

Not far away from Santa Monica is Fisherman's Village, a well-preserved complex of old buildings with a 60-foot tall lighthouse on the coast.

Shopping in Los Angeles is an experience of Venice Boulevard full of stalls and fast-food outlets, and Olvera Street where the Mexican influence is the strongest. The city also has its own Chinatown known for numerous restaurants and colourful shops.

One more place worth seeing in Los Angeles is the magnificent Memorial Coliseum, a huge stadium which hosted the Olympics in 1984.

I'd also like to live in Los Angeles because a lot of famous actors live there. So it would be interesting to live in "the city of dreams" and have famous neighbours.

SELF - PRESENTATION

My name is Michał Sadowski. I'm twenty-two. I've been living in Pruszków since I was born. It's about twenty kilometers from centrum of Warsaw.

I study in two schools currently: Warsaw School of Economics and "PROFESJA" College.

I am a tall and medium build boy. I have got blue eyes. My hair is dark blonde. I have a brother: Darek.

According to my friends, I'm very friendly and easy going. I like helping people. I'm rather an optimistic person. I very like smiling. I don't like people who are unfriendly and insincere. I used to be very shy but now I overcome it.

I'm punctual and ambitious. When I do sth I try to do my best. Because I'm reliable person.

I like going to the cinema and a disco. I like to see my friends. My favourite sports are swimming, basketball and ridding a bicycle. I'm interested in computers but I don't like

computer games so much. I like to **??USIVE ??** new computer programmes.

I've been working as salesman since January 2004. I work for ESPRIT. It's a subsidiary of Ultimate Fashion Ltd. in Poland. Ultimate Fashion Ltd belongs to EMPIK Media and Fashion. It is operator of famous consumers brands. It includes such shops as EMPIK, SMYK, ZARA, WALLIS, RIVER ISLAND, MEXX, GALERIA CENTRUM and SEPHORA.

ESPRIT sells clothes and accessories for everyone: women and man as well as children. This ESPRIT is located in Court Wola in Warsaw. My job involves a lot of patience and persistence. I also have to be tolerant. I'm responsible for helping people, arranging clothes and dusting. What I like most about my job is that I can meet new people and get to know new fashion trends.

And that's all what I can tell.

DESCRIBE YOUR IDEAL JOB

When I was a boy as every day I was dreaming that I become a engine driver (mszynista) or a policeman. I was playing with other boys the game in which we were pretending police and thieves. It was a lot of fun...

Then we started to grow up and change. We have changed a lot. Also we can't forget that world and our country has changed, too. Everybody found out that there is so many different jobs we haven't had any idea about. Increasing of technic is so fast that it's so difficult to imagine and notice the changes. As a result of that a lot of new professions arise. So my ideal job has been changing many times.

I've started to dream about working with computers for some time now. On the beginning I wasn't sure what exactly I want to do. There's so many interesting jobs in this domain that it's very difficult to decide which one is the best. During my studying computers at "PROFESJA" College it became more clear. And now I know that I'd like to be a network manager. This is very responsible work, because working of all company's computers will be depending on me. This job will involve a lot of patience and resistance for stress. It's very important to be very precision, because sometimes one mistake can cause serious problems in all company. Some companies like for example banks don't operate without computers.

I like big challenges so I'm sure that this job is very good. Also this is a very interesting job. You just can't be bored by it, because of fast changes on computer market. I'll know all the news from the changing market by reading the branch papers or magazines. Work as network manager can give me an opportunity to meet a lot of interesting people – taking a part in computer seminars or "surfing" on the Internet.

Sometimes I'd also like to run my own company. In my opinion this is the biggest challenge. But what kind of company would be I don't know now.

I know that I will be very important person. I believe everybody wants to be useful and needed. And I wish I would be such a person...

WHAT STEPS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO REDUCE UNEMPLOYMENT IN POLAND?

It today's world unemployment is one of the biggest problems. In Poland more and more people don't have job and prospects for the future. The worst is that we and especially government doesn't care about it enough and situation of people who are out of work is getting worse every day. I have some proposals how to deal with this. Firstly the Polish government should support more small and medium firm. Then they will develop faster and will become bigger and then they could give work to more employees.

Secondly the government should create educational system which give people chance to educate in direction they would like to. This could give us more experts in concrete branch of industry, not only employees who can do many things, but nothing well.

Thirdly the prime minister should encourage foreign investors to invest in our country. The more people would have work and it would be of course better to our all economy.

Another way to deal with this problem is to reduce bureaucracy in founding new business. What is more the government should decrease tax for employers who form new work positions. These two postulates would certainly help unemployed people in founding new job.

In conclusion I'd like to say that this problem is very hard to solve and we will never create an ideal work-market but in my opinion if society and the government work together on it, the situation of people without work can be improved and it should be our aim for forthcoming years.

WHAT DOES THE INTERNET MEAN FOR PEOPLE NOWADAYS?

I think that the Internet is very important in our life. Some people like for example me don't imagine life without the Internet. Nowadays the Internet is used in everything. We can use it for transferring data, playing games, socializing with other computer users, sending electronic mail and doing shopping.

Activities which we did a long time now they can be done in soe minutes by the Internet. For example instead of going to some shlops we cany buy everything in one virtual shop.

The Internet is very comfortable for us. We can do some things at some time using it. For example we can send messages much faster than traditional or snail mail. At same time we can do such things as go on a virtual tour of a musuem or art exhibition, go shopping and get travel information on hotels and holidays and so on.

Everything that can be done without leaving home.

In my opinion people are lazier and lazier nowadays. And the Internet is becoming more and more important in our life. It's difficult to do sth fast without the Interne nowadays. In lazy world the Internet is a comfortable way of doing lots of activities .

MENTION 3 INVENTIONS THAT HAVE CHANGED YOUR LIFE RECENTLY.

I think that the biggest inventions that have changed my life are: the Internet, mobile phone and credit card.

Some years ago people lived without them but they can't hardly imagine how this could be.

However for me the best important invention would be a mobile phone. I always stay in touch with my friends using it. I can send sms to each other. The advantages of this technology are really big and I cannot see too many drawbacks. In spite of advantages there is a disadvantage – you must pay big bills if you have talked too much during the month.

I also can feel safer with mobile phone. I know that for example in a situation when sb needs to help, I can ring. When I forget sth I can send a short message. The newest mobile phones serve not only for ringing but it has access to the Internet, it takes photos and so on.

Another invention that has changed my life is credit card. It is safer than money. I don't have to carry a lot of money with myself. I carry small pieces of plastic.

The Internet is also such an invention which has changed my life. This is a network of millions of computers around the world, connected by phone lines, satellite or cable, so that all the computers on the net can exchange information with each other. The Internet is very comfortable in my faster and faster life. For example I can fast find information for schoolwork, job, read newspapers, buy things, make new friends and so on.

Everything that can be done at the same time and without leaving home.

I can't imagine my life without these inventions.

CULTURAL DIFFERENCES – IS IT IMPORTANT TO KNOW ABOUT THEM – DOING BUSINESS ABROAD?

Yes, I think that it's important to know about cultural differences. Not only doing business. When we don't know about it we can cause problems, sometimes serious problems. We also can be run the risk of treating like arrogant.

In my opinion a knowledge of cultural differences plays a key role in the creation of trust, since trust is built in different ways and means different things in different cultures.

I also think that the knowledge of it is the first step toward establishing a positive working environment and it also can cause a succes of our business.

Lack of knowledge about the target culture can create misunderstanding, frustration and embarrassment that can lead to loss of business.

WHAT ARE THE REASONS OF SUCH A HIGH LEVEL OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN POLAND?

I think that it is a lot of reasons of such a high level of unemployment in Poland. One reason causes a lot of reasons.

The main reason of it is the change of economical system, which took place in 1989. it resulted in a sudden, shocking change of the labour market.

Another reason of unemployment in Poland is also too high tax. To found company we also have to wait a long times and be very patience.

In Poland it is also difficult to fire employeers. So that cause that Poland isn't very good place to invest. There aren't a lot of companies in Poland especially small and medium firm so there aren't many place when people can be employed. The governemnt especially doesn't carry about it enough.

Lack of institution of unemployment causes that people in Poland stop believing in life and don't have prospects of life.

All of that cause lower and lower level of the unemploymed activity in taking the effort to find a job.

In my opinion those are the main reason of a high level of unemployment in Poland.

WHAT COMPANY PERKS MAY ENCOURAGE TO WORK BETTER AND MORE EFFICIENTLY?

In my point of view the way in which for example Semco is running causes that their workers work efficiently. They can choose what time they begin and finish their jobs, make decisions, decide their own production target and so on. Everything that causes people like their job so they work better and more efficiently.

The best company perks which may encourage to work better are performance – related bonus and possibility of promotion. Some people work only for it.

Another company perk which may encourage to work better and more efficiently are for example: company car, vouchers for lunch, cinema, sports facilities and so on.

In my opinion company perks cause the workers feel well and more valuable so they work better and better and more and more efficiently.

IS JAPAN ONE OF THE BEST DEVELOP COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD? WHY?

I think that Japan is one of the best develop countries in the world. Japane's employeers are the most profitable in the whole world. There is big development of advanced technology which working in condition of the mass media and very developed of transport.

Car, electric and electronic industry is also very developed. In those industires are used the newest technology of production. A lot of things which are produced in Japan we can buy in the whole world.

The feature of Japane's industry is that Japan concentrates its most imprtant inustries' centries along coast and round of the biggest cities.

WORKING FOR A BIG INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES. PROS AND COUS.

I think that working for a big international companies has both advantages and disadvantages.

The biggest advanatges of it is greater possibility of development and promotion. There are a lot of positions where we can be promoted.

We aslo can meet new people from the whole world. In the international company is also greater possibility of going to business trips.

I think that the international company is stable and it is small possibility of bankrupt.

In big international companies are also more company perks, for example: company car, private health insurance, vouchers for lunch, holidays and so on.

In my opionion workinf for a big international companies has also disadvatages. Workers have more work to do and they larger competition because a lot of people would like to get their position. So employeers must work better and more effeciently. In my opinion working for a big international companies is more stressful.