

UNIT 3

What's in a Name?

Introduction

In this unit, you will learn to

- Describe names, jobs, backgrounds and objects
- Talk about family origins, vocations and professions
- Talk about employment



PART 1 Communicative Activities

1 Conversation

Study the conversation. Which sentences will be useful for introducing people and showing goodwill to new members in a workplace? Underline them and then compare them with your classmates. Then practice speaking in the role-play activity.

[A: Head of the English Department; B: A senior teacher; C: A new teacher]

Conversation	Role-play Activity
<p>A: Hello, Jim. This is Hu Xin, our new teacher. B: Nice to meet you, Hu Xin. C: Nice to meet you, too. A: Hu Xin has just graduated from Beijing Normal University. He will be teaching in your group. B: Welcome aboard! A: Hu Xin, Jim is the head of our teaching group. He's from America. He has been teaching in our school for almost five years. I hope you guys will enjoy working together. B: That's for sure, Mr. Zhang. A: Well, I'll leave you two here to talk about the work. Hu Xin, when you finish here, please come to my office. I'll discuss other arrangements with you. Bye! C: Thank you, Mr. Zhang. I'll be there. Bye!</p>	<p>Role-play this situation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introducing your friend(s) to the chair of the Basketball Club of your college. Your friends once played a forward in a city junior basketball team when they were at high school. They want to join the club. 2. Meeting a new member in a computer gaming club. Try to find out his / her background in computer gaming, and also introduce your experience in computer game, such as your favorite game, your new computer graphic card etc. Be polite to the new member.
Useful Expressions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ... has just graduated from ... • I'll leave you two here to ... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • forward (篮球 / 足球) 前锋 • graphic card (计算机) 显卡

2 Listening



At the service center of the GIANT Shopping Mall, several customers are trying to find if some of the following objects are available. Listen to the audios and complete the table.

Objects and Their Locations



Customers	Objects	Availability and Their Locations
Customer 1		
Customer 2		
Customer 3		
Customer 4		

3 Conversation and Poem Reading

Work in pairs. Read the poem several times, and then describe what the mother is like to your partner. The first stanza has been done for you as an example.

[Example]

Poem One (Example)	Your Description
<p style="text-align: center;">My Mum By Kim Voller (aged 14)</p> <p>My mum has dyed auburn hair, It's hard to believe she once was fair. She has her hair set every Sunday, But it's always flat again by Monday.</p>	<p>You may start your description like this:</p> <p>The poet's mother must be a middle-aged woman. She has her hair dyed auburn, and set every Sunday. But it only lasts for one or two days. By Monday, her hair becomes flat again. The poet doesn't think that her mum is very pretty now, but she knows that her mum was very pretty when she was young.</p>

[Pair work]

Poem One (Example)	Your Description
<p style="text-align: center;">My Mum By Kim Voller (aged 14)</p> <p>My mum has dyed auburn hair, It's hard to believe she once was fair. She has her hair set every Sunday, But it's always flat again by Monday.</p> <p>She's always washing, ironing, cleaning Until the house is really gleaming. She gets up at five — that's her rule — And gets us all up for work and school.</p> <p>I shout at her and make her blue, But I still love her, that's true. I love her with all my heart, And I hope that we will never part.</p>	

4 Poem Reading and Listening

Work in pairs. Take turns reading poem lines. Rearrange them to form a stanza and then put all the stanzas into a poem. The first stanza has been done for you as an example.

Stanza 1

[Example]

Poem Lines

My Dad
By Gary Sharpe (aged 15)

Your partner may read the 4 lines like this:

1. We shout and cheer and both agree.
2. We watch the football despite the weather.
3. My dad and I go out together,
4. That Tottenham are the best to see.

The New Order You Have Worked Out

You may work out the order like this:

My dad and I go out together,
We watch the football despite the weather.
We shout and cheer and both agree
That Tottenham are the best to see.

Stanza 2

Poem Lines

1. He's fat and bald and feels the cold.
2. And when he dances it's such a giggle,
3. His feet don't move but he gives a wiggle.
4. I feel my dad is getting old,

The New Order You Have Worked Out

Stanza 3

Poem Lines

1. But somehow I feel he is my mate,
2. He's hardly with it as fashion goes,
3. I don't much like his taste in clothes,
4. In fact I think my dad is great.

The New Order You Have Worked Out

Stanza 4

Poem Lines

1. Apart from which he's married to my mother.
2. That my dad to me is quite a hit.
3. The time has come for me to admit,
4. I wouldn't swap him for any other —

The New Order You Have Worked Out

Useful Words and Expressions

giggle 令人捧腹的滑稽动作
hit 很受欢迎的人（或事物）

mate 好朋友
admit 承认

apart from 除...之外
swap 交换

5 What Are They for?

There are more ways of describing an object / person or talking about one's job. Read the actual words spoken and match them with the functions.

Actual Words Spoken	Functions
1. What size / shape / color is it? 2. What do you do for a living? 3. What does it look like? 4. I've no idea what sort of house that is. 5. One thing that's typically Chinese is the white and blue porcelain teapot. 6. What do you call that thing about 10 centimeters long with two legs which can be used to draw circles?	a. Asking people to provide you with exact information about the size / color / shape of an object. b. Asking people to name an object. c. Asking about someone's job. d. Asking people to describe the appearance of something. e. Describing a thing typical of a nation's culture. f. Telling people that you are not able to imagine what the thing is.

6 More Sentences

Read the frequently used sentences (a–h) and match them with the explanations or situations.

- a. John doesn't look his age.
- b. He has the darkest complexion of any one in the family.
- c. He's got his father's eyes.
- d. He looks great in that red and blue striped sweat-shirt.
- e. Well, tomorrow will be quite a warm day, hazy sunshine in most places.
- f. The girl takes after her mother.
- g. It's funny. He doesn't look old enough to be her father.
- h. Look, those two children look so much alike. They must be related.

- () 1. Father and daughter look similar in age.
- () 2. Describing someone's clothes.
- () 3. The son looks like his father in a way.
- () 4. Describing someone's skin color.
- () 5. The two children may come from the same family.
- () 6. The girl is like her mother in appearance or personality.
- () 7. He looks younger than he actually is.
- () 8. Talking about the weather.

7 Viewing



- A** Work in groups. View the part (00:15–01:10) of the video and then complete the information about the main characters as follows.

Dr. Sarah de Sanz: _____

Dr. Paul Brown: _____

- B** Brainstorm about zoo dentists' job after viewing the part (01:11–02:16) of the video with sound off. Put what you think of in the left column of Box 1. Then view the part again with sound on. Write down the notes in the right column of Box 1. Then answer the following question.

Box 1

Brainstorming	Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zoo dentists' job Function of Animals' teeth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zoo dentists' job Function of Animals' teeth
Question	
<p>Why do zoo animals have more risks of getting dental disease?</p>	

- © View the part (02:17–07:20) of the video with sound off, and write down as much information as possible in each column of Box 2. Check your information with your group members. Then view the part again with sound on, check your notes and write down the new information in the columns below.

Box 2

Information	Animals		
	Sea Lion	Elephant	Jaguar
Age			
Problems			
Solution			

- ④ View the video again. Judge whether the statements are true (T) or false (F).

- Dr. Sarah de Sanz started working as zoo dentist when she was at dental school.
- It's true that Dr. Paul Brown had nothing to do when his daughter, Dr. de Sanz, became a zoo dentist.
- Like people, the dental problems of zoo animals can be caused by what they eat.
- Sue's tusks are also examined by the dentists since they are actually teeth.
- Sandy's tooth problem is not worse than expected as things go very smoothly.

- ⑤ Make a choice to replace the underlined word in each sentence.

- Going to the dentist is frightening for a lot of people, but when a dentist is treating a zoo animal, it's the patients who can be scary. Some of these patients could take a dentist's hand off in one bite!
A. frightening B. frightened C. discouraged
- In the animal world, bad teeth can ruin a life.
A. decide B. spoil C. guarantee
- Tooth maintenance is extremely important for both people and animals.
A. treatment B. keeping C. remaining
- He's 30 years old, which is twice their normal life expectancy.
A. expectation B. span C. prospection
- Artie's checkup goes well and the dentists conclude that his teeth are just fine: not bad for a 30-year-old who's never brushed his teeth!
A. decide B. imply C. end

- ⑥ Discuss the quotation with your group members.

Dr. Sarah de Sanz says, "I really do believe that it's our responsibility. If we're going to keep animals in captivity for everybody to look at, then we have to keep them healthy."

- ⑦ Work in groups to discuss the questions and then share your discussion with the class.

- How did Dr. Sarah de Sanz see her job? Support your opinion with facts.
- What do you think of Dr. Sarah de Sanz and her job?

PART 2 Reading and Language Activities

Pre-reading Task

Discuss the questions.

1. Have you ever experienced gender inequality? If you do, share your experience with the class.
2. Can you list some common examples of gender stereotypes in workplace?

Read the Text



What's in a Name?

1 When I gave my name to the woman at the reception desk and told her why I had come, she seemed a bit surprised.

5 “Oh, uh ... well, just take a seat. Mr. Lambert will be here soon,” she said, and pointed to some chairs at the other end of the room. Three young women all about my age were sitting there. They gave me a strange look, as if I shouldn't have been there at all. I sat down near the door and had another look at the advertisement. I had come across it in the local paper.

15 I had written a short letter about myself and had got back a brief note, asking me to come for an interview. What had surprised me was the fact that they hadn't sent me a proper application form to fill out or even asked me for a photograph. And so, as I sat there, waiting for Mr. Lambert, I couldn't help wondering if they realized I was a man. I had signed the letter “Chris Neale.” Did they think that “Chris” was short for “Christine” and not “Christopher”? I had done clerical work before, knew something about computers, and spoke Spanish fluently. But perhaps this was one of those jobs open only to woman, even though they didn't say so.

After a while, a man in his early thirties came in. He had a sports jacket and jeans on, and no tie. He didn't seem to notice me and introduced himself as Jack Lambert to the three women.

25 “I'd like to tell you a bit about the company first, and then I'll interview each of you separately. But where's the other girl ... uh, what's her name?” he said, and looked at his list.

“Chris Neale?” I asked hesitantly.

“Yes,” he said as he turned round. When he saw me, he let out a surprised “Oh.” Then he added, “That isn't you, is it?” I began to feel very embarrassed.



1 Comprehension Work

A Read the text carefully again and discuss the questions.

1. Why had Chris come to this company?
2. Why was the receptionist surprised when she saw Chris?
3. Why did the three young women give him a strange look?
4. Where did Chris get the news about the job opening?
5. What job was Chris applying for?
6. What are the qualifications that Chris thought he had for the job?
7. Why did Mr. Lambert let out a surprised “Oh”?
8. Why did Chris feel embarrassed?
9. Were other people fair to Chris? If so, why so? If not, why not?

B Retell the text using the key words.

- job interview, sounded like a woman
- Mr. Lambert, made a mistake
- the job advertisement in a local newspaper, started to feel nervous
- qualified for the position, clerical work experience, computers, spoke Spanish
- embarrassed, only open to women

C Work in pairs. Suppose you are Chris and your partner is a friend who thought that you fully qualified for the position advertised in the local newspaper. Tell your friend why you didn't get the job and how the interview went.

Highly Education Publishing Co., Ltd.

2 Language Work

A Read the job advertisement and fill in the blanks according to the text.

Personal Assistant to Sales Manager

Due to the growth of our company, we are looking 1. _____ someone to 2. _____ the manager of our foreign sales department 3. _____ dealing with customers and orders from abroad. If you have any previous secretarial and / or 4. _____ experience, are between the ages of 21 and 30, are interested in 5. _____ and 6. _____ a good telephone personality, please write a short 7. _____ giving details of your 8. _____ jobs, current employment, etc. A 9. _____ of Spanish, Italian or Greek would be an 10. _____.

Write to Hiringsoft@slc.com
Soft Logic Computer Co., Ltd.
24 Billing Street, NY154307-8763, US

B Do you remember how the writer said the parts in italics? If not, find them in the text.

1. The receptionist *showed me* where I could sit to wait for Mr. Lambert.

2. Chris guessed that the three young women looked *as young as he*.

3. The three young women *must feel it strange to see me come for the interview*.

4. Mr. Lambert arranged *a meeting* with the applicants so that he could find out about their abilities, experiences, etc. in order to decide who was most suitable for the position.

5. Chris thought that the company should have sent him *a form* in which he could put more detailed information about himself.

6. It is obvious that many English people take “Chris” as *another name for* “Christine” rather than “Christopher”.
-
7. It finally dawned on Chris that the position was *offered to* women.
-
8. Chris did not know exactly how old Mr. Lambert was. He guessed that he was *a little over 30 years old*.
-
9. Mr. Lambert was dressed very *casually* for the interview.
-
10. Mr. Lambert was shocked when he saw Chris. *And he uttered a cry*.
-

© Work out the meanings of the expressions in the box according to the context. Then use them to rewrite the sentences.

let out

come across

fill out

couldn't help

give ... a ... look

1. My guinea pig made a terrible shriek when she saw a large cat sneaking into the room.
-
2. She couldn't keep herself from laughing when she saw his funny haircut.
-
3. If you happen to see any good job openings, let me know.
-
4. If you want to apply for the scholarship, you have to complete this form.
-
5. She looked at me angrily.
-

PART 3 Extended Activities

1 Dictation



Listen and write.

Four horizontal lines for writing the dictated text.

2 Read More

The Little Old Lady from Cricket Creek

By Len Gray

- 1 Art Bowen and I were sitting in my office when Penny Thorpe, my secretary, walked in.
“Yes, Penny. What do you want?”
“Mr Cummings, there’s a woman to see you. She’s applying for a job.” Penny put the application
5 form on my desk.
“Good, good. I hope she’s not another one just out of high school. So many of them have applied
recently.” I stared at the form. “Age sixty-five! What does she think this office is? An old people’s home?”
“Now, Ralph,” Art said. “Keep calm. Perhaps the old girl’s a good worker. We can’t kick people out
of the building just because they’re a bit older than usual. What’s her application like?”
“Well,” I said doubtfully, “it says that her name’s Mabel Jumpstone. That’s right. Jumpstone.
10 Good experience. She seems to be qualified. Shall we ask her to come in?”
“Yes, why not? Let’s do it together.”
This is against the rules of the Great Riveroak Insurance Company, which say that we should give
separate interviews and make independent decisions. But we usually forget these rules. We interview
in pairs and save time.
15 Penny remained standing in front of my desk. She was tapping her pencil impatiently. “Well?”
she said.
“All right. Penny. Send Mrs Jumpstone in.”

Mrs Jumpstone came into the office, smiling and nodding her head. She wore a black dress and a dark red hat with pink plastic flowers on it. She sat down and said, "Hello, there!" Her voice was loud.

20 I looked at Art, who was leaning forward in his chair. His mouth was open and his eyes were round.

"Er ... Mrs Jumpstone," I began.

"Mabel, please."

25 "All right, Mabel. This is Mr Bowen." I waved a hand at Art. "This is a very interesting application, Mabel. It says here that you were born in Cricket Creek, California."

"That's right. Home of John and Mary Jackson."

She smiled at me, proud of the information.

Art bent over. "John and Mary Jackson?" he asked.

"Oh, yes," she replied, "the famous gardeners."

30 Art tried to smile. "The ... the ... oh, yes, of course. I've heard of them. Let me see the application, Ralph." He took it from the desk and studied it carefully for a few minutes.

Mabel and I sat and watched each other. Now and then she winked at me. I tried to look at the ceiling.

35 Art looked up from the application. "You worked at Upstate California Insurance for ten years. Why did you leave?"

Mabel smiled. "Young man, have you ever lived in the north? It's another world. Cold and wet. I had to leave. I told Harry — that's my husband, who died recently — that we had to come south. Mr Bowen, you wouldn't believe how much I enjoy the sun. Of course, you've never been to Cricket Creek," she added, which was true. I doubted very much if Art had even heard of Cricket Creek.

40 Art looked as if he wanted to hide. Mabel smiled at him, nodding her head pleasantly.

"Mabel," I said, "if you get this job, you'll have to keep things up to date. In an office of this size there's quite a lot of work, I can tell you."

"Really?"

"Really. The job also means that you must do some typing. You can type?"

45 "Oh, heavens, yes. Would you like me to take a test?"

"Er ... yes, that's a good idea. Let's go and find a typewriter. Are you coming, Art?"

He smiled broadly. "I wouldn't miss it for anything." We walked out of the office. Art whispered in my ear, "About ten words a minute is my guess."

50 But it was ninety words a minute! I gave Mabel a report to type out. She handled the typewriter like a machine gun. Art almost got a stiff neck from watching the keys fly.

Mabel gave me three pages. I couldn't find a single mistake. Art looked over each page as if he were searching the paper for fingerprints. At last he looked up and shook his head.

Mabel went back to my office. Art and I walked over to a corner. Art was holding the typed sheets.

"Well, what do you think?" he said.

55 "She's the best typist in the building. There's no doubt about that."

"She's different. But you're right. Check her references¹."

¹ references: 介绍信; 推荐信

“And if they're all right?”

“Let's employ the little old lady from Cricket Creek.”

Art came into my room the next day. “What about our typewriter queen?” he asked.

60 “I've just rung her to offer her the job. Her references are good.”

Within two months Mabel Jumpstone was the most popular employee in the building. Whenever someone had a birthday, she brought a cake and served it during the afternoon break. And people with problems started to come to her. She arrived early every morning and stayed late. She never missed a day. Not one. Everybody admired her.

65 Six months after we employed her, Art walked slowly into my office. His eyes were glassy. His hands were shaking. He fell heavily into a chair.

“What's the matter with you?” I asked.

“The cash transport,” he groaned.

70 We receive quite a lot of cash from our customers. Once a week, on Fridays, we take it to the bank. Today was Friday.

“What about the cash transport, Art? Come on, what's the matter?”

He stared emptily at me. “Harvey was taking the money to the bank as usual. He rang me ten minutes ago. He was robbed. Knocked out by a blow on the head. And guess who did it?”

“Who?”

75 “Mabel. Mabel Jumpstone. Our little old lady.”

“You're joking. You must be joking. Art.”

He shook his head. “Harvey said that she wanted to go to the bank. When they were in the car, she took a gun out of her bag and told him to stop. Harvey said that it looked like something for elephants. The gun, I mean. He's just woken up. The money's gone. So has Harvey's car. And so has Mabel.”

80 “I can't believe it,” I said.

“It's true. What are we going to do?”

I thought for a moment. “The application! Come on!”

85 We ran into the office. The application form had gone, of course. There was a single sheet in its place. It was typed. *I resign. Yours sincerely, Mabel.* The name was typed, too. There was no handwritten signature. Mabel had never written anything. She always insisted on typing everything.

Art stared at me. “Do you remember anything on the application form? Anything? The references?”

“For heaven's sake. Art, it was six months ago!” I paused for a moment. “I can remember one thing. Just one.”

90 “What?”

“She came from Cricket Creek. I wonder if there is a Cricket Creek.”

We checked.

There wasn't.

95 I got home to my two-bedroom flat late that evening. The police had been sympathetic. They had been really nice to us. They didn't even laugh when we told them they were looking for a little old lady of sixty-five. They asked for a photograph or a sample of handwriting. We had neither.

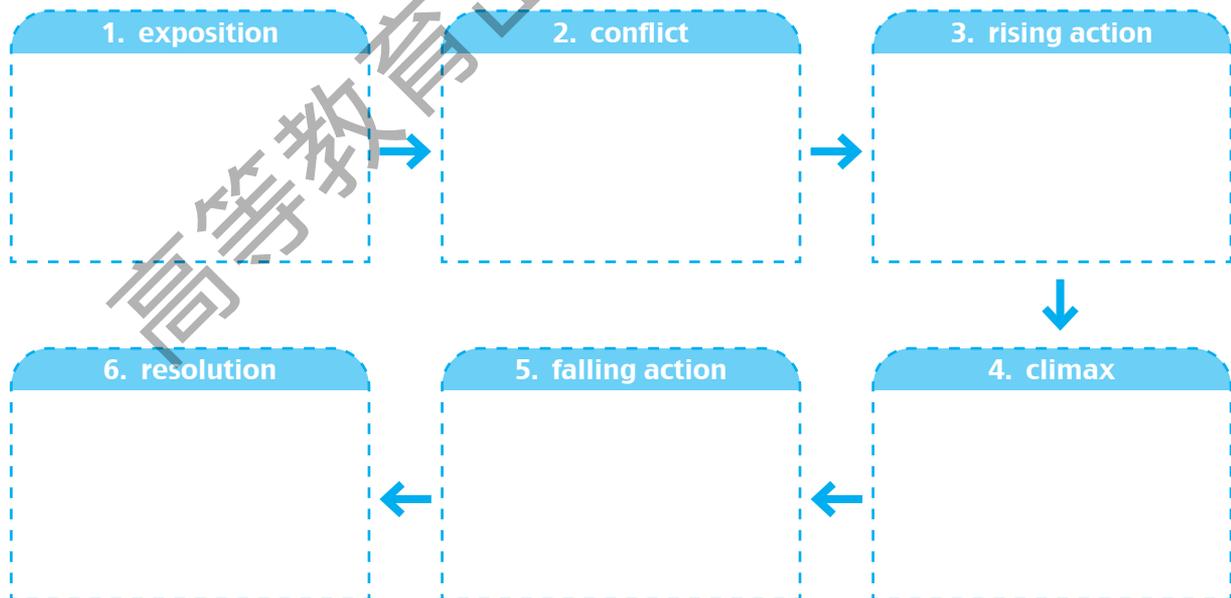
I opened a can of beer and then walked into one of the bedrooms. Mabel was sitting on the bed, counting \$78,000 into two separate piles.

I looked at her, smiled, and said, “Hello, Mum.”

A Read the text carefully again. Judge whether the statements are true (T) or false (F).

1. The story is narrated from the first-person point of view.
2. Penny Thorpe is the narrator of the story and the readers get an insight into everything that happens through her.
3. The story takes place in northern California at the Great Riveroak Insurance Company.
4. Mabel Jumpstone was finally hired because the interview followed the rules of the company.
5. Although Mabel Jumpstone was sixty-five-year-old, she was extremely competent and proved to be a whiz at typing.
6. Mabel Jumpstone always brought a cake for someone's birthday and people began bringing their problems to her.
7. After six months, Mabel Jumpstone disappeared after having robbed the company of \$78,000.
8. There was no trace of Mabel Jumpstone as investigations showed that her background was fictitious and she had never written anything by hand.
9. Finally, Art Bowen proved to be an accomplice and shared the loot with Mabel Jumpstone.
10. The story is a humorous account of how easy it is to be deceived by appearances.

B Work in pairs. Retell the story according to the storyline.



3 In Other Words

Look for the expressions in "What's in a Name?" Explain to your classmates what they mean.

E.g.

A: What does X mean?
B: Well, ...

- couldn't help doing
- open to
- point to
- come across
- in one's early thirties

4 Speaking Your Mind

Look at the adjectives below. Decide which of them you can use to describe people, objects or weather — including your teacher if you like.

amusing capable
careful confident
considerate easygoing
energetic friendly
generous humorous
intelligent interesting
patient polite
reliable sociable

green
blue
red
brown
purple
pink
orange
tan
black
white
grey

woollen
canvas
cotton
paper
wooden
metal
glass
wet
leather
plastic
silk
nylon
rubber

wet dry
damp windy
freezing hot
warm stuffy
chilly humid
cool bright
sunny fair
overcast cloudy
dull hazy

5 Translation

Put the sentences into English, using the expressions in the brackets.

1. 对不起，我们不招聘学生。(open to)

2. 前两天我突然看到一封法国的来信。(come across)

3. 他把手放在胸口，似乎是为了表示诚恳。(as if)

4. 我已经填好了申请表。(fill out)

5. 她身上穿了外套。(on)

6. 我不由得想，我们犯了一个大错误。(can't help doing)

7. Fred 是 Frederick 的简称。(short for)

8. 他看上去才三十出头。(in one's early thirties)

6 Writing

A Suppose the following is Mabel Jumpstone's job application letter. Please complete the content of the application according to the clues in the brackets.

Letter of Job Application

Your given name: _____

Your last name: _____

Your address: _____

Your phone number: _____

Your email: _____

Personnel Manager

The Great Riveroak Insurance Company

28 Highway Street, CA 94510-8763

US

Oct 15, 1960

Dear Sir or Madam:

The typist position that you advertised in the local newspaper is exactly the kind of employment I am hoping to find. Would you please consider me for the position?

(The following are guidelines for the second paragraph)

1. (Your age; when did you graduate from high school?)

2. (When did you graduate from college?)

3. (What is your major?)

4. (Have you ever had any work experience as a typist?)

5. (What are your hobbies?)

6. (Use one or two words to describe yourself.)

Thank you for your consideration. I will be available for interview on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons. At your request, I will be more than happy to provide additional information.

Yours sincerely,

_____ (Your signature)

_____ (Your name in print)

B Suppose Mr. Lambert told you that you had not been employed because you were a man. Do you think the company is violating the equal opportunity employment law? Read the part of the law against gender discrimination in employment in the US. With this as a starting point, write an essay around 200 words for a newspaper about the need for equal employment opportunities.

Equal Employment Opportunity

The American government created a department in 1964 to ensure that people get equal pay for equal work regardless of sex, color, race, national origin, age, etc. The law also requires that people receive equal treatment in employment. Anyone that is found violating this law would be warned first. But if the warning fails to stop the discrimination, the department would sue the offender.

PART 4 Cultural Information

Read the information below and then complete the cultural study task.



English Names

In English-speaking countries, your first name usually means the first name given to you at birth by your parents. But it may also include all the names given to you by your parents. In Christian countries, a Christian name is sometimes used in the same way. Given name(s) and (less commonly) forename(s) are also used in this way, especially on official forms. The given name is the most suitable expression for Chinese people who usually say their

surnames first. It is common in Britain and the US to have a middle name and it can be a forename or a surname (e.g., a married woman's maiden name), sometimes written as an initial. It is not related to the family name and can be taken from anywhere. People sometimes have more than one middle name. The name a person shares with other members of the family is called the surname (in British English), or last name / family name (in American English).

Cultural Study Task

In different societies, aspects of personal names are of different importance. For example, in Chinese, one's family name is regarded the most important for one person. The meaning of the names is not only related with the sound, but also the characters (the written forms) of the name. That means, two persons who share the same name in pronunciation may have totally different meanings because of the different characters to represent their sounds. Make a study on the Internet to find answers to the following questions.

Aspects of Personal Names	Which Aspect Is the Most Important?
Chinese names: Family name; Given name For example: <i>Wang Luren</i>	Family name: <i>Wang</i>
English name: First name; Sir name / Family name For example: <i>Tom Michael Smith</i>	
German name: First name; Middle name; Last name For example: <i>Johann Wolfgang Schmidt</i>	

