

Self- Employed

Read about three self-employed people.

My name is Stuart Foster. I _____26 people. I own a garage and car sales company. We deal in Ford cars and commercial vehicles.

I employ ten _____, two motor apprentices, three _____, a sales manager, a repairs manager or garage _____, three office staff, two receptionists, one _____ worker, one car valet, a _____ and myself, as _____. We buy and sell _____ cars as well as selling new cars.

I expect my staff to be hardworking and honest, to be punctual and efficient and to be good _____ workers.

My name is Julia Browne. I own and run a small hotel and restaurant in Co. Dublin. There are fourteen rooms in the hotel, a bar and lounge and dining room. The restaurant is separate and it is very popular for evening meals.

I employ 16 people. I have two chefs, one kitchen _____, three waiting staff, two housekeepers/cleaning staff, one full-time barman and two part-time, two receptionists, part-time. I manage the hotel myself but I have an _____ manager to help me. I also employ a _____ to look after the grounds.

I have very good staff, they are all hard workers and very _____ to me. When we are busy they have no problem working extra hours or overtime. They have to work _____ hours because we need staff on the _____ at all times.

My name is Paul Webster and myself and my wife Marion own and run a small grocery business. Our shop is located in a small village in the country and it does a good local _____. We sell _____ and magazines and cigarettes and sweets as well as a full range of food and groceries. We don't employ many staff because we do most of the work ourselves but at weekends we employ three part-time shop assistants so that we can take some time off. One of these _____ also works on weekdays from 6 to 9pm.

We need staff who are honest and _____ and who are quick and _____ in the shop.

Task 1

Look up these words and put them in the correct spaces.

1. employ

2. trustworthy

3. trade

4. loyal

5. newspapers

6. salesmen

7. general

8. team

9. premises

10. general manager

11. assistant

12. managing director

13. shift

14. second-hand

15. gardener

16. foreman

17. employees

18. porter

19. mechanics

20. efficient

Task 2

Explain these phrases.

commercial vehicles

motor apprentices

team workers

local trade

Task 3

Class discussion

Look at the employers again and think about the businesses they run.

- Which person, do you think, has the most successful business and why?
- Which person would be the best to work for?
- What are the benefits of being self-employed?
- What are the disadvantages of being self-employed?