A New Job Skill

Pre-reading

Questions:
• Have you lost a job? What did you do?

Definitions:
• Laid off – to lose one’s job due to company changes
• Technical school – a school that offers two-year degrees for trades and for transfers to four-year programs

Reading

The plant where Raul works closed. Raul is laid off. He cannot find a job in town that uses his skills. He does not want to move. He wants to learn a new job skill.

Raul calls Kris at the technical school. “I need to learn some new job skills. When do you hold classes?” Raul asks. Kris replies, “We have classes during the day and in the evening.”

“How long would it take me to finish?” asks Raul. “Most programs are two years long. That is one reason why students come to our school,” Kris says. “Other reasons are cost and class size. Both are lower than at other schools.”

“Could I visit your school on Friday?” Raul asks. “Yes” says Kris, “I’ll see you then.”

Level 1.0
Understanding

1. Why did Raul lose his job?______________________________________________________

2. Who does Raul call? Why?_____________________________________________________

3. When are classes held?_________________________________________________________

4. At technical schools, the cost and class sizes are _________________________ than at other schools.

5. When will Raul visit the school?_______________________________________________

Writing

Choice A: Retell the story in your own words.

Choice B: Have you thought about a new job skill? Why or why not? What new job skill would you like to learn?

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