

Sample Script

(Print and mark up this script, then record and post on the class blog.)

At a recent town hall meeting in Illinois, President Obama answered questions about the sagging economy and he mentioned a Georgia job training program.

It's called Georgia Works, and it allows a company to try out a prospective employee for eight weeks, while the worker still receives an unemployment check.

Mr. Obama called Georgia Works a smart program. It began in 2003, and under the latest version, the state pays a \$240 stipend to those who participate. The goal is that trainees will get a full-time position by the end of the training period.

Last fall the program was expanded to allow not only those getting unemployment benefits, but the long-term unemployed to try it. Then Georgia Works paid a \$600 stipend, but so many signed up that the budget was wiped out in months.

Georgia officials say they are looking at how to sustain the program long-term. With 10 percent unemployment in the state, labor economists aren't sure whether it's the plan the White House should back, but they say it's clear the White House needs to do something to create jobs.

This is _(your name)_ for Inside the Shell.