

FORM 10

Listening Comprehension

It's a Living

I started my career as a conductor but became a bus driver because conductors are often replaced by ticket machines. If you decide to become a driver, you have to go through a strict medical test and must be completely fit. You must also have a clean driving license. I went to the training school for five weeks to learn how to control a bus. It wasn't easy. The worst were the road signs. There were regular exams at the end of each week. If you make good progress, you take the test. I was lucky, I passed first time.

I usually drive for about seven hours a day with one break. My basic pay is \$120 a week but I get additional pay depending on the shifts. I also get free tube and bus travel.

Some men drivers think because you are a young girl, then can tease you. But I generally get on well with them. It's much easier and more pleasant to drive a bus than a car. You sit high up and you can see the traffic well and people, and cars move out of your way.

I often have old ladies on the bus, and they come to the front of the bus to speak to me. They say they admire my driving. It's really encouraging especially if I am tired or gloomy.