

Select Readings, Second Edition
Pre-Intermediate, Chapter 12 Test

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

A Hard Worker

So you think *you* work hard? Have a look at 36-year-old Park Byoung-gi from Incheon, Korea. Park, a manager at a large electronics company, gets up every morning at 5:30 a.m. While his wife and children are still sound asleep, he dresses, eats the small breakfast that his wife has prepared the night before and left out for him, and departs on a two-hour journey to Seoul to start work by 8:30 a.m. After sitting all day in front of his computer, Park usually manages to get out of the office by 9 p.m., or sometimes later.

By the time he finally reaches home, his family has normally already gone to bed. For Park, it is just a matter of showering, sleeping four hours or so, and then starting the whole routine again. For six days a week, this is Park's schedule. And, although Park officially has two weeks of vacation time a year, he seldom has time to take it. Last year, he took just three days off for himself.

Park regrets that he only gets to spend time with his wife and three small children on weekends. And then, sometimes even that time is interrupted by work.

However, Park is not alone. In fact, he says that nearly everyone in his office is in the same boat. In Korea, where the average person works more than 2,000 hours per year, hard work and long hours are common.

Park thinks that it is a cultural thing. He says that everyone is concerned with what the boss will think of their behavior. Leaving early or leaving at a fixed time every day could mean being overlooked for a promotion or a raise.

However, Park says he does not mind working hard. He thinks that one day he and his family will be rewarded for all his hard work now.

1. The reading passage is primarily about _____.
 - A. A day in the life of a hardworking businessman
 - B. How to become a manager of a large company
 - C. Why people change jobs in Korea
 - D. The amount of vacation time managers get in Korea
2. Which of the following is not true about Park's morning routine?
 - A. When he leaves, his family is still sleeping.
 - B. His travel to work takes about two hours.
 - C. His wife makes him breakfast in the morning.
 - D. He leaves his home around 6:30 a.m.
3. How long is Park's average work day?
 - A. Less than ten hours
 - B. More than twelve hours
 - C. Two hours
 - D. All night
4. Which of the following is not part of Park's routine every night?

- A. Taking a shower
 - B. Traveling home
 - C. Sleeping around four hours
 - D. Playing with his children
5. How much vacation time is Park officially allowed to take each year?
- A. Three days
 - B. Six days
 - C. Two weeks
 - D. He doesn't get a vacation.
6. According to the passage, what does Park like to do on weekends?
- A. Spend time with his wife and children
 - B. Go to work
 - C. Go on vacation
 - D. Leave early
7. In paragraph 4, what does "in the same boat" mean?
- A. Park's office is located on a boat.
 - B. Park travels to work with his co-workers every day.
 - C. Park's co-workers usually leave work earlier than he does.
 - D. Park and his co-workers all work long hours.
8. According to Park, which of the following is not typical of people in his office?
- A. They work more than 2,000 hours a year.
 - B. They are concerned about what their boss thinks of them.
 - C. They generally work long hours, just like he does.
 - D. They are concerned about their boss's behavior.
9. If a person leaves early every day, Park thinks _____.
- A. They will look for their boss before they leave.
 - B. They are part of the same culture.
 - C. They will not get a promotion or a raise.
 - D. They will leave at a fixed time.
10. According to the passage, why is Park not concerned about working hard now?
- A. He thinks it is necessary to bring him success in the future.
 - B. He thinks he will be able to take longer vacations.
 - C. He thinks soon he will be able to see his family more.
 - D. He thinks that having a job is a good reward.