

Have you ever had a summer job before? What are your feelings after your summer work? In fact, last summer I spent a week working for my uncle, Lee Ka Shing's, company. It is a popular supermarket in HK, which is called PARKnSHOP. I was a cashier assistant there and came into contact with substantial number of customers every day, and of course, the money accompanied me all the time as well. In spite of only seven working days, I found it hard work absolutely. Fortunately, I felt I learnt a lot meanwhile.

I can still remember every day I had been working there. On the first day, I needed to learn how to recognize all the kinds of apples and oranges, with different varieties and different prizes. For apples, there were Rose Apple, Fuji Apple, Envy Apple and Red Apple, etc. They all have their own particular appearance if you observe them carefully. I was just a new one there. It really was a big challenge to me on the first day, be honest. Apart from recognizing wide varieties of fruit, it was essential to remember their bar codes. I had spent three days to make friends with codes.

What was the most difficult thing when it comes to these seven summer working days was having contact with customers. Since the working place was in Happy Valley, which is the foreigners' favourite dwelling district. Nine out of ten customers were foreigners. How to say? It was a big difficulty to me due to my poor English speaking skills. But, never give up is my motto. I had tried my best to speak with those challenging customers. Always start with 'Good morning, do you need a plastic bag?' or 'Do you have a MoneyBack Card?' and end with 'Thank you! See you.' Maybe you should think this is very simple to do since you speak English every day with your friends. Honestly, you cannot understand what our feelings were when we could not express ourselves with foreigners in English which is not our mother tongue and we are not good at English. Although sometimes it made me frustrated, I got pleasure from it. I remember on my sixth working day, there was an American coming to my cashier to pay money. She bought lots of daily goods, which included fruits and frozen food. She was shopping by herself, so I suggested she have the delivery service because that could help her bring those goods to her home. She looked very happy and wanted to put all of the things she bought into our delivery room. There was a rule in the supermarket, 'No meat and frozen food when you use delivery service.' Thus I tried my best to use all the words I knew to explain this rule to her. It was lucky that she understood what I said. You know? When she got my point, I felt I got the world! Eventually, she said 'Thank you so much, my dear!' to me. It gave me huge encouragement.

Seven working days, they were long but also short to me. It was hard to work to me but I've learnt a lot. I know how to recognize different kinds of fruits, remember their special bar code and be brave to open my mouth to talk with foreigners. Those work experiences would put me on the road to success. 'Work experience is the stepping stone to success.' My uncle told me once upon a time.

I will never forget those seven days in Parknshop. It gave me a lot I never had before. Thanks to my uncle for giving me this opportunity. I am planning to have another summer job in my uncle's company, Watsons, this summer. You guys should have a summer job, too! Let's share our working experience with each other after this summer. (640 words)