

**CAREER  
PATHS**

# Au Pair

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Express Publishing



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## Scope and Sequence

Unit	Topic	Reading context	Vocabulary	Function
1	Becoming an Au Pair	Webpage	age requirement, au pair, background investigation, cultural exchange, diploma, host country, language, marital status, proficient, psychometric evaluation, qualification, reference, visa	Talking about qualifications
2	Qualities of an Au Pair	Advertisement	adaptable, assertive, caring, confident, creative, dependable, friendly, non-smoker, patient, positive, responsible, trustworthy	Stating requirements
3	Finding a Position	Article	advertisement, agency, arrival, contact information, contract, host family, job board, line up, newspaper, scam, website	Discussing options
4	Au Pair Agencies	Webpage	candidate, expense, fee, interview, local childcare coordinator, match, mediate, orientation, placement, screen	Clarifying information
5	Host Families	Family Profiles	adolescent, child, extended family, father, host children, host parent, infant, mother, school-age, sibling, single parent, teenager, toddler	Describing a person
6	The Interview	Handbook Excerpt	compatible, evaluate, expectation, experience, impression, in person, Internet, long distance, presentable, question, telephone, video conference	Asking for someone on the phone
7	Accepting a Position	Article	accept, age, benefit, consider, metropolitan, offer, rural, satisfaction, size, standard of living, values	Making predictions
8	What to Pack	Blog Post	camera, cell phone, clothes, credit card, dictionary, document, driver's license, electronics, gift, glasses, laptop, medication, memento, passport, ticket, toiletries	Giving a reminder
9	Duties of an Au Pair 1	Book Excerpt	chore, clean, cook, drive, dust, errand, iron, lesson, meal, pack, practice, school, vacuum, working hours	Asking for a favor
10	Duties of an Au Pair 2	Journal Entry	assist, babysit, bathe, dress, feed, laundry, play, put away, shop, wake up, wash	Describing a degree
11	Household Items 1	Email	bed, blanket, chair, computer, couch, desk, dresser, furniture, lamp, pillow, sheet, table, telephone, television, towel	Giving thanks to someone
12	Household Items 2	Note	can opener, coffee maker, dishes, dishwasher, dryer, garbage disposal, microwave, oven, pan, pot, refrigerator, stove, toaster, utensil, washing machine	Checking for understanding
13	Children's Clothing	Instructions	coat, hat, jeans, pajamas, pants, shirt, shoe, skirt, socks, sweater, swimsuit, underwear, uniform	Providing reassurance
14	Baby Care	Letter	baby carrier, bib, bottle, bouncer, car seat, changing table, crib, diaper, diaper bag, high chair, playpen, stroller, walker	Correcting someone else
15	Living Arrangements	Email	basement, bathroom, bedroom, closet, dining room, garage, guest room, kitchen, laundry room, living room, yard	Adding information



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## Get ready!

1 Before you read the passage, talk about these questions.

- 1 Why do people decide to become au pairs?
- 2 What paperwork does someone need to become an au pair?

- ✓ Experience
- ✓ Education
- ✓ Communication
- ✓ Skills

qualification

visa

IMMIGRATION

MAY 17 1993

ADMITTED

UNTIL

diploma

Diploma

earned all right privileges pertaining to this diploma  
This Day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_

au pair

references

HOME

ABOUT US

SERVICES

CONTACT

## Reading

2 Read the webpage. Then, choose the correct answers.

- 1 What is the webpage mainly about?
  - A the main responsibilities of au pairs
  - B why *Au Pairs International* is a great agency
  - C how to become an au pair with this agency
  - D the characteristics of good au pairs
- 2 What is NOT a requirement to work with Au Pairs International?
  - A be over 18 years old
  - B have a high school diploma
  - C provide references
  - D give a background description
- 3 Who is responsible for getting the au pair's visa?
  - A the applicant
  - C *Au Pairs International*
  - B the host family
  - D the government

## Au Pairs International

## Becoming an Au Pair

- Why do people become au pairs? They want to have a **cultural exchange**. It also provides work experience
- What are the **age requirements**? You must be 18-26 years old.
- What **qualifications** do I need? You need a high school **diploma**.
- Will I need **references**? Yes. We'll also conduct a **background investigation**.
- Is there an entrance exam? No, but you must pass a **psychometric evaluation**.
- Will I need to apply for a **visa** myself? No, we'll do that for you.
- I want to apply! What do I do now? Complete the form below. Tell us your **marital status** and which **languages** you are **proficient** in.
- Can I choose my **host country**? Yes.

## Vocabulary

3 Write a word or phrase that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

- 1 Jessie is very skilled in French, Spanish and German. \_ r \_ \_ \_ c \_ \_ \_ t
- 2 The agency will need to do a study into your life history before accepting you. b \_ \_ \_ g \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ n \_ \_ s \_ \_ \_ a \_ \_ \_ \_
- 3 After leaving college, Katie became a person who works in someone's home doing childcare and light chores. \_ u p \_ \_ \_
- 4 Can you tell me your relationship situation? m \_ \_ \_ t \_ \_ \_ t \_ \_ u s
- 5 I need a completed form giving information about a person's work or character from a tutor or employer. \_ \_ f \_ \_ e \_ \_ \_
- 6 You need an official document allowing you enter, stay, or live in a different country before you can start work. v \_ \_ \_
- 7 Maisie has just received her high school official document stating that she completed a course. d \_ \_ \_ \_ m \_



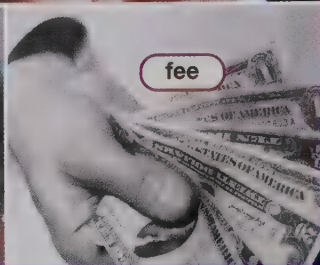
# 4

## Au Pair Agencies

### Get ready!

1 Before you read the passage, talk about these questions.

- 1 What does an au pair agency do to help au pairs?
- 2 How does the agency help host families?



### Reading

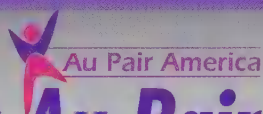
2 Read the webpage. Then, choose the correct answers.

- 1 Why does the agency screen host families?
  - A to check the families understand the au pair's job
  - B to make sure au pairs will not be in danger
  - C to reduce disagreements with the au pair
  - D to allow families to meet the LLC face-to-face
- 2 What does the agency NOT provide?
  - A a mediation service
  - B childcare advice
  - C a handbook
  - D an orientation course
- 3 What does an interested reader need to do next?
  - A attend an interview
  - B attend an orientation course
  - C complete a form
  - D read the information pack

### Vocabulary

3 Match the words (1-5) with the definitions (A-E).

- |   |              |   |                |
|---|--------------|---|----------------|
| 1 | __ candidate | 4 | __ placement   |
| 2 | __ interview | 5 | __ orientation |
| 3 | __ fee       |   |                |
- A a course to help people settle in a new place
  - B a meeting between an employer and a possible future employee
  - C someone who applies for a job
  - D a period of work or work experience
  - E a payment for a service



## Why Au Pair with us?

We **interview** all au pair **candidates**. This allows us to meet you face-to-face. It also ensures that you understand the job.

We take care to **match** you with the right families. We also **screen** the host families to make sure they are safe to work for.

While abroad, a **local childcare coordinator (LCC)** is on hand to advise you on childcare problems. He or she also **mediates** in case of disagreements with the host family.

Before your **placement**, you must attend a five day **orientation**. Here, au pairs learn about American childcare and culture. Don't worry about **expenses**. The course is included in your **fees**.

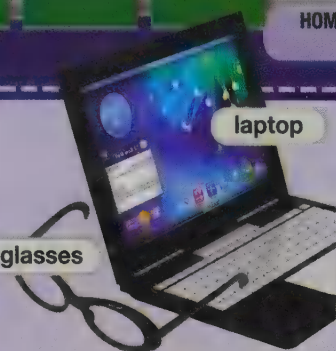
**Interested? Fill in the form below and we'll send you an information pack.**

HOME

SERVICES

ABOUT US

## What to Pack



laptop

glasses

Packing for a year is difficult. I've done it twice as an au pair. Here's what I usually take.

First I pack my **documents**. These include my **passport**, **driver's license** and **ticket**. It's good to have an emergency **credit card**.

Then there are the **electronics**. I take my **cell phone**, **camera**, and **laptop**.

Also, a **dictionary** is essential.

Don't forget things like **medication** or **glasses**. Those are hard to replace.

Research the weather at your destination. That will help you decide on **clothes**.

Don't bother with many **toiletries**. You can buy them when you arrive. That frees up room for **mementos** and **gifts**.

Have fun!



camera



passport



credit card



toiletries

## Get ready!

1 Before you read the passage, talk about these questions.

- Why is it hard to pack for an au pair position?
- What items are important to pack?

## Reading

2 Read the blog post. Then, choose the correct answers.

- What is the purpose of the blog post?
  - to list items that au pairs can buy on arrival
  - to explain which electronics work abroad
  - to give advice to au pairs about what to take
  - to describe which documents are needed to travel
- Which of the following do au pairs NOT need to pack?
 

A a pair of glasses	C electronic devices
B a lot of toiletries	D mementos and gifts
- What is difficult to replace when abroad?
 

A a dictionary	C a camera
B clothes	D medication

## Vocabulary

3 Read the sentence pairs. Choose which word best fits each blank.

1 **dictionary / ticket**

- The au pair used his \_\_\_\_\_ to look up a word.
- The au pair showed her \_\_\_\_\_ and got on the plane.

2 **toiletries / clothes**

- The au pair packed her pants, shirts, and other \_\_\_\_\_ in her suitcase.
- The au pair bought \_\_\_\_\_ once he reached his destination.

3 **documents / mementos**

- The au pair was worried about missing home so she packed some \_\_\_\_\_.
- The au pair organized his important \_\_\_\_\_ like his passport and driver's license.

4 **glasses / electronics**

- The au pair packed a spare pair of \_\_\_\_\_ in case hers broke.
- The au pair was not sure which of his \_\_\_\_\_ would work abroad.

5 **gift / medication**

- The au pair packed his asthma \_\_\_\_\_ in his hand luggage.
- The au pair bought a \_\_\_\_\_ for the family's son.



# Glossary

- refrigerator** [N-COUNT-U12] A **refrigerator** is a large piece of equipment, shaped like a rectangular box, that is used for keeping food and drinks cold.
- responsible** [ADJ-U2] A **responsible** person will do what he or she is asked to do, and act sensibly when making decisions.
- rural** [ADJ-U7] If something is **rural**, it is associated with or located in the countryside, not in a city.
- satisfaction** [N-UNCOUNT-U7] **Satisfaction** is a feeling of contentment or pleasure because someone achieved something that mattered or got something he or she wanted.
- scam** [N-COUNT-U3] A **scam** is a way of tricking people out of their money.
- school** [N-COUNT-U9] A **school** is a place where children and teenagers learn.
- school-age** [ADJ-U5] If a child is **school-age**, he or she attends school.
- screen** [V-T-U4] To **screen** someone is to check his or her history to find out whether there are any security issues.
- sheet** [N-COUNT-U11] A **sheet** is a large, flat piece of cotton or cloth you put on the bed.
- shirt** [N-COUNT-U13] A **shirt** is a cloth garment for the upper body, consisting of a collar, sleeves, a front opening (e.g., with buttons), and a tail that is long enough to tuck into pants or a skirt.
- shoe** [N-COUNT-U13] A **shoe** is an outer covering for a human foot, consisting of a thick and stiff sole with an attached heel and, sometimes, a covering made of softer material, such as leather or suede.
- shop** [V-I-U10] To **shop** is to buy something.
- sibling** [N-COUNT-U5] A **sibling** is a brother or sister.
- single parent** [N-COUNT-U5] A **single parent** is someone who is looking after a child by themselves.
- size** [N-UNCOUNT-U7] **Size** is how big or how little something is.
- skirt** [N-COUNT-U13] A **skirt** is an outer garment, usually worn by girls or women, which covers the body from the waist to the knees or from the waist to the ankles.
- socks** [N-COUNT-U13] **Socks** are knitted or woven coverings for the feet, usually worn beneath dress shoes or tennis shoes, and extending above the ankle and, sometimes, to the knee.
- standard of living** [N-COUNT-U7] A **standard of living** is the kind of life that a specific person or society has, according to the amount of money they have.
- stove** [N-COUNT-U12] A **stove** is a piece of kitchen equipment used for cooking. It has burners on the top. It also contains an oven and sometimes a broiler.
- stroller** [N-COUNT-U14] A **stroller** is a light chair with wheels attached, in which a young child can sit and be pushed along.
- sweater** [N-COUNT-U13] A **sweater** is a knitted pullover or buttoned jacket.
- swimsuit** [N-COUNT-U13] A **swimsuit** is a suit, consisting of one or two pieces, which is used for swimming or bathing.
- table** [N-COUNT-U11] A **table** is a piece of furniture with a flat, smooth top.
- teenager** [N-COUNT-U5] A **teenager** is someone aged between 13 and 19.
- telephone** [N-COUNT-U6] A **telephone** is a machine used to talk to people far away.
- television** [N-COUNT-U11] A **television** is a piece of electronic equipment which allows someone to see pictures and hear sounds.
- ticket** [N-COUNT-U8] A **ticket** is a piece of paper that shows someone paid for a seat on an airplane.
- toaster** [N-COUNT-U12] A **toaster** is a device that toasts bread.
- toddler** [N-COUNT-U5] A **toddler** is a baby or small child which can walk.
- toiletries** [N-UNCOUNT-U8] **Toiletries** are items that someone uses to clean himself or herself, such as soap or toothpaste.
- towel** [N-COUNT-U11] A **towel** is something someone uses to dry themselves or other wet things.
- trustworthy** [ADJ-U2] A **trustworthy** person will not do anything bad, like steal or behave irresponsibly.
- underwear** [N-UNCOUNT-U13] **Underwear**, or undergarments, includes all articles of clothing (e.g., brassieres) that are worn next to the skin and under outer garments.
- uniform** [N-COUNT-U13] A **uniform** is an outfit (e.g., a dress or suit) of a particular design or fashion that is worn by members of a particular group, such as a class of students, as a means of distinction.



**4** Write a word that is similar in meaning to the underlined part.

- The au pair set some restrictions on the children's behavior. \_i\_i\_a\_t\_o\_s
- The au pair had a standard that is intended to guide a person's behavior or actions about being polite to strangers. \_u\_e
- The au pair found the child's temper tantrum below the expected standards for behavior. \_n\_c\_e\_t\_b\_e
- The child was sad and displeased with the au pair's rule. u\_h\_p\_y
- The au pair and the host parent had a failure to understand something correctly. \_s\_n\_e\_s\_a\_d\_n\_

**5** Listen and read the manual excerpt again. What reaction might children have to an au pair's rules?

**Listening**

**6** Listen to a conversation between an au pair and a child. Choose the correct answers.

- What is the conversation mostly about?
  - A the importance and reason behind a rule
  - B why the boy's cross attitude is rude
  - C why au pairs need to have boundaries
  - D the dangers of getting lost in a crowd
- What will the boy probably do next?
  - A cross the road with the au pair
  - B find the au pair in the crowd
  - C list the au pair's other rules
  - D check for cars in both directions

**7** Listen again and complete the conversation.

**Au Pair:** Stop! John, 1 \_\_\_\_\_ cross the street yet!  
**Child:** Why not?  
**Au Pair:** You're 2 \_\_\_\_\_ hold my hand, remember?  
**Child:** I 3 \_\_\_\_\_ you have that rule. I don't need help crossing the street.  
**Au Pair:** I know you don't need help. But there are a lot of people around. What if we 4 \_\_\_\_\_ and I couldn't find you?  
**Child:** Oh, I didn't think of that.  
**Au Pair:** I would be really scared and 5 \_\_\_\_\_ if you were lost. How would you feel?  
**Child:** 6 \_\_\_\_\_ too.

**Speaking**

**8** With a partner, act out the roles below based on Task 7. Then, switch roles.

**USE LANGUAGE SUCH AS:**

*What if ...*  
*Do you understand ...?*  
*I'm sorry ...*

**Student A:** You are an au pair. Talk to Student B about:

- the rule
- the reason for the rule
- crossing the street safely

**Student B:** You are a child. Talk to Student A about crossing the street.

**Writing**

**9** Use the conversation from Task 8 to write a brochure from the au pair agency about the importance of rules.

**The Importance of Rules**

Host parent rules: \_\_\_\_\_

Your own rules: \_\_\_\_\_

Why boundaries matter: \_\_\_\_\_