

Cab Driving: The World's Oldest Profession



Read through the following texts and match the headings with the paragraphs. There are 2 extra-headings that you will not need.

Headings:

- A) QUALIFICATIONS
- B) SALARY
- C) PEAK SEASON
- D) DUTIES
- E) DRAWBACKS
- F) REQUIREMENTS
- G) RECOGNITION
- H) SKILLS
- I) PROMOTION
- J) BENEFITS

1. _____

Picking up and delivering customers, taking the fastest and safest route, helping to load and unload the vehicle, calculating the right fare and returning the correct change, keeping your vehicle clean and in good working order (no one wants to get into a broken, untidy taxi).

2. _____

Considering 50hours+/week you can make anything from £250 - £400 maybe more, and that is after you pay the office you work for, after you pay you car and insurance.

3. _____

To work as a licensed taxi driver in Britain you must be over 21. No official qualifications are required, only a valid driving licence. Depending on which authority you work for, you may need a clean licence for up to three years. You may also need to comply with medical necessary conditions as stated by the authority.

4. _____

Depending on which region of Britain you live in you may have to pass an exam or test about local areas. London in particular is notorious for its extensive "knowledge" that needs to be learned. Applicants usually take three years to complete their study and testing of the knowledge.

5. _____

A proficient driver must be able to get out of traffic jams quickly, and they must be able to read traffic and stop lights as well. Taxi drivers are expected to know the best routes for their customers and need to have a good memory. Drivers will also need to be competent handling money and communicating with customers.

6. _____

In the passenger's eyes the driver is always wrong. He is always taking the long way around, or he is driving too slow, or he has tampered with the meter. Lack of proper physical exercise and long working hours are also a disadvantage.

7. _____

Cab drivers also are not treated with a very high regard. As one driver said, "*We don't get any respect.*" It's true they don't, and yet they are the first people we turn to in an emergency, or when the weather turns nasty.

8. _____

The perks of driving a cab include being your own boss, being able to drive around and listen to the radio for hours on end, being free to choose your fares, being able to stop the cab and take a break whenever you want, being able to go to a movie or baseball game halfway through your shift, and being able to meet different people from all walks of life.

KEY:

1. DUTIES

Picking up and delivering customers, taking the fastest and safest route, helping to load and unload the vehicle, calculating the right fare and returning the correct change, keeping your vehicle clean and in good working order (no one wants to get into a broken, untidy taxi).

2. SALARY

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3. REQUIREMENTS

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