# Truck Driver

Name:	Pavol Gavlák Age: 48
Family:	divorced, son (19), daughter (17)
Job:	truck driver
From:	Ústí nad Labem, CR

#### Hi, Pavol, can I come in?

Come in, Pavla, but take off your shoes, please. Sorry, but this is my home, and I want to keep<sup>1</sup> it clean.

Why do you call the truck<sup>2</sup> your home? You know, I spend more time here than at home. I work, sleep, cook and eat here!

# OK. So what can you tell me about your job?

Well, I drive this 16.9-metre-long truck. I go to a company<sup>3</sup> where they load<sup>4</sup> the goods<sup>5</sup>. Then I drive hundreds of kilometres, usually to Germany or Austria. They unload<sup>6</sup> the goods there.

#### And do you drive back home then?

Not very often. I usually stay abroad<sup>7</sup> and wait for another job. Our operator calls me and tells me where I have to go. They load the goods there and then I bring the goods back to the Czech Republic.

# What do you need to know to do this job?

You need a group C driving licence<sup>8</sup> to drive a truck. For a truck with the trailer<sup>9</sup>, you need a group CE driving licence.

### How about languages?

I need basic English or German.

## What else do you need?

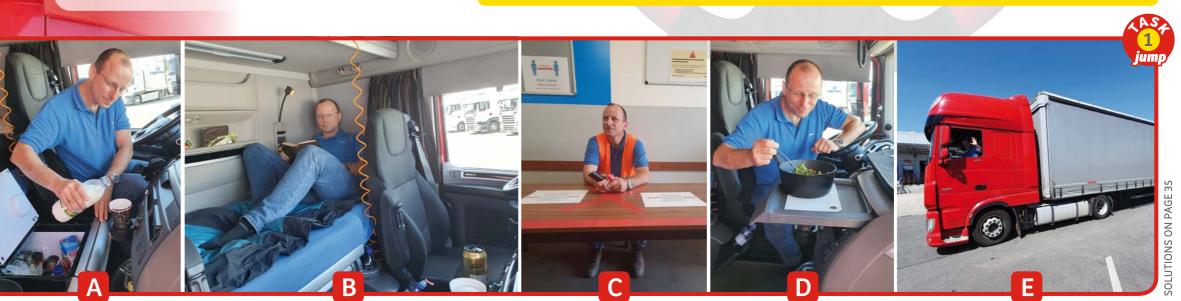
Well, patience<sup>10</sup>. Because in my job, I spend a lot of time waiting. I wait in traffic jams<sup>11</sup> and I wait for people to load and unload the goods. This is something I really hate about the job.

# And what do you like about your job?

I make good money and I travel a lot. Sometimes, I have time to visit new places and new towns.

#### VOCABULARY

<sup>1</sup> to keep [ki:p] – udržet | <sup>2</sup> truck [truck] – kamion | <sup>3</sup> company ['kʌmpəni] – firma | <sup>4</sup> to load [ləud] – naložit | <sup>5</sup> goods [guds] – zboží | <sup>6</sup> to unload [ˌʌn'ləud] – vyložit | <sup>7</sup> abroad [ə'brɔ:d] – v zahraničí <sup>8</sup> driving licence ['draɪvıŋ laɪsns] – řidičský průkaz | <sup>9</sup> trailer ['treɪlə] – přívěs | <sup>10</sup> patience ['peɪʃns] – trpělivost | <sup>11</sup> traffic jam ['træfik dʒæm] – dopravní zácpa | <sup>12</sup> device [dɪ'vaɪs] – zařízení | <sup>13</sup> to check [tʃek] – kontrolovat | <sup>14</sup> dashboard ['dæʃbɔ:d] – palubní deska



#### 🕨 матсн 🌈

Match the sentences and the pictures.

- **1.** Pavol is waiting and reading a book.
- 2. Pavol is making coffee.
- **3.** Pavol is having lunch.
- **4.** Pavol's truck is his home. It's nearly 17m long!
- **5.** Pavol is waiting for someone to load the goods.

#### Time to work, time to relax

Professional drivers have to be careful about how many hours they drive and how much time they relax. They have special devices<sup>12</sup> that check<sup>13</sup> this.



This one is under the roof. Each driver inserts a special card in it.



This one is on the dashboard<sup>14</sup>.