

# Truck Driver

LEVEL

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.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**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>.

**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 [ləʊd] – naložit | <sup>5</sup> goods [gʊdz] – zboží | <sup>6</sup> to unload [ˌʌn'ləʊd] – vyložit | <sup>7</sup> abroad [ə'brɔ:d] – v zahraničí | <sup>8</sup> driving licence ['draɪvɪŋ laɪns] – řidičský průkaz | <sup>9</sup> trailer ['treɪlə] – přívěs | <sup>10</sup> patience ['peɪʃns] – trpělivost | <sup>11</sup> traffic jam ['træfɪk 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

**MATCH**

Match the sentences and the pictures.

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



**A**



**B**



**C**



**D**



**E**