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All work, no play!

Blackburn, Lancashire

When he comes back from school at 5, 14-year-old Scott sits down with his family for tea. At 6:45 p.m., a farmer picks him up to take him to his farm, a short distance away. Scott helps with the cows for one and a half hours every evening, six days a week. He gets £15 for that. He comes home at around 8:30 and does not go to bed until 10.

The farmer risks a heavy fine because it's illegal to employ children after 7 in the evening in Britain... but he does not know. Scott enjoys the work and his mother encourages him to work. "It keeps him off the streets. He's doing something responsible," she says. Scott and his mother are happy! So, what's the problem if children like Scott are illegally employed?

A recent report says that two million children work in Britain. Many of these children are around twelve. Teachers say that their school work suffers. Just add up the number of hours that these children



20 spend at school, the number of hours they spend on their homework, and the number of hours they work for money. You come to 60 hours a week! No time for play! Teachers say it is too much.

From a BBC report.

- 1- What is the title of the text?
- 2- Who can you see on the picture?
- 3- Where is it?
- 4- How old is Scott?
- 5- What are his occupations?
- 6- How much does he earn?
- 7- What are his working hours?
- 8- When does he work?
- 9- What is his opinion about his job?
- 10- What problem does it raise with the farmer?
- 11- What do teachers think about young workers in Britain?
- 12- Explain the title of the text.