**Al-Mustaqbal Uni.**

**Department of English**

**1st year/ reading**

**Lecture 2**

**The double life of Alfred Bloggs**

These days, people who do manual work often receive far more money than people who work in offices. People who work in offices are frequently referred to as 'white-collar workers' for the simple reason that they usually wear a collar and tie to go to work. Such is human nature, that a great many people are often willing to sacrifice higher pay for the privilege of becoming white-collar workers. This can give rise to curious situations, as it did in the case of Alfred Bloggs who worked as a dustman for the Ellesmere Corporation.

When he got married, Alf was too embarrassed to say anything to his wife about his job. He simply told her that he worked for the Corporation. Every morning, he left home dressed in a smart black suit. He then changed into overalls and spent the next eight hours as a dustman. Before returning home at night, he took a shower and changed back into his suit. Alf did this for over two years and his fellow dustmen kept his secret. Alf's wife has never discovered that she married a dustman and she never will, for Alf has just found another job. He will soon be working in an office. He will be earning only half as much as he used to, but he feels that his rise in status is well worth the loss of money. From now on, he will wear a suit all day and others will call him 'Mr. Bloggs', not 'Alf'.

* *The double life of Alfred Bloggs*

1- These days (NP.) = nowadays

2- Manual (adj.) = done with the hands

3- Receive (v.) = earn = get

4- Far (adv.) = much

5- Frequently (adv.) = often

6- Referred to as = called

7- White collar workers (NP.) = office workers

8- Willing (adj.) = ready

9- Sacrifice (v.) = give up

10- Pay (n.) = salary or wages

11- Privilege (n.) = advantage

12- Give rise to (v.) = lead to = result in = cause

13- Curious (adj.) = nosy, inquisitive

14- Dustman (n.) refuse collector = garbage collector = sanitation worker

15- Corporation (n.) = large company

16- Embarrassed (adj.) = ashamed = disconcerted

17- Simply (adv.) = only

18- Dressed in = wearing

19- Fine (adj.) = good

20- Overalls (n.) = coveralls

21- Return (v.) = go back

22- Take a shower (VP.) = wash oneself

23- Over (prep.) = more than

24- Keep (adj.) = hide

25- Discover (v.) = find out

26- Just (adv.) = very recently

27- Soon (adv.) = in a short time

28- Junior (adj.) = young

29- Rise (n.) = improvement = promotion

30- Status (n.) = rank = social position

31- From now on (adv.) = henceforth = henceforward = hereafter = hereinafter

32- Wear (v.) put on

* ***Answers for the comprehension questions.***

1- When they got married, Alfred Bloggs told his wife that he worked for the Ellesmere Corporation.

2- He dressed in a fine black suit each morning before he left home.

3- He changed into overalls.

4- He spent the day as a dustman.

5- He took a shower and changed back into his suit before going home at night.

6- This lasted for over two years.

7- His fellow dustmen kept his secret.

8- His wife will never learn the truth.

9- Her husband will be working in an office in the future.

* ***Link the sentences above so as to create a précis. Here is an attempt below:***

When they got married, Alfred Bloggs simply told his wife that he worked for the Ellesmere Corporation. Each morning before he left home, he dressed in a fine black suit, but then changed into overalls spending the day as a dustman. Before going home at night, he changed back into his suit. Although this lasted for over two years, his fellow dustmen kept his secret. Finally, his wife will never learn the truth as he will soon be working in an office.