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John was lazy. He didn't want to work. He preferred to stay at home and watch television.

One day, John's wife went to the supermarket. She saw a "help wanted" sign in the supermarket window. The supermarket needed someone to put things on the shelves. She spoke to the manager. She told him that her husband didn't have a job but he was very strong. She told him that John would come to talk to him about the job.

When she got home, she told her husband about the job. John was watching television while she was talking to him. His wife was angry.

She turned off the television. She ordered him to go to the supermarket to apply for the job. John didn't want his wife to be angry, so he went.

On the way to the supermarket John thought what would happen if the manager offered him a job. He wouldn't be able to stay home and watch television. He would have to come to the supermarket every day and put things on the shelves.

Then he had an idea. He decided to tell the manager that he had a sore shoulder so that he could not raise his arm above his head. He was sure the manager wouldn't give him the job.

When he arrived at the supermarket, he told the manager that he needed a job.

"Are you strong?" the manager asked.

John explained that he couldn't raise his arm above his head. John told him that he had an accident at home while digging in the garden.

"How high can you raise your arm?" the manager asked.

John lifted his arm a little. "Only this high," he said.

"And how high could you raise it before the accident?" asked the manager.

"This high," said John. And he lifted his arm above his head.



## Vocabulary Review

Match each word with its meaning.

- |             |                                     |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. accident | a. command                          |
| 2. shoulder | b. event when a person gets hurt    |
| 3. order    | c. top part of arm next to the neck |

## Reading Comprehension

Choose the best answer.

- What is funny about this story?

a. The manager hires John.	b. John's wife gets a job.
c. John is too busy.	d. John is caught lying.
- How does John feel about getting a job?

a. It will be interesting.	b. It will hurt his arm.
c. It will make him happy.	d. It will take up his free time.
- John said he hurt his arm \_\_\_\_\_.

a. cooking dinner	b. mowing the yard
c. picking fruit	d. planting vegetables
- John said he could not "lift" his arm. It means he could not \_\_\_\_\_ it.

a. bend	b. move
c. raise	d. turn

## Summary

Fill in each blank with the correct word.

apply      lazy      manager      raise      shoulder

John didn't have a job because he was \_\_\_\_\_ and didn't want to work. His wife made him \_\_\_\_\_ for a job at the supermarket. John didn't want to work so he acted like he had a sore \_\_\_\_\_ and couldn't raise his arm. The \_\_\_\_\_ was too clever. He asked John how high he could \_\_\_\_\_ his arm before it was sore, so John showed him.