

SPRING-BREAK NEWS

Meet Your Hotel Managers

Palm Springs

	Who Erich Langmann
	Where Travelodge, Palm Springs, Calif.
	Preparations for students arrival Send out a "Welcome to the Travelodge" letter with the good news and the bad news
	Most mysterious spring-break incident A smell we couldn't trace for a week until we tore the room apart
	Which was . . . A pizza between the box spring and mattress
	Most memorable standoff TV news crew that wouldn't leave premises
	Your response Said, "How about a news story about you being arrested for trespassing?"
	Most dangerous student stunt Jumping off roof into pool
	Fine or punishment Eviction or picking up trash around my three acres. Their choice
	Most memorable student activity They planned a wet T-shirt contest; 12 agitated police showed up
	What happened It went off beautifully
	Lesson Announce a wet T-shirt contest if you need the police

HOW TO FAKE A RÉSUMÉ

Entry-level lessons for the real world By Dan Zevin

ONCE YOU GRADUATE into the real working world, you can be anyone you want to be. All you need is a fraudulent résumé. On a single page, you must show prospective employers that you are a skilled, well-rounded, highly experienced professional. One idea is to send someone else's résumé. But you won't be fooling anyone. Employers know very well that you are just another bachelor of arts who has spent the last twentysomething years in or around school. What they want to know now is whether you've learned anything that will be useful in the real world.

1. FABRICATE
2. EXAGGERATE
3. LIAISON

1. FABRICATE the kinds of jobs that make your résumé stand out over all the others. What about that time you

John Eric Schwartz

42nd Street
YMCA

Middlesex County Junior
Vocational Tech
Community College
Correspondence School

High-School equivalency
Academic probation

0.5

Usher
One night in October
Quit without giving notice

Dressed up in Chicken
McNugget costume and
passed out free samples
while clucking

Still goes around saying,
"Hasta la vista, Baby."

SEÑOR JUAN-CARLOS ENRICO SUAREZ

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CAREER OBJECTIVE: An entry-level position allowing me to utilize my skills of making an obscene amount of money for my prospective employer.

EDUCATION

Harvard University: BA, PhD, MA, MC, MD, MFA, BFA, DDS, RN. Graduate spring 1994. Double Major: Brain Surgery/Acting as Liaison. Phi Beta Kappa. GPA: 5.0.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Seating Czar, Loews Coliseum of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences
Fall 1992

Culled and collated quadrillions of ticket vouchers, manually severed into equivalent halves and redistributed to members of cultural elite. Led and directed tardy clients into screening facility with use of battery-operated illumination implement; acted as liaison between adhesive flooring and mop. Coined phraseology "Thank you for coming to Loews, sit back and relax, enjoy the show."

Prime Minister of Public Relations, M. C. Donalds & Co. Ltd.
Winter 1991

Represented global nutritional conglomeration with annual product distribution of billions and billions. Implemented off-site poultry sampling focus groups; acted as wardrobe liaison between deep-fried nuggets of fowl and five dipping sauces. Extensive public speaking.

ACTIVITIES

Captain, Pro-Am Golf Team; Linebacker, Miami Dolphins; Olympic water-ballet team; baking team; varsity sumo-wrestling team. Initiated/coordinated/implemented Earth Day 1990; heroically dove into raging Atlantic Ocean to rescue 15 drowning children during Hurricane Andrew, Miami, 1992; puppetry.

SKILLS

Fluent Español, et al.; familiar with Microsoft Word, Wordperfect, Excel; knowledge of DOS, Solomon, Adobe, Claris Works, Xywrite, Quark, Fortran, File Maker, Lotus 123, Lotus 456.

ADDITIONAL SKILLS: Too numerous to mention.

Familiar with Pong

Once caddied at uncle's golf club

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South Padre Island

	Who Connie Ledbetter
	Where Sheraton Fiesta, South Padre Island, Texas
	Good thing about students Don't mind spending money
	Bad Have to pay for 200 security guards
	Oddest form of payment Cellular phone left behind in room
	Biggest problem for students Running out of money
	Most people in room Heard reports of 10
	Preparations for spring break Take out lobby furniture, take pictures off wall, don't allow families and corporate customers in
	Advice Party smart
	Problem with these questions We like to look at spring break in a positive way



were elected president of the United States? That's exactly the sort of job that shows you're a good manager. Do not worry that anyone will check your references — it's nearly impossible to get through to the White House.

2. EXAGGERATE your importance in every job you claim to have held. Using a thesaurus (computerized euphemism finder available with Spellcheck on many word-processing systems), invent job titles that reflect your indispensable role in each organization. For example, which of the following job titles describes the role you played the day you filed invoices at your mother's office: (a) Filer, or (b) Principal

Alphabetizing Coordination Systems Technician Specialist? If you thought choice (a) was more accurate, you were right! Therefore, proceed to use choice (b) on your résumé.

After your job title, include a brief, yet highly exaggerated, description of the specific duties you performed in each position. This is done by using "résumé words."

EXAMPLES OF RÉSUMÉ WORDS: *Implemented; coordinated; provided support for; managed; assisted; led; administered; initiated; participated; gathered; directed; prepared; conducted; applied; presented; evaluated; assessed; supervised; organized; executed; performed; integrated.*

Be specific with your job descriptions. Don't just tell employers you "implemented," tell them exactly how *much* you implemented. Don't tell them you "executed," tell them how *many* people you executed. To be specific, insert plenty of "résumé numbers."

EXAMPLES OF RÉSUMÉ NUMBERS: *Millions; billions; trillions and trillions; quadrillions; many; many-many; many-*

many-many; scores; scads; reams; truckloads; too numerous to mention.

3. ACT AS A LIAISON in each and every job you dream up. Do not be distressed if you don't know what a liaison actually is. Here is the definition according to the dictionary. *Liaison: an illicit sexual relationship; an affair.* When you emphasize your vast professional experience in this area, your chance of being called in for an interview is nothing less than guaranteed.

As you set forth to fabricate, exaggerate and act as a liaison in the real working world, be sure not to overlook the other key elements of your entry-level résumé, such as your name. To compete in today's post-NAFTA global economy, you'll want to use the name given to you by your freshman Spanish teacher. For further tips, please consult the neatly illustrated guide above.

DAN ZEVIN wrote about gut courses in RS 614. This excerpt is adapted from "Entry-Level Life: A Complete Guide to Masquerading as a Member of the Real World," to be published next month by Bantam.