



JOBS

"I choose a lazy person to do a hard job, because a lazy person will find an easy way to do it."

Bill Gates, founder of Microsoft

1. Jobs Discussion

1. What is your job? Why did you choose your job? Is it a difficult job?
2. What qualifications do you need to do your job?
3. What do you enjoy most about your job? What don't you like about your job?
4. Where do you expect to be in your career in 5 years' time? How about in 10 years?
5. How ambitious are you? Is ambition always a good thing? What do you think about ambitious people?
6. What motivates you in your job? What are some things that demotivate you?
7. Is it better to work for one company all your career, or to work for various different companies? Why?
8. Why do people stay in jobs they hate? What would make you quit your job?

2. Jobs Vocabulary

- **career break** (noun) – *a period of time when you stop work to pursue other activities, usually with the agreement that you will restart your job after the break.*
- **career ladder** (noun) – *the various stages of promotion for a particular career.*
- **career path** (noun) – *the different directions a career can go in depending on the choices one makes.*
- **career plan** (noun) – *a strategy to determine the skills and experience one needs to achieve career goals.*
- **dead-end job** (noun) – *a job with no prospects for improvement or promotion; a boring job that is not challenging.*
- **self-employed** (adjective) – *working for oneself.*

Using the vocabulary words above, complete the following sentences (remember to use the correct form of the word, e.g. verb conjugation or plural noun)

1. Even at 70 years old, he's still climbing the **career ladder**.
2. After graduating in political science, Dillon made a **career plan** to work in the civil service.
3. During her **career break**, Wilma travelled to Africa and helped build a church.
4. After 15 years working at the company, Hannah decided to become **self-employed** and start her own accounting consultancy.
5. I really need to find something new to do; I'm sick of being stuck in this **dead-end job**.
6. With a degree in computer sciences, you have many **career paths** open to you, for example, as a website developer or systems analyst.

Jobs vocabulary comprehension questions

1. Would you like to take a career break? What would you spend the time doing?
2. What is the next step for you on your career ladder?
3. What are the different career paths available to you?
4. Do you have a career plan?
5. Have you ever been stuck in a dead-end job?
6. Is it better to work for a company or be self-employed?

3. Video: Fulfilling Work

You are going to watch a video by The School of Life called "How to Find Fulfilling Work."

Watch the video here: <https://yourenglishpal.com/blog/esl-conversation-lesson-plan-jobs/>

Watch the video and answer the following questions

Multiple choice

1. When was Dr Johnson's dictionary published?
a) 1755 b) 1765 c) 1775
2. When do people often have career crises?
a) Monday evening b) Friday evening **c) Sunday evening**
3. At most, how many professions were there in the pre-industrial world?
a) 2,000 b) 20,000 c) 22,000
4. How many professions are thought to exist today?
a) 500 b) 5,000 **c) 500,000**

Sentence completion

5. The paradox of choice is paralysis as a result of having **too many options**.
6. 'Know yourself' is the oldest **philosophical** piece of advice.
7. It could take a **year** or more to decide on an appropriate career.
8. We need to be generous about the amount of time we dedicate to deciding on a career so we are not trapped in a job chosen by our **sixteen-year-old selves**.

Short answer

9. We can only understand ourselves and others by colliding with what? **The real world**
10. Every successful business is an attempt to solve what? **Someone else's problem**
11. Work is really a chance to do what? **Serve**
12. So many what are about self-confidence? **Bad self-help books**

4. Jobs Conversation Questions

1. What are the best jobs in the world? What are the worst jobs in the world? Why?
2. Which are the most stressful, dangerous, or exciting jobs?
3. If you could have any job in the world, which job would you like to have?
4. Is it easy to get a job in your country? Why or why not?
5. What determines whether a job provides value or not? Do you think people would be happier if they could see the value in their work? Why might someone be unable to see the value in their work?
6. Which jobs provide the most value to society? Which jobs provide the least value to society? Do the wages reflect this value? How much value do you think your job provides to society?
7. Does a person's job define them as a person?
8. Which jobs won't exist in the future? What are the best subjects to study to secure a job in the future?

5. Jobs Writing Task

Write about your opinion of your job. Try to use some of the vocabulary you learned earlier in this lesson. In your review, include your thoughts on the following topics:

- What you do and why you chose to do it.
- The best things about your jobs.
- The things you don't like about your job.

Alternative exam practice

In order to have a successful life, people should decide what career they want to do at an early age and never change it. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this?