

Lesson 1. Meeting People. Work.

1. Write three words on a piece of paper that say something about you. Add a drawing if you want. Example:
Engineer skiing cooking
2. Put the paper on yourself and look round you, reading labels and trying to find someone whose label has something in common with yours (if you can't, just find someone who look nice).
3. Interview the person, asking as many questions as you can – at least five questions about each word on the label. Make notes to help you to remember the answers.

Find another pair of students, or report to a group. You and your partner should say everything you have learnt about each other. You can ask your partner for help if you want. You can stop your partner if some the information he or she gives is not correct. Useful expressions:

Asking for help:

I can't remember – what did you...?

Can you remind me: why did you leave...?

Where did you go...?

Correcting your partner:

Er, that's not quite right.

Well, I didn't exactly...

Excuse me, I didn't mean...

Exercise 1. Maria and Franz are doing English course in Ireland. Here are Maria's answers. What are Franz's Questions?

1. Yes, French, German and a little bit of Arabic.
2. Yes, once. To Berlin.
3. No, this is the second time.
4. She seems very friendly and her lessons are interesting.
5. Because I hope to go and work in Canada next year.
6. I'm in publishing.
7. Just outside Milan.
8. No, I used to live in Pisa.
9. I'm reading a novel by Primo Levi.
10. I sometimes buy *Newsweek*.
11. I'm very interested in music – opera in particular.
12. No. I don't. I gave up last year.
13. I've been wearing them since I was a child. (glasses)
14. No, I'm divorced.
15. Yes, two daughters.
16. I'm going to visit some friends.
17. Not really. I think it's rather boring, actually.
18. No, never.
19. At the end of September.
20. That's a nice idea. What time?

Work

Exercise 2. Why do people work?

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| A. To make money | G. To have power |
| B. To meet interesting people | H. To get out of the house |
| C. To use their minds and/or bodies | I. To have something to do everyday |
| D. To feel important | J. To avoid being bored |
| E. To develop themselves | K. To enjoy free time more |
| F. To help society | L. To have a good pension at retirement |

Pick out six that are most important to you and rank them in order of importance from #1 (the most important) to #6 (the least important). Work in partners.

Use this to prepare an account of why people work.

Exercise 3. Who would you address meeting this or that problem? Match a person from the box with each problem.

Carpenter	dentist	electrician	gardener	guide
Hairdresser	optician	photographer	plumber	vet

1. The lawn is really long and there weeds everywhere.
2. I want to visit as much of the old city as possible this afternoon.
3. The taps don't work and there is water all over the floor.
4. I want to have a special portrait made for my eighteenth birthday.
5. One of my fillings has come out, and I've got a terrible toothache.
6. I want to use the wood from these shelves to make a bookcase.
7. When I turn on the television, all the lights go off.
8. I can't see to read very well and I think I need glasses.
9. Benny hurt one of his paws when I was taking him for a walk.
10. It's far too long at the back and too curly at the front.

Exercise 4. Write down at least one job that would probably be impossible for these people.

1. Someone who didn't go to the university.
2. Someone with very bad eyesight (= cannot see very well).
3. Someone who is always seasick on a boat.
4. Someone who understands nothing about cars.
5. Someone who will not work in the evening or at weekends.
6. Someone who is afraid of dogs.
7. Someone who is afraid of heights and high places.
8. Someone who is terrible at numbers and figures.
9. Someone who can't stand the sight of blood.
10. Someone who is pacifist, who is anti-war.

Exercise 5. Complete these definitions.

1. An architect *designs buildings*.
2. A university lecture.....
3. An accountant.....
4. A vet.....
5. A lawyer.....
6. An engineer.....
7. A bricklayer.....
8. A stockbroker.....
9. A mechanic.....
10. A surgeon.....

Exercise 6. You have just bought a piece of land and you are planning to build a house on it. Write down at least six people that you may need to help you. What would you need their help for?

Example: a bricklayer – to build the walls.

Reading

Not everybody has a **regular, steady job** with a **fixed income**. Some are **self-employed** and work for themselves, some work **part-time**, some work **irregular shifts**, some are **unemployed**. Some have a job, but it isn't what it should be. Some are **apprentices**, earning very little money while they are being trained.

Exercise 7. Match each sentence (a – j) with a sentence (1 – 10) which has a similar meaning.

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|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| a) She was given a sack. | 1 She was given a better job. |
| b) She got a rise. | 2 She answered an advertisement. |
| c) She got a promotion. | 3 She decided to leave. |
| d) She retired. | 4 She did the job carefully. |
| e) She did it for a living. | 5 She didn't have a job. |
| f) She resigned. | 6 She earned her money that way. |
| g) She was unemployed. | 7 She was dismissed. |
| h) She applied for the job. | 8 She wanted a better job. |
| i) She was ambitious. | 9 She was old and stopped work. |
| j) She was conscientious. | 10 She was given more money. |

Exercise 8.

1. Describe the structure of a company that you know or of a typical company in your town. Mention the number of employees, the working conditions, the chances for promotion, the directors, etc.
2. Describe how you think work will have changed in 15, 30 and 45 years' time. What new jobs will there be? What jobs will have disappeared? What will most people's working conditions be like?
3. Act out an interview between a candidate and his or her prospective employers from the point where the interviewee is invited to ask questions.