

Lesson 5 – Jobs and Careers

Learning Objectives

After this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Tell about one's dream job then and now.
2. Enumerate factors that contribute to the change in career preferences as one ages.
3. Identify types of work situations.
4. Categorize jobs into blue collar jobs and white collar jobs.
5. Discuss merits and demerits of white and blue collar jobs.
6. List different kinds of professions using compound nouns.
7. Use adjectives to describe different occupations.
8. Discuss how to make a professional CV.
9. Use gerunds in making sentences related to jobs and careers.
10. Formulate ideas to combat the causes and effects of unemployment worldwide.
11. Interpret idiomatic expressions through context clues.
12. Choose the odd one in a group of words and pronounce them properly.

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- Talk about your dream job when you were young and in the present.
- When did it change?
- What factors contributed to its change?
- What career goals do you have?

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"Career" was traditionally associated with paid employment and referred to a single occupation. In today's world the term career is seen as a continuous process of learning and development. It includes all the roles you undertake throughout your life - education, training, paid and unpaid work, family, volunteer work, leisure activities and more.

Ponder this!

Do you work from nine to five from Monday to Friday, or do you work differently?



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Match the types of work to the situations.

Which of these type of work have you done? Which do you think are the best?

- a. *Aline prefers to work at the supermarket during the night because the pay is better.*
- b. *Christine's employer allows her to start work later as she takes a course in the mornings.*
- c. *Every day, John starts work at 9am and finishes at 5:30pm.*
- d. *Hannah helps out at the beach picking up litter. She doesn't get paid.*
- e. *Hugo works for the local restaurant at the weekends when it gets busy.*
- f. *Iain has his own delivery company.*
- g. *Lena occasionally paints pictures which the local art gallery sells.*
- h. *Susie works at the hospital on Tuesdays and Fridays.*

- 1. **casual work**
- 2. **flexible work**
- 3. **full-time work**
- 4. **part-time work**
- 5. **self-employment**
- 6. **shift work**
- 7. **working on a zero hours contract**
- 8. **volunteer work**

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Blue-Collar vs. White-Collar: What's the Difference?



KEY TAKEAWAYS

- White-collar workers are known as suit-and-tie workers who work in service industries and often avoid physical labor.
- The blue-collar stereotype refers to any worker who engages in hard manual labor, such as construction, mining, or maintenance.
- Being a white-collar and blue-collar worker often implies belonging to a higher or lower social class, respectively.
- The terms typically evoke different images of workers; however, the similarities between their roles are increasing.

- ✓ Classify the jobs into two: Blue collar or White collar
- ✓ What are the merits and demerits of each?

Source: [Blue-Collar vs. White-Collar: What's the Difference? \(investopedia.com\)](https://www.investopedia.com/blue-collar-vs-white-collar-what-is-the-difference/)

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Compound Nouns

A compound noun is a noun made up of two or more words. Each word makes up part of the meaning of the noun.

Compound nouns can be written three ways:

A single word	Two words	Hyphenated
<i>toothpaste</i>	<i>rain forest</i>	<i>self-esteem</i>
<i>haircut</i>	<i>ice cream</i>	<i>mother-in-law</i>
Note: When a compound noun is a single word, make it plural by adding <i>s</i> to the end.	Note: If the compound noun is hyphenated or composed of two separate words, remember to add <i>s</i> only to the word that is plural.	
Eg. <i>haircuts</i>	<i>rain forests</i>	<i>mothers-in-law</i>

Single-word compounds and hyphenated compounds are easy to spot, but two-word compounds can be tricky. For example, if you compare the phrase *cold water* with the compound noun *ice cream*, you can see the difference. In the phrase *cold water*, *cold* is an **adjective** that describes the **noun** *water*. However, *ice cream* is a compound noun because *ice* is not an adjective describing *cream*. The two words work together to create a single noun. To check the spelling of a compound noun, look it up in the dictionary.

A compound noun is the sum of its two parts. *However, there are some words that aren't compound nouns even though they can be broken up into two words. One example is a compound adjective.*

Eg.

A **half-eaten** pie

(*Half-eaten* describes the pie, so it is an adjective, not a noun.)

Source: [English Grammar 101 - Nouns, Lesson 6: Compound Nouns](#)

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Form professions by matching the words. There can be multiple answers for each.

The image contains three Venn diagrams, each consisting of five overlapping circles in orange, grey, yellow, green, and blue. The words are arranged around these diagrams as follows:

- Diagram 1 (top left):** interior, hair, psycho, proof, head, general
- Diagram 2 (top right):** computer, opera, flight, legal, advertising
- Diagram 3 (bottom center):** dish, post, executive, green, book

- 1. guard
- 2. analyst
- 3. keeper
- 4. singer
- 5. agent
- 6. washer
- 7. man
- 8. grocer
- 9. dresser

- 1. reader
- 2. practitioner
- 3. navigator
- 4. developer
- 5. programmer
- 6. adviser
- 7. officer
- 8. teacher
- 9. designer

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Provide synonyms and antonyms of each word.

Repetitive

Challenging

Exciting

Mundane

Hazardous

Well-paid

Probationary

Adjunct

Gratifying

Fatiguing

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What do you do?

WHAT ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES?



I'm responsible for (+ -ing)
It's also my job to (+ infinitive)

WHAT SKILLS OR QUALIFICATIONS
DO YOU NEED?



For this job, you need ...
You also need to be good at (+ -ing)
You must be ...

WHAT'S YOUR JOB LIKE?



I find my job ...
It can get a bit ...
It can also be a little ...

Answer the questions and elaborate your responses.

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Match the vocabularies with their correct definition.

1. the act of ending a worker's job, sometimes temporarily, usually because there is not enough work to do
 2. done or acting with excessive speed or urgency; hurried.
 3. pick out and emphasize.
 4. satisfactory or acceptable in quality or quantity.
 5. occurring or done before the usual or proper time; too early.
 6. are special benefits that are given to people who have a particular job or belong to a particular group
 7. by means of words.
 8. making or showing an unfair or prejudicial distinction between different categories of people or things, especially on the grounds of race, age, or sex.
 9. the possibility or likelihood of some future event occurring.
 10. a quality or accomplishment that makes someone suitable for a particular job or activity.
- a) adequate
 - b) verbally
 - c) perks
 - d) qualifications
 - e) hasty
 - f) premature
 - g) prospects
 - h) laid off
 - i) highlight
 - j) discriminatory

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How to ace a job interview?

Due to the economic crisis, competition for jobs is intense in many parts of the world. People are being **laid off** from their jobs. Therefore, when the opportunity for an interview arises, it's important to perform well. Interviews, however, are still a source of anxiety for many people. According to workplace experts Joyce Lain Kennedy and Rebecca Corfield, many job seekers make the mistake of revealing too much negative information about themselves without realizing it. **Hasty** answers to questions such as "Why are you out of work?" can **highlight** your own weaknesses. Kennedy also suggests minimizing criticism about former co-workers and bosses. Rather, she believes it's better to say that you get along with everyone. Showing interest in the position is also important. Job seekers can do this by showing they've done **adequate** research before the interview and by asking questions in the interview. In addition, experts recommend avoiding **premature** talk of salary and **perks** (unless the interviewer brings it up). It's best to focus on what you can offer the employer, and not vice versa. While most companies claim to be equal opportunity employers, inappropriate questions are not uncommon in interviews. In the US, it is illegal to ask about nationality, religion, age, marital status, military background, health, union membership, and even place of residence. Of course, **verbally** punching an interviewer for asking a **discriminatory** question will greatly reduce your **prospects** of getting hired. The key is to redirect the question to a safer topic. People go to great lengths to get hired. Some lie about their **qualifications** and experience. This behavior may be supported by the belief that getting a job is harder than actually doing it.

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Answer the questions about the reading text.

1. According to the author, why is doing well in interviews now more important than ever?
2. What do the experts say you shouldn't do in an interview?
3. Why do they say you should do?
4. What does the phrase *equal opportunity employer* mean (in your opinion)?
5. **True or False:**
 - In the US, it's illegal to ask, "Do you have a history of health problems?"
6. What should you do if you are asked a discriminatory question?
7. What does it mean to *go to great lengths* to do something?

Free Response

RÉSUMÉ: How important are these things on a résumé?

	How important and why?	What would you put on your Curriculum Vitae?
Education		
Qualifications		
Work experience		
Hobbies		
Skills		
Photo		

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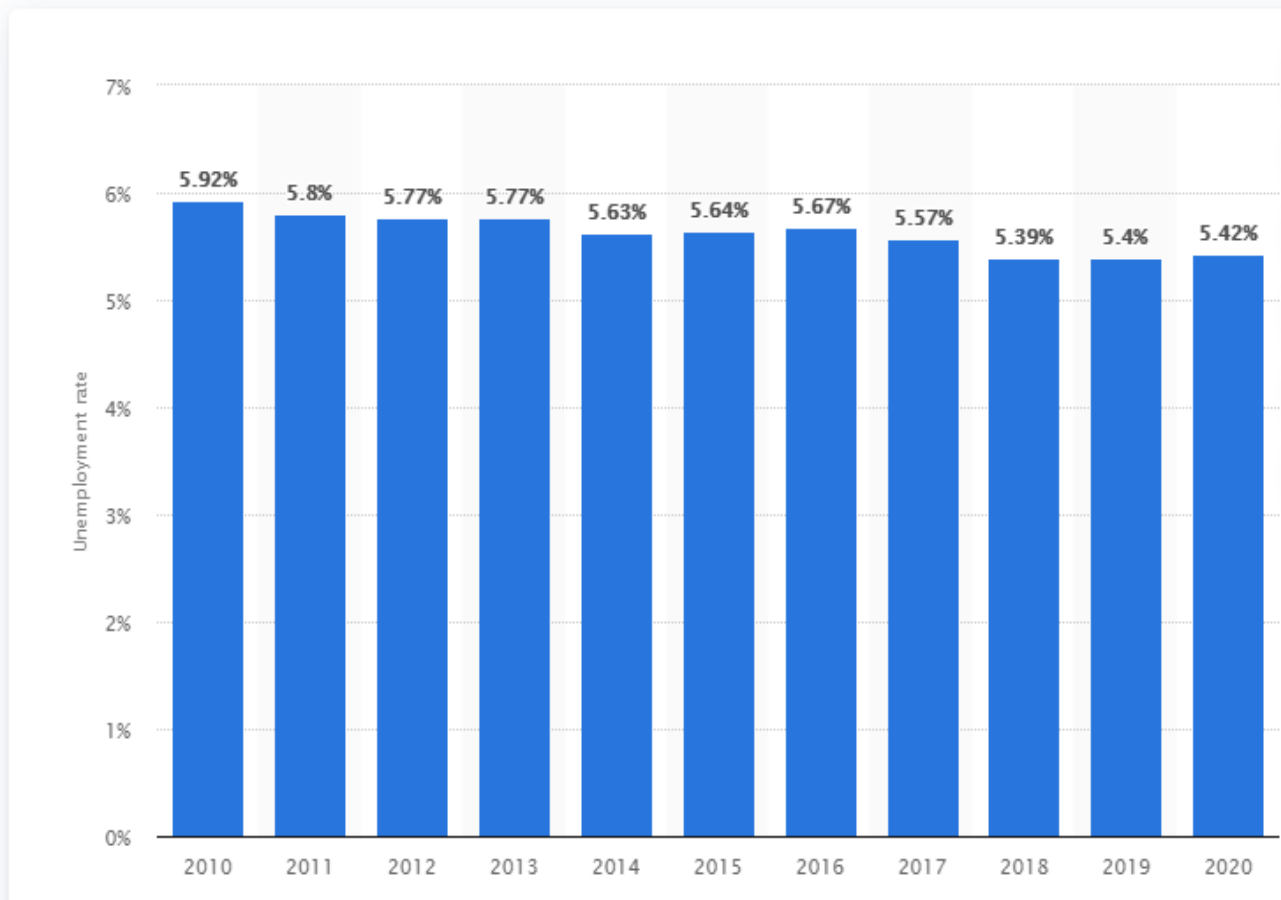
Listen and fill in the blanks with the right word/s.

Listening Activity 5.1 *Coronavirus: Dealing with mass unemployment*

1. You and I are lucky, Sam, because we can do our jobs _____, _____. There are some _____, though - like not being able to meet up with friends or _____ with colleagues.
2. Well I think _____ it does feel like we are not yet in a place where we can talk about recovery and _____ completely – we're still gonna see the _____, the impact and the _____ of all this for months to come.
3. Denmark provides one of the world's most generous _____ but _____ citizens are expected to _____ to any job or _____ the government thinks would _____.
4. It's very easy to _____ people in Denmark – it _____ you anything and you don't have sort of a _____ once you get a _____ contract.
5. If they lose their job, they know that they can find another job even if that requires them to pick up new skills – because that _____ - or _____ - is going to be made available to them, partly through very _____ government _____.

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Global unemployment rate from 2010 to 2020



Causes

- Low level of education
- Mental issues
- Physical health problems
- Gender discrimination
- Racism
- Mobbing
- Homelessness
- Burnout
- Stroke of fate
- Financial crisis
- Structurally weak regions
- Lack of motivation

1. Which year has the highest and lowest rate of unemployment?
2. What do you think are the effects of unemployment?
3. Can you think of solutions to combat this problem?

Source: • [Global unemployment rate up to 2020 | Statista/ Types, Causes, Effects & Solutions for Unemployment - E&C \(environmental-conscience.com\)](#)

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Gerunds

A **gerund** is a noun made from a verb by adding "**-ing**." The gerund form of the verb "read" is "reading." You can use a gerund as the **subject**, **the complement**, or the **object** of a sentence.

Gerund Phrases as Subjects

- **Designing clothes** is not a man's job.
- **Being a flight attendant** is an exciting job.
- **Writing a gossip column** can be exciting
- **Directing a TV show** would be interesting

Gerund Phrases as Objects

- He wouldn't like **being a farmer**.
- He'd enjoy **being a doctor**.
- She'd be good at **writing for a newspaper**.
- They'd love **directing a TV show**.

❖ Like nouns, we can use gerunds with adjectives (including articles and other determiners):

- *pointless* **questioning**
- *a* **settling** of debts
- *the* **making** of this film
- *his* **drinking** of alcohol

❖ When we use a gerund with an article, it does not usually take a direct object:

- a settling of debts (~~not a settling debts~~)
- Making this film was expensive.
- The making of this film was expensive.

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Connect the ideas below and make sentences with gerunds/gerund phrases in them.

government / uprising

Eg. The government plans to crush the uprising.

competition / intense

anxiety / lay off

reveal / lying

hasty / answer

highlight / strengths

criticism / colleagues

perk / Lexus

premature / decision

residence / new

prospect / unemployment

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It is important to make a good impression when you start a new job.

Here are some tips:

- ✓ **Dress in the right clothes.** Find out if your new job has a dress code. If so, be sure to follow it. Always be neat and clean.

- ✓ **Get to work on time.** Employers like it when employees come to work on time. Make sure you arrive on time or early.

- ✓ **Pay attention to introductions.** Your boss may introduce you to co-workers. These co-workers will be important to you. They will answer your questions when the boss is not around.

- ✓ **Ask plenty of questions.** You will be told what you need to do for your job. Ask questions if you don't understand. Ask questions if you don't know what to do next.

- ✓ **Do not take too long for lunch.** Find out how much time you have for lunch. Always be back from lunch on time.

- ✓ **Do not make personal telephone calls.** Never make personal phone calls to friends and family unless it is an emergency.

- ✓ **Never be the first one to leave.** Watch your co-workers. Leave with them or leave after them.

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What do the following idioms mean?



*The fire-fighter received a medal for his action which went **above and beyond the call of duty**.*



*For the moment I'm stuck in a **dead end job** but I'm hoping to find something better.*



*When a company is restructured, the senior staff are often the first to **get the axe**.*



*My husband is a chef, so for him time off with the family is often a **busman's holiday**!*

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Express Yourself

1. Is it better to be a boss or an employee? Why?
2. What are some common occupations in your country?
3. What is one of the most exciting jobs you can think of? How about one of the most mundane jobs?
4. If you could do one job, just for one day to learn what it is like, what would you do?
5. Do you think what job someone has determines who they are?
6. How difficult is it to get a job in your country?
7. Do you prefer the day shift or night shift?
8. What motivates a person to change his/ her job?
9. How much money do you consider a decent salary?
10. What skills and qualifications do you have?
11. What is the atmosphere like at your workplace?
12. How long do you plan to continue working where you are?
13. Have you ever been unemployed? How long for?
14. Is unemployment a great problem where you live now?
15. What is the dress code at your company? How strict is it?



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