

Read the text. Then, do the exercises below.



The screenshot shows the Techcareer website with a navigation bar (HOME, ABOUT US, SERVICES, CONTACT) and the URL www.techcareer.com. The main content area is titled "Techcareer: High-Tech Jobs > What Can I Do With It? > Software Engineering". It features four images with labels: "analyst" (a woman at a laptop), "architect" (a person working on a circuit board), "technical support" (a person holding a circuit board), and "educator" (a woman in a classroom). The text discusses the rapid growth of the software industry, the software life cycle, and various career paths including technical support, testing, analysis, architecture, education, and research. It also mentions the importance of professional development and networking.

Techcareer: High-Tech Jobs > What Can I Do With It? > Software Engineering

Software engineering is a rapidly growing industry in today's high-tech economy. The **software life cycle** is quickening. This means that companies must develop technology faster and faster.

So what are your options? Many engineers start in **technical support**. This is a good place to become familiar with different technologies. Some engineers also learn about products as **testers** and **analysts**. These jobs promote critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

If you enjoy concepts and theories, check out the educational field. Universities need well-trained **educators**, especially those with skills to be **researchers**. Even if education isn't your long-term goal, it's a great opportunity for **professional development**. More experience and education will help you **advance** your career.

Nowadays, almost every professional industry has some need for software development. Some companies hire full-time **developers**, while others take on **freelancers** and **contractors**. Many developers are owners and **managers** of their own small businesses.

Are you looking for something a little different? If you enjoy general computer engineering, consider becoming an **architect**. Functional hardware is an important part of reliable software. Its development is another expanding industry that needs bright, talented engineers.

Whatever your goals, consider joining the **IEEE** and **ACM**. **Memberships** in these professional organizations come with opportunities for networking and further career development.

1. Complete the table.

Action	Benefit
Starting as a tester or analyst	This jobs promote critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
If education isn't your long-term goal	Is an opportunity for professional development
While others take on freelancers and contractors	Most industries have software development needs
Becoming an architect	Because functional hardware is an important part of reliable software
Joining a professional organisation	Opportunities for networking and further career development

2. Match the words and phrases (1-10) with the definitions (A-J)

1 _J_ tester

2 _F_ ACM

3 _I_ advance

4 _E_ manager

5 _H_ architect

6 _A_ freelancer

7 _C_ researcher

8 _B_ membership

9 _G_ technical support

10 _D_ professional
development

A a worker who is hired for temporary jobs

B an official status indicating that someone is part of a group

C a professional who studies and analyses something

D the process of gaining knowledge that furthers one's career

E a professional who runs a business

F a professional organisation that supports the study of computers

G the process of assisting people with hardware or software problems

H a professional who designs and creates hardware

I to cause something to achieve a higher status

J a professional who uses products to determine how well they function

3. Read the sentences and choose the correct words or phrases.

1. The company's software **testers** / **developers** design all the new programs.

2. The **IEEE** / **professional development** is a group that supports technological innovation.

3. An **analyst's** / **architect's** job is to examine existing systems and identify opportunities for improvement.

4. The engineer is a **manager** / **contractor**, so she works on projects for different companies.
5. **Educators** / **freelancers** are most commonly found in classrooms.
6. The **membership** / **software life cycle** explains why there are so many jobs in software development.