

Work

VOCABULA

1 Adjectives describing a job

Match sentences 1–6 with A–F.

- 1 My job is very **challenging**. D
- 2 I'm a cashier in a supermarket. I quite enjoy my job, but it can be a bit **monotonous / repetitive**. B
- 3 I'm a primary school teacher. I think working with young children is very **rewarding**. F
- 4 I work in a small graphic design company, and I find my job really **motivating**. C
- 5 Being a surgeon is very **demanding**. E
- 6 I work in the Passport Office. My job is incredibly **tedious**. A

- A Everything takes a long time and it's boring.
- B I have to do exactly the same thing every day.
- C It makes me happy because I think it's useful and it tests my abilities and keeps me motivated.
- D It's very high pressure, requires a lot of skill and you have to work long hours.
- E The kind of work I do and the people I work with make me want to work harder / do better.

2 Nouns that are often confused

Complete the noun column with the best word from each group. Sometimes you need to use a word twice.

career / post / profession

- 1 My sister has applied for the **post** of head of human resources at a multinational company based in Berlin.
- 2 Nursing is a **rewarding** **profession**, but one which is not usually very highly paid.
- 3 It's difficult for a woman to have a successful **career** and bring up young children at the same time.
- 4 The **wages** (*informal* The money) isn't fantastic – about 20,000 a year but the work is rewarding.
- 5 I'm a waiter and I get paid every Friday. The **wages** aren't very high but you can earn a lot in tips if you do your job well.
- 6 The company made a huge profit this year and so all the staff were given a **bonus**.
- 7 One of the **perks** (*formal* benefits) of this job is that I get free health insurance.
- 8 The company has a **staff** of nearly 600 **employees**.
- 9 I wouldn't describe the factory owner as a very generous **employer**.
- 10 It's a great hotel and the **staff** are very friendly.
- 11 All the managers were sent on a three-week **training** course.
- 12 He left school without any **qualifications** at all. He failed all his exams.
- 13 There are certain **skills** you need to be a web designer, for example you need to be able to use words effectively.
- 14 A What **hours** do you work? B It depends on the day but usually 8.30 to 6.00.
- 15 My husband is a university lecturer and he has a very easy **timetable** – he only has eight classes a week.

3 Collocations

Complete the phrases with the missing words.

- I'm a manager. I'm in charge of the sales department. I have to deal with some very difficult clients. I'm also responsible for publicity. I'm overworking at the moment. I'm on maternity leave.
- I'm part of a team. I always work with other people. I have the opportunity to travel, which is something I appreciate. I have good prospects for this job. I think I can go far. I'm hoping to get promoted to head of department next year.
- I'm hoping to get a raise. I think my salary is very low. It's a temporary job – I'm only on a short-term contract, so I have no job security.
- I was sacked / fired from my last job. My boss didn't like the way I worked. Now I'm self-employed. I run my own business and I'm much happier. I only work part-time, from 10.00 to 2.00, and in the afternoon I'm doing an Open University course.
- I was made redundant. There were too many people in the company and I've been out of work for three months now. I'm looking for a job soon. I'm a volunteer in the local community. I'm getting some more experience.

Can you remember the words on this page?

Test yourself or a partner.

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