# Themenblock 8: The Job World

# CATEGORY A: CONTRASTING IMAGES

## TASK SET A1: The Modern Workplace — Office vs. Remote

### Ein Bild, das Im Haus, Bürogebäude, Tisch, Person enthält. KI-generierte Inhalte können fehlerhaft sein.Ein Bild, das Im Haus, Mobiliar, Wand, Couch enthält. KI-generierte Inhalte können fehlerhaft sein.Part 1 — Individual Long Turn

**Task:**

Give a five-minute talk on Where we work — traditional vs. location-independent in which you

* **Describe**, **compare** and **contrast** the pictures above.
* **Analyze** the advantages and disadvantages of traditional office work versus remote work.
* **Discuss** which work environment you would prefer and why.

### Part 2 — Paired Activity

**Task:**

Your school is organizing a "Career Preparation Day" for final-year students. Together with a partner, plan the event by discussing the options below and agreeing on three activities to include:

* Workshop on CV writing and job applications
* Mock job interviews with local employers
* Presentation by young professionals about their career paths
* Session on workplace etiquette and professional communication
* Information booth about apprenticeships and vocational training

## TASK SET A2: Career Paths — Corporate vs. Entrepreneurial

### Part 1 — Individual Long Turn

Ein Bild, das Kleidung, Mann, Schuhwerk, Person enthält.

KI-generierte Inhalte können fehlerhaft sein. Ein Bild, das Im Haus, Person, Computer, computer enthält.

KI-generierte Inhalte können fehlerhaft sein.

**Task:**

Give a five-minute talk on Career path choices — established company vs. startup in which you

* **Describe**, compare and contrast the pictures above.
* **Evaluate** what makes each career path attractive to different personality types.
* **Discuss** what factors might influence a young person's choice between these career paths.

### Part 2 — Paired Activity

**Task:**

Your school is organizing a "Career Paths" exhibition for students and parents. With a partner, plan which displays and activities to include. Discuss the options below and agree on three:

* Interactive booth where students can take a career aptitude test
* Panel discussion with entrepreneurs who started businesses in their 20s
* Information display about corporate graduate training programs
* Virtual reality experience showing "A Day in the Life" of different professions
* Networking area where students can meet professionals from various industries

## TASK SET A3: Following Your Heart — Passion vs. Stability

### Part 1 — Individual Long Turn

Ein Bild, das Kleidung, Person, Schuhwerk, Gebäude enthält.

KI-generierte Inhalte können fehlerhaft sein. Ein Bild, das Person, Im Haus, Bürogebäude, Kleidung enthält.

KI-generierte Inhalte können fehlerhaft sein.

**Task:**

Give a five-minute talk on Career satisfaction — passion pursuit vs. financial security in which you

* **Describe**, **compare** and **contrast** the pictures above.
* **Analyze** the trade-offs between pursuing a passion and choosing a career that offers financial stability.
* **Comment** on what advice you would give someone torn between passion and security.

### Part 2 — Paired Activity

**Task:**

Your class is holding a debate on the topic: "Young people should always pursue their passion, even if it means financial uncertainty." Take opposing positions and discuss the following aspects, trying to reach a balanced conclusion:

* The importance of job satisfaction vs. financial security
* The realistic chances of success in artistic/passion careers
* The possibility of combining passion with practical income
* The role of family expectations and societal pressure
* Long-term career prospects and changing job markets

# CATEGORY B: QUOTES

## TASK SET B1: The Great Career Debate — Passion vs. Skills

### Part 1 — Individual Long Turn

**Quote 1:**

*"The only way to do great work is to love what you do. If you haven't found it yet, keep looking. Don't settle."*

— Steve Jobs, Stanford University Commencement Address, June 12, 2005

**Quote 2:**

*"'Follow your passion' is bad advice. Passion comes after you put in the hard work to become excellent at something valuable, not before."*

— Cal Newport, So Good They Can't Ignore You (2012)

**Task:**

Give a five-minute talk on Career advice — follow passion vs. build skills first in which you

* **Analyze** both quotes and explain what each author means about finding career satisfaction.
* **Discuss** whether you think 'following your passion' is good career advice for young people today.
* **Outline** your own approach to choosing a career path, drawing on ideas from both perspectives.

### Part 2 — Paired Activity

**Task:**

You have been granted a 15-minute interview with a successful CEO for your school newspaper. Before the interview, discuss with your partner which topics to prioritize. Consider these questions and agree on three to focus on:

* How did you discover what career path was right for you?
* What advice would you give to young people who are unsure about their future?
* How important is passion compared to practical skills in your industry?
* Have you ever had to sacrifice personal interests for career success?
* What do you wish someone had told you when you were starting your career?

## TASK SET B2: Defining Success — Purpose vs. Prosperity

### Part 1 — Individual Long Turn

**Quote 1:**

*"Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life."*

— Unknown, widely circulated saying

**Quote 2:**

*"I've been rich and I've been poor. Believe me, rich is better."*

— Sophie Tucker, American singer and comedian (1884–1966)

**Task:**

Give a five-minute talk on What makes a career successful — meaning vs. money in which you

* **Analyze** and **compare** the two quotes above.
* **Discuss** whether it is possible to have both a job you love AND financial prosperity.
* **Comment** on which quote resonates more with you personally and **explain** why.

### Part 2 — Paired Activity

**Task:**

Your school's research club is conducting a survey on what makes a career satisfying. You need to develop the key research questions. Discuss the following areas and agree on three main questions to include in the survey:

* How important is salary compared to job satisfaction?
* Would you accept lower pay for more meaningful work?
* What role does work-life balance play in career happiness?
* How do family expectations influence career choices?
* Is career success defined by position, income, or personal fulfillment?

# CATEGORY C: ALTERNATIVE PROMPTS

## TASK SET C1: Generation Z at Work — New Expectations

### Part 1 — Individual Long Turn

### Text Extract

According to Deloitte's 2025 Global Gen Z and Millennial Survey of over 23,000 respondents across 44 countries, 89% of Gen Zs consider a sense of purpose "very" or "somewhat" important for their job satisfaction. Remarkably, only 6% say their primary career goal is to reach a leadership position. Meanwhile, 44% have actually left a role they felt lacked purpose, and nearly half (48%) don't feel financially secure — up dramatically from just 30% in 2024. The survey also found that over 50% of both Gen Zs and millennials are living paycheck to paycheck, and 40% of Gen Zs report feeling stressed or anxious most of the time. These findings suggest a generation that prioritizes meaning over traditional career climbing, even amid growing financial pressures.

*Source: Deloitte Global, Gen Z and Millennial Survey 2025*

**Task:**

Give a five-minute talk on Young people's workplace values and expectations in which you

* **Explain** what the statistics reveal about Generation Z's attitudes toward work..
* **Discuss** whether Gen Z's expectations of meaningful work are realistic in today's job market.
* **Evaluate** the apparent contradiction between wanting purposeful work and experiencing financial insecurity.

### Part 2 — Paired Activity

**Task:**

Your class has been asked to create a profile of the "ideal employer" for young job seekers. Discuss the following priorities and agree on the three most important factors:

* Competitive salary and financial benefits
* Strong company values and social responsibility
* Opportunities for learning and skill development
* Flexible working hours and remote work options
* Clear path for career advancement and promotion

## TASK SET C2: The Gig Economy Revolution

### Part 1 — Individual Long Turn

Ein Bild, das Text, Screenshot, Schrift enthält.

KI-generierte Inhalte können fehlerhaft sein.**Task:**

Give a five-minute talk on Rise of freelance and flexible work in which you

* **Outline** the key trends shown and **explain** the significance of gig economy growth
* **Evaluate** how gig work differs from traditional employment in terms of worker security and freedom
* **Discuss** whether the gig economy represents progress or a step backward for workers' rights.

### Part 2 — Paired Activity

**Task:**

Your school is creating a "Future of Work" awareness campaign to help students understand changing employment trends. Discuss the following content ideas and agree on three main messages to include:

* The rise of freelancing and how to build a portfolio career
* Skills needed for success in the gig economy
* Understanding your rights as a freelance or gig worker
* How to balance flexibility with financial security
* The environmental and social impacts of changing work patterns