

Working lives

- Describe jobs
- Ask about jobs
- Vocabulary:
 - places of work
 - work patterns
- Grammar:
 - present simple



Mercedes Sotelo works in a travel agency in Almeria in Spain. She has a full-time job but her day is in two parts. The office opens between 8.00 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. Then it opens again at 5.00 p.m. and closes at 7.00 p.m. 'It's about half an hour from the house to my office. It's a very long day, and I work on Saturday too.'

Riccardo Pavese works in a factory in Italy. He works shifts. One week he works in the mornings between 6.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m., the next week he does afternoons, from 2.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m. Then he works the night shift. This starts at 10.00 p.m. and finishes at 6.00 a.m. 'I'm single, so the shifts are OK. I don't work at the weekend. I see my friends then.'



Reading about working lives

- 1 Read the texts about three different jobs. Where does each person work?

Paula González is a student, but she has a part-time evening job as a receptionist in a night club in Buenos Aires.

When do the customers arrive?

'Our customers are usually tourists – they come at about 9.00 to see the tango show.'

What time do you start?

'I come to work at 8.00 every night of the week. The show starts at 10.00 and finishes a little after midnight.'

Do you like your job?

'Yes, I like the job. I meet people and I use my languages. I eat here after the customers leave, and I get home at about 1.00 a.m.'



- 2 Now answer these questions.

- a Which people work full-time?
- b Which people work on Saturdays?
- c Which people meet different people every day?
- d Who leaves work in the middle of the working day?
- e Who eats after midnight?
- f Who only works in the daytime?

- 3 Write a list of six other places where people work.

- 4 Read these five sentences about work. Are they true or false?

- a If you work shifts, you work at different times of the day or night.
- b Factory workers sell things to customers.
- c A part-time job is an eight-hour day every day.
- d Travel agencies sell tickets for visits to other countries.
- e Receptionists sell food and drinks.

Speaking: work patterns

- 5 Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of these different work patterns. Make lists.

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| a • a full-time job | • a part-time job |
| b • a day job | • a night job |
| c • shift work | • regular office hours |

EXAMPLE:

	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
full-time job	good money	not much spare time

Say which work pattern you prefer and why.

Grammar: present simple

- 6 Read the texts in Exercise 1 again. Find verbs in the three texts that describe regular events.

EXAMPLE: *works*

When do these verbs end in -s or -es?

- 7 Read the sentences below. Complete each sentence with *work* or *works*.

- a Riccardo *works* shifts.
- b Paula at night.
- c Riccardo and Mercedes full-time.
- d Paula and I in Buenos Aires.
- e You in Britain, don't you?
- f I part-time.

- 8 Read this interview. Put the words in the questions in the correct order.

- a do / you / What / do / ?
I'm a technician.
- b you / Where / work / do / ?
In a factory.
- c full-time / Do / work / you / ?
Yes, I do.
- d you / Do / your job / like / ?
Yes, it's OK.

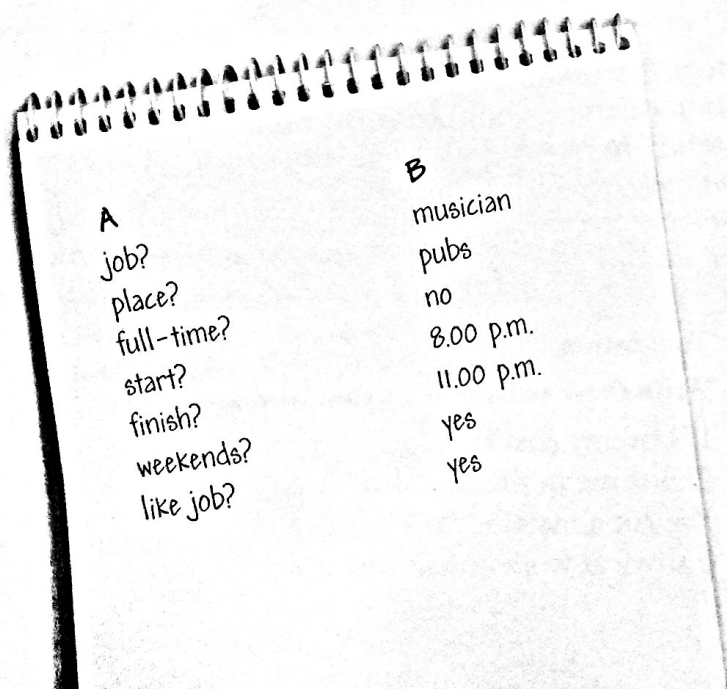
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Speaking: describing jobs

- 9 Work in pairs.

A: Turn to page 31.

B: Ask questions about your partner's job and complete the notes below. Use expressions from the Phrasebook. Then answer your partner's questions with your information.



Writing: describing a job

- 10 Write a paragraph about your partner's job. Use your notes from Exercise 9.

Phrasebook

Asking about jobs

What's your job?

What do you do?

Where do you work?

Talking point

I MAKE ALL MY TELEPHONE CALLS FROM WORK. THE BOSS DOESN'T KNOW, SO THAT'S OK.



What do you think?

FURNITURE / EQUIPMENT

chair
counter
credit card
machine
cupboard
desk
fax machine
filing cabinet
photocopier
printer
security camera
shelf / shelves
table
till
video recorder

OFFICE SUPPLIES

envelope
fax roll
package
printer ribbon
report
video cassette

DAYS OF THE WEEK

Monday

Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday
Sunday
weekday
weekend

VERBS FOR INSTRUCTIONS

call
cancel
clean
close
fax
finish
forget
give
leave
(un)lock
meet
press
put
put down
put in
send
start
stop

take
take out
telephone / phone
unpack

TELLING THE TIME

half past
o'clock
quarter past / to

PLACES OF WORK

factory
night club
travel agency

WORKING PATTERNS

full-time
part-time
shift

OTHER

button
glass
key
lid
welcome