

Activity Type

Reading Exercises: gap-fill, matching, true or false, answering comprehension questions

Speaking Game: asking and answering questions, guessing, freer practice (pair and group work)

Focus

Reading comprehension

Aim

To complete a series of comprehension exercises about a text describing two jobs and then to play a jobs guessing game.

Preparation

Make one copy of the two-page worksheet for each student.

Also, make one set of cards for each group of four and cut as indicated.

Level

Intermediate (B1)

Time

60 minutes

Introduction

In this reading comprehension worksheet, students complete a series of comprehension exercises about a text describing two jobs and then play a jobs guessing game.

Procedure

Give each student a copy of the two-page worksheet.

To start, students read two texts about two people and their jobs.

Students then complete sentences with the names of the two people, Hailey or William.

Exercise B - Answer key

1. W 2. H 3. H 4. W 5. H 6. W 7. H 8. W

Next, students match words from the text with their definitions.

Exercise C - Answer key

1. b 2. h 3. g 4. c 5. e 6. f 7. f 8. a

After that, students read statements and mark them as either true or false according to the texts.

Exercise D - Answer key

1. true 2. false 3. false
4. false 5. true 6. true

Following that, students answer comprehension questions about the text in their own words.

Exercise E - Answer key

1. They went off to university.
2. He's been working as a waiter because acting jobs are hard to find.
3. Her job causes her pain because she's standing all day, looking down at people's heads.
4. They would get sent home from work if their shirts weren't clean.

In pairs, students then discuss which job they would prefer to have, giving reasons for their answers.

(continued on the next page)

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Procedure continued

Next, divide the students into groups of four, comprising of two teams of two.

Give each group a set of job cards.

Ask the students to shuffle the cards and place them face-down in a pile on the table.

Explain that the students are going to play a game where they try to guess jobs on cards by listening to two good things and two bad things about each job.

One team picks up a job card, and the other team asks them what the good things are about that job.

The team then replies with their answers.

The other team then asks about the bad things.

Once the team has heard the two bad things, they get one chance to guess the job.

Example:

Team A: What are the good things about the job?

Team B: The good things about the job are that you earn a lot of money, and you don't have to wear a uniform.

Team A: What are the bad things about it?

Team B: The bad things are that you have to work at night, and the job can be dangerous.

If they guess correctly, they win and keep the card.

If not, the card is removed from the game.

It is then the other team's turn to ask questions and guess.

The game continues until all the cards have been played.

The team with the most cards at the end of the game wins.

A. Read the texts about a hairdresser and a waiter.**Hailey the Hairdresser**

Ever since I was a child, I have been interested in hair. When all my friends went to university five years ago, I stayed home and studied a hairdressing course at a local college. After two years of training, I graduated as a qualified hairdresser. I've been cutting hair full-time ever since.

Like any job, hairdressing has its good points and its bad points. The thing I like best about it is talking with people all day. I also like being able to make them feel more confident about their looks. There is nothing better than having a customer who is happy with their new hair. I also have good relations with my colleagues, some of whom have become close friends. It's always nice to see them when I arrive at work in the morning.



As well as the good things, there are a few things that aren't great about my job. The worst is dealing with rude customers. Another negative side of hairdressing is the pain. Standing all day and looking down at people's heads means that my back is always sore.

I don't know what the future holds or if my body will let me continue doing this job until I retire. But for now, I'm happy cutting hair and making people feel good about the way they look.

William the Waiter

I've been working in restaurants for nearly ten years. I started as a part-time waiter in a pizza place when I was a student at acting school. Since acting jobs are hard to find, I've been waiting tables full-time since I graduated.

Some days are better than others, but I generally enjoy my job. Being a night person, what I like best is not having to wake up early in the morning. The restaurant is only open for lunch and dinner. I also like the free meals that we get in the middle of each shift.



The thing I like least about my job is having to deal with rude customers. Although most customers are polite, we get a few who aren't. And no matter what they say, we must always be polite. Another thing I don't like is the dress code. As it's an expensive restaurant, I have to take out my earring and cover my tattoo. We also have to make sure our shirts are always clean. If not, we get sent home.

I'm not sure what I'll be doing five years from now, but at the moment, I'm quite happy serving food and sleeping in late.

B. Complete the sentences by writing Hailey or William.

- has worked in their job the longest.
- trained for two years.
- enjoys getting to know customers.
- is given free food at work.
- likes the people they work with.
- likes waking up late.
-'s body hurts all day.
- has to dress in a particular way.

C. Match the words from the text with the definitions below.

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. Serving food and drinks | a. confident |
| 2. The people one works with | b. waiting |
| 3. Stop working because of old age | c. sore |
| 4. Hurting, causing physical discomfort | d. shift |
| 5. Finished school or college | e. graduated |
| 6. A period of time when one works | f. dealing with |
| 7. Taking action in a particular situation | g. retire |
| 8. Believing in yourself | h. colleagues |

D. Are the following statements about the text true or false?

1. Hailey started work after she finished studying.
2. William says that most customers are rude.
3. Hailey went away to study hairdressing.
4. William's restaurant is open for breakfast.
5. Hailey doesn't know how long she'll be able to continue cutting hair.
6. William must make sure people can't see his tattoo.

E. Answer the questions about the text in your own words.

1. What did Hailey's friends do while she studied hairdressing?
.....

2. Why has William been working as a full-time waiter since he graduated?
.....

3. Why does Hailey's job cause her pain?
.....

4. When do William and his colleagues get sent home from work?
.....

F. Discuss the question below with your partner.

1. Which person's job would you prefer to have? Why?



writer	police officer	lawyer
teacher	actor	doctor
pilot	cleaner	chef
taxi driver	photographer	sales assistant
artist	secretary	musician
scientist	soldier	dog walker
flight attendant	model	dancer
architect	dentist	footballer