

# Open For Business

product launch	brand name	make profit	run a business	set up a business
work for oneself	be one's' own boss		earn a living	cash flow
get a business up and running		work the system	work wonders	dirty work
get the ball rolling	quit a job	go into business with		immediate expenses
further down the line		put in the (hard) work		work nine-to-five

- a. manage and operate a company or enterprise.
- b. costs or payments that need to be made right away.
- c. take the first steps towards starting something or making progress.
- d. have a traditional full-time job with regular working hours.
- e. be self-employed and not work for someone else.
- f. have control over one's own work and decisions without answering to anyone else.
- g. start a company
- h. understand and use the rules and processes of a system to one's advantage.
- i. the movement of money in and out of a business, including income and expenses.
- j. at a later point in time.
- k. stop working on a position
- l. achieve great success or results.
- m. form a partnership or collaboration with someone to start a business.
- n. earn money by selling goods or services at a higher price than what it costs to produce them.
- o. the introduction of a new product to the market for sale.
- p. unpleasant or undesirable tasks
- q. make enough money to support oneself and cover expenses.
- r. establish a successful business.
- s. invest effort and time into achieving something.
- t. a unique name or symbol that identifies and distinguishes a company's products from others.

# What's the difference?

**WORK** - more general word used to describe activities to accomplish the goal

**JOB** - a regular activity you do and receive money for it,

**OCCUPATION**- work focused on specific tasks

**PROFESSION** - work for which u=you need specific education

**LABOUR** - more specific term to describe official concepts or manual work

**CAREER** - total progression in your professional life

He got a ..... at the new tech company.

2. She ..... with computers all day.

3. A ..... in software development is rewarding.

4. His ..... involves coding and programming.

5. She chose business analytics as her .....

6. .... in the tech industry can be demanding.

7. He feels stuck in a dead-end .....

8. They .....nine to five at the IT company.

9. Cleaning the office is dirty .....

10. Manual ..... include construction .....

11. She has a part-time ..... in web design.

12. Interested in a ..... field in artificial intelligence?

13. I am considering my ..... path in technology.

14. He has a ..... interview for a data analyst role.

15. Maintaining .....-life balance is important.

16. He's ..... for peanuts in the start-up but the ..... perspectives are really exciting!

17. Don't make decisions that may ruin your .....

18. Exploring .....prospects in digital marketing can give you a lot of insights on your future .....

19. I finish ..... at 6 o'clock every evening.

20. She decided to quit her .....in tech support.

# A call to IT company

<https://engexam.info/fce-listening-practice-tests/fce-listening-practice-test-28/4/>

You will hear Mr Farmer, a company manager, talking on the telephone to someone from an information technology (IT) company. For questions **24-30**, choose the best answer (**A**, **B** or **C**).

**24.** How many employees does Mr Farmer's company have?

- A** 50
- B** 30
- C** 80

**25.** Why does his company need a new IT system?

- A** because the company is doing very well
- B** because the Internet doesn't work
- C** because the printer is old and slow

**26.** What is Mr Farmer's main requirement for his company's new IT system?

- A** It must not break down often.
- B** It must not cost a lot of money.
- C** It must store client addresses.

**27.** How does his company count the time its employees spend at work?

- A** using an electronic diary
- B** by writing down the hours worked
- C** with an automated system

**28.** Why is Mr Farmer unhappy with the company which provided the computer system he has now?

- A** The printer failed repeatedly.
- B** The price was too high.
- C** The after-sales service was poor.

**29.** Why has Mr Farmer called this particular IT company?

- A** He has used this company for many years.
- B** He found the company on the Internet.
- C** He was told about the company by a friend.

**30.** Most companies make changes to their computer systems

- A** every year.
- B** every two years.
- C** very often.



# First few weeks in a new job

<https://englishpracticetest.net/practice-listening-test-for-b2-with-answer-and-audioscript-test-53/>

You will hear five short extracts in which people talk about a problem they had in their first few weeks in a new job.

For questions **19-23**, choose what problem (**A-H**) each speaker says they had. Use the letters only once. There is one extra letter which you do not need to use.

- |                                              |                     |
|----------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>A</b> I made an embarrassing comment.     | <b>19</b> Speaker 1 |
| <b>B</b> I didn't get on with my colleagues. | <b>20</b> Speaker 2 |
| <b>C</b> I took on too much work.            | <b>21</b> Speaker 3 |
| <b>D</b> I didn't get enough support.        | <b>22</b> Speaker 4 |
| <b>E</b> I found the work too challenging.   | <b>23</b> Speaker 5 |
| <b>F</b> I was over-confident.               |                     |
| <b>G</b> I wasn't very punctual.             |                     |
| <b>H</b> I was treated unreasonably.         |                     |

Talk to your partner. Compare and contrast these two pictures of people working. Talk about advantages and disadvantages of having such jobs. Discuss the questions together. Then, change.

### PARTNER ONE



Why might these people have chosen such career paths?

What are the benefits of being self-employed vs. working a nine-to-five job?

### PARTNER TWO



What do you think is the biggest challenge of working part-time as a teenager?

Which of these tasks do you think is more suitable for a teenager? Why?



# What's the difference?

**HARD = a lot and intensively**

**WORK HARD** = work a lot

**STUDY HARD** = study a lot

**PARTY HARD** = party a lot

**HARDLY = almost not**

**HARDLY WORKING** = not working

**HARDLY STUDYING** = not studying

**HARDLY PARTYING** = not partying

1. As a student, she could .....understand some of the technical jargon used at work.
2. He can .....remember the names of all his colleagues in the large office.
3. I don't think Jessica will get promoted any soon as she is ..... trying.
4. With her lack of time management skills, she can ..... manage multiple projects simultaneously.
5. Without the right training, he will be ..... able to improve his productivity at work.
6. She tried ..... to impress the interview panel for the new job position.
7. Think .....before making a decision about accepting the new job offer!
8. By training .....every day, she hopes to advance in her career quickly.
9. I can .....believe that he was just lucky to get this position! There must be something more there!
10. Due to his asthma, he can ..... breathe when working in a dusty environment.
11. I .....notice the long hours I put in at work when I'm passionate about my projects.
12. In the competitive job market, many graduates find it .....to find a job without relevant experience.
13. He has to work ..... to meet the deadline for the project.
14. After working ..... all week, he decided to party .....with his colleagues.
15. She needs to study .....to pass her upcoming exams and get a promotion at work.
16. Due to his busy schedule, he can .....eat proper meals during the week.
17. I can .....wait for the new job offer that I applied for last week.
18. The company is ..... keeping up with the demand for their products.
19. How did he manage to finish all his tasks on time today?! He was ..... working!
20. She can .....sleep thinking about the important meeting tomorrow morning.



## Teenagers' views on work-life balance

The world of work is changing, and so are attitudes towards it. A recent survey carried out by the National Student Union (NSU) has revealed that today's teenagers have a very different perspective on employment to that of their parents. The study involved over 2,000 students aged between 16 and 18 from across the UK.

One of the most significant findings was that 75% of respondents said they would like to start their own business one day, rather than work for someone else. (1) ..... Others referred to the fact that people who worked for themselves tended to be happier and less stressed than those in nine-to-five jobs.

In addition, 85% of those surveyed said they would consider taking a gap year before going to university or starting work, to enable them to travel and experience other cultures. (2).....

However, the survey also indicated that young people were becoming increasingly concerned about the impact of work on their mental health. Over half of the students interviewed felt that their parents' generation had been too focused on their careers and had not spent enough time with their families. As a result, many had experienced stress-related health problems and had been unable to switch off from work when they got home. (3).....

Almost all of the teenagers surveyed (95%) felt that it was important to have a good work-life balance, with plenty of time for hobbies and leisure activities. (4).....

However, they were worried that they would not be able to achieve this if they followed in their parents' footsteps and worked long hours in high-pressure jobs.

The study also highlighted a number of gender differences. Whereas 80% of female students said they would like to have children one day, only 65% of males felt the same. (5) ..... They believed that women who took time off work to look after their children were often overlooked for promotion and were more likely to be laid off when companies made cutbacks. In contrast, the boys felt that being a father would not prevent them from progressing in their careers, as their partners would be the ones to take maternity leave and reduce their working hours.

In conclusion, the survey showed that today's teenagers are ambitious, independent and keen to succeed in their chosen careers. However, they are also aware of the importance of maintaining a healthy work-life balance and are determined not to let their jobs take over their lives. (6)..... They will also need to ensure that their employees' workloads are manageable and that they have the necessary support to meet deadlines. Finally, they should consider offering benefits such as sabbaticals and paid time off for voluntary work, to enable their staff to pursue other interests outside the workplace.



- A. They believed that this would help to reduce stress levels and improve overall well being.
- B. The decision to pursue further education was driven by a desire for personal growth and career advancement.
- C. If employers want to attract and retain the best young talent, they will need to provide flexible working conditions, including opportunities for remote working and generous holiday entitlements.
- D. They believed that this would give them a broader outlook on life, as well as making them more employable in the future.
- E. This had led to a breakdown in family relationships and an increase in the number of divorces.
- F. When asked why, many mentioned the desire to be their own boss and the freedom this would bring.
- G. This was because the girls were concerned that having a family would make it difficult for them to pursue their chosen careers.
- H. As a result, the company saw a significant increase in productivity and teenage employee satisfaction levels.

