37 Making a career

A Getting a job*

"When I left school, I **applied for**[1] jobs in different companies, and finally, after sending out lots of **CVs**[2] and having some **interviews**[3], a small company **employed** me[4]. I didn't earn a lot, but the company gave me some **training**[5], which was good."

* finding a job
[1] wrote a letter of **application** for
[2] a document which describes your education and the jobs you have done
[3] a meeting where someone asks you questions to see if you are suitable for a job
[4] gave me a job
[5] help and advice to learn how to do a job or activity

Common mistakes

I had **some training**. (NOT I had ~~a training~~.) You can also **go on / do** a **training course** [a period of organised help and advice, often in a different place] (NOT ~~formation~~ or ~~stage~~).

B Promotion

"I worked hard and soon I was **promoted** [given a better job with more responsibility]. They also gave me a good **pay rise** [more money]. It was really good **experience** [knowledge you get from doing something such as a job], and when my boss left the company a few years later, they gave me an important **promotion** [a move to a higher job in the company]."

C Resignation*

"By my mid-twenties, I was getting a bit bored, and decided I wanted to work **abroad** [in another country]. So, I **quit my job** [told the company I was leaving; *syn* **resign**] and started looking for jobs in the UK. After a couple of months I got a job in London. At first I liked it, but …"

* when you say officially you are leaving a job

D Unemployment*

"After six months, I got fed up with the job – and I think I was enjoying myself too much to work very hard. Finally, the company **sacked** me [told me to leave the company; *syn* **gave me the sack**], and after that I was **unemployed** [without a job; *syn* **out of work**] for two months. Finally I got a **part-time** job [working only part of the day or week; *opp* **full-time** job] in the kitchen of a restaurant."

* when people do not have a job

Common mistakes

Claudio didn't **have a job**. (NOT He didn't have ~~a work~~.)

E Success and retirement*



Claudio

"I loved the restaurant. I learned how to cook, and two years later I became manager. Three years after that I opened my **own** restaurant. [belonging to me / it was my restaurant] It was very **successful** [it did well and made money], and twenty years later, I **owned** five restaurants, and I was the **owner** of two hotels. I believe anyone can **succeed** [be successful] if they work hard enough – and have a little bit of luck. Last year, aged sixty, I **retired** and went back to Italy."

* the time when people stop work, often at 60 or 65

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Exercises

37.1 **Match the answers on the right with the questions on the left.**

1 Why did they sack him?	c	a Because he was 65.
2 Why did they promote him?		b Because he needed more training.
3 Why did he apply for the job?		c Because he was late for work every day.
4 Why did he retire?		d Because he was out of work.
5 Why did he quit his job?		e Because he was the best person in the department.
6 Why did he go on the course?		f Because he didn't like his boss.

37.2 **Complete the table.**

verb	noun	adjective
employ	*(un)employment*	
promote		
retire		
resign		
	success	
own		

37.3 **Complete the sentences.**

1 Lucy is hoping to *get* ..... a job in a travel agency when she leaves school.
2 I decided to work ..... to see what life was like in another country.
3 I don't want a full-time job. I'd prefer to work ..... .
4 She ..... her job when her boss refused to give her a pay ..... .
5 I didn't earn much money in the job, but it was still good ..... because the company sent me on several training ..... .
6 After they sacked me, I was out of ..... for six months.
7 It's not easy to ..... in business; you need ability and luck.
8 I think you should definitely ..... for that job.
9 Ivan was terrible as a tour guide; that's why they gave him the ..... .
10 I've worked for other people most of my life, but I'd really like to run my ..... company.
11 I used to ..... a company but it wasn't a ..... ; I lost a lot of money.
12 If she's interested in that job, she'll have to write a letter of ..... .

37.4 Over to you

If you have a job, answer the questions. If possible, ask someone else the same questions.

1 Have you been promoted since you started working at your present company?

2 Do you normally get a good pay rise at the end of each year?

3 Have you been on many training courses since you started work?

4 Would you like to go on more training courses in the future?

5 Have you ever resigned from a job, or been given the sack?

LIVEWORKSHEETS