

READING ACTIVITY

UNIT 5

PLANNING A SAFE FUTURE CAREER

Choose your future career carefully – experts are predicting big changes in the jobs we'll do in the next 10 to 20 years. Some jobs might disappear, but others will become more important.

The Internet is having a big effect. People already choose to do a lot of their shopping online, so there won't be as many stores, and there won't be many jobs for sales assistants. Bank tellers and other bank employees might also lose their jobs, as people may stop using cash altogether.

Another job that might disappear is taxi drivers. In the future, it will become normal to travel in cars without a driver, including taxis. Also, there may not be as many jobs for construction workers as there are today. Soon, 3-D printers will make complete parts of buildings in just a few hours, and they might one day make whole buildings.



SO WHICH JOBS ARE SAFE?

■ **Computer programmers** – A hundred years ago, there were none, but now there are a lot of them. And there will be even more in the future because almost all jobs will need computers.


■ **Caregivers** – People will live longer, and we'll need caregivers to look after us in our old age.

■ **Robot specialists** – We will use robots for many everyday jobs, but they will need a team of human workers to support them – designers, developers, programmers, and salespeople.

■ **Solar and wind power engineers** – Over the next 20 years, it will become more important to use clean energy. There are now 10 million jobs in this area, but by 2050 it might be 30 million.

And of course, we will still need **actors** and **musicians** to entertain us, **lawyers** to argue, and **politicians** to make the big decisions.



a  Look at the jobs in the photos. Answer the questions with a partner.

- 1 Which jobs do you think might disappear in the future?
- 2 Which jobs do you think there will be more of in the future?

c Read the article again and look at the things below. What will happen to jobs in the future because of these things?

- online shopping
- paying without cash
- driverless cars
- 3-D printers
- using renewable energy
- living longer
- using robots