

## GS 12 – Unit 9

**Exercise 2: Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C or D to indicate the correct option that best fits each of the numbered blanks from 1 to 5.**

Many people fall into careers by chance, following in the (1) \_\_\_\_\_ of family or friends, or simply accepting the first job offer they receive. While there's nothing wrong with these paths, a more fulfilling approach exists: designing your own career journey.

The key lies in self-discovery. What are you passionate about? What skills do you (2) \_\_\_\_\_ at? Identifying your strengths and interests will guide you towards potential career paths that align with your values. (3) \_\_\_\_\_ you have a general direction, explore your options. Research different fields, and don't be afraid to consider unconventional paths. Talk to professionals in areas that arouse your curiosity. As you gain experience and your interests change, you may find yourself drawn to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ new opportunities. The important thing is to stay curious, embrace lifelong learning, and keep exploring possibilities. By taking an active role in shaping your career journey, you'll be well on your way to finding a path (5) \_\_\_\_\_ is both fulfilling and rewarding.

[Adapted from English Reading & Comprehension]

Question 1: A. footsteps                      B. footprints                      C. footages                      D. footnotes

Question 2: A. exceed                      B. excel                      C. excite                      D. expel

Question 3: A. Once                      B. Although                      C. Because                      D. While

Question 4: A. few                      B. little                      C. many                      D. much

Question 5: A. who                      B. that                      C. where                      D. when

**Exercise 3: Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C or D to indicate the correct option that best fits each of the numbered blanks from 1 to 5.**

After completing their schooling, many young people face the crucial decision of choosing their career path. School leavers, (1) \_\_\_\_\_ have a variety of options available to them, often grapple with the challenge of selecting the right path. While some may opt to enter the workforce immediately, seeking practical experience and financial independence, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ might choose to pursue higher education to gain specialized knowledge. The decision depends largely on personal interests, career goals, and (3) \_\_\_\_\_ market trends. Higher education, for example, can provide an advantage for advanced opportunities and potentially higher salaries, which can be a significant factor in long-term career success. (4) \_\_\_\_\_, entering the workforce sooner might offer immediate hands-on experience and a chance to start building a professional network. Ultimately, this choice (5) \_\_\_\_\_ a balance between immediate benefits and long-term goals, reflecting the individual's aspirations and circumstances.

[Adapted from IELTS Simon]

Question 1: A. which                      B. who                      C. where                      D. whom

Question 2: A. another                      B. other                      C. the other                      D. others

Question 3: A. obscure                      B. irrelevant                      C. prevailing                      D. casual

Question 4: A. Consequently                      B. Otherwise                      C. Therefore                      D. Conversely

Question 5: A. gives                      B. strikes                      C. takes                      D. does

**Exercise 4: Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C or D to indicate the correct option that best fits each of the numbered blanks from 1 to 5.**

Software developers are at the forefront of technological innovation, shaping the digital landscape we interact with daily. In Jane Smith's book "The Code Revolution," the author examines the critical role developers play in creating cutting-edge applications and systems. She explains how their work, (1) \_\_\_\_\_ involves writing and testing code, is essential for building reliable and efficient software solutions. As the demand for digital tools continues to grow, developers must frequently adapt to (2) \_\_\_\_\_ new technologies and methodologies to remain competitive in the industry. (3) \_\_\_\_\_, Smith emphasizes the importance of continuous learning and professional development to keep pace with rapid advancements. By collaborating with designers, analysts, and other stakeholders, developers can create impactful products that (4) \_\_\_\_\_ user needs and business goals. The future of technology depends on supporting skilled and innovative developers who can navigate complex challenges and drive progress. As they (5) \_\_\_\_\_ into uncharted territories, their contributions will shape the future of work, entertainment, and communication.

[Adapted from IEEE Spectrum]

- Question 1: A. whom                      B. what                      C. which                      D. where  
Question 2: A. a lot of                      B. a little                      C. few                      D. much  
Question 3: A. Consequently                      B. Yet                      C. However                      D. Additionally  
Question 4: A. give                      B. meet                      C. create                      D. get  
Question 5: A. retreat                      B. withdraw                      C. stagnate                      D. venture

Exercise 5: Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C or D to indicate the correct option that best fits each of the numbered blanks from 1 to 8.

### In a changing job market

The world of work is changing rapidly. A lot of common jobs such as travel agents and cashiers are expected to (1) \_\_\_\_\_ by the year 2050. At the same time, new jobs will be (2) \_\_\_\_\_. In such a rapidly changing job market, it seems (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to teach or learn technical or vocational skills for jobs that don't exist yet. So, what can we do to prepare for the job (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of the future? Researchers have suggested that both future employers and employees will always need (5) \_\_\_\_\_ skills such as collaboration, organisation, and communication skills. Some of the jobs or businesses that will exist in 30 years' time haven't been invented yet. But we will probably still work in organisations that (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of people from different generations. We will need to be open to different points of view and ways of thinking. Therefore, it is important for us to (7) \_\_\_\_\_ bias and be willing to take in new information and ideas. Having key soft skills and being (8) \_\_\_\_\_ about new things will help us prepare for the future world of work.

- Question 1: A. disappear                      B. create                      C. make                      D. receive  
Question 2: A. removed                      B. created                      C. replaced                      D. deleted  
Question 3: A. likely                      B. certain                      C. impossible                      D. positive  
Question 4: A. application                      B. employment                      C. positions                      D. opportunities  
Question 5: A. soft                      B. hard                      C. technical                      D. working  
Question 6: A. deny                      B. consist                      C. decide                      D. attack  
Question 7: A. develop                      B. accept                      C. overcome                      D. challenge  
Question 8: A. open-hearted                      B. close-minded                      C. minded                      D. open-minded

Exercise 6: Mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct arrangement of the sentence to make a meaningful paragraph/letter in each of the following questions.

Question 1:

- a. **Chloe:** Exactly! Getting a certificate in a specific specialty is key. I'm committed to this. I hope to eventually deal with high-end clients as a travel agent.  
b. **Chloe:** I've decided to skip college after being a school-leaver. I'm eager to start an apprenticeship to qualify as a chef. The practical training feels more relevant.  
c. **Leo:** I admire your attitude! Many still look down on trades compared to a diploma, but a self-employed content creator or a skilled barista offers real growth opportunities.

- A. a – c – b                      B. b – a – c                      C. c – a – b                      D. b – c – a

Question 2:

- a. **Sam:** Taylor, I'm thinking of going in for social work. Life expectancy is rising, so tutors are needed more than ever. It's a field of work with lots of human interaction, and I'm willing to commit to a diploma.  
b. **Sam:** Absolutely, I'm enthusiastic about it. I look forward to dealing with real issues, not some obsolete job. Let's get through to a recruiter and personalize my application letter!  
c. **Taylor:** That's inspiring, Sam. But consider the supervision involved—can you put up with the emotional side? Soft skills like communicating with people are key.

- A. c – b – a                      B. a – b – c                      C. b – c – a                      D. a – c – b

Question 3:

- a. **Anna:** Bro, did you know that over 200,000 graduates in Vietnam are jobless or underemployed this year?  
b. **Ben:** Companies want 1–2 years experience, not fresh paper. No wonder they end up driving Grab.  
c. **Anna:** Exactly. Most studied theory only, zero real skills, and picked oversaturated majors like banking or marketing.

d. **Ben:** Crazy! They have degrees but still can't find work?

e. **Anna:** True. Better to learn a trade, intern early, or choose in-demand fields. A degree without skills is just expensive wallpaper!

A. a - d - e - b - c

B. a - b - c - d - e

C. a - b - e - d - c

D. a - d - c - b - e

**Question 4:**

a. **Mia:** I know! I still love human interaction, but creating digital content seems more flexible. Plus, I could work as a self-employed freelancer and personalize my schedule.

b. **Ethan:** Have you finally decided which field of work you want to go in for? Last week you said you were torn between being a social worker and a content creator.

c. **Ethan:** True, but don't forget to take into account job stability. Some creators depend on brand deals, and income can go up and down.

d. **Mia:** Yeah, that worries me a bit. But I'm passionate about storytelling, and after doing an online apprenticeship, I feel more confident.

e. **Ethan:** Then go for it. Just make sure your application letter is relevant and includes a strong reference. You'll get recruited faster than you think.

A. d - a - b - d - e

B. b - a - c - d - e

C. b - d - e - a - c

D. e - d - b - a - c

**Question 5:**

Hey Sophie,

a. If you're still confused about your next step, consider doing something that fits your personality instead of what looks good on paper.

b. Quick update: I quit the café, became self-employed as a travel content creator, and I've never been happier.

c. No degree, no office, no toxic supervisor – just me, my phone, and digital channels that now pay the bills.

d. Companies are desperate for authentic voices who can connect with people online, and passion beats paper qualifications every time these days.

e. Trust me, the job market rewards those who dare to be different now.

Love,

Maya

A. b - c - d - a - e

B. a - c - b - d - e

C. c - b - a - e - d

D. b - c - a - e - d

**Question 6:**

Dear Hiring Manager,

I'm writing to apply for the content creator position advertised on your digital channel.

a. With soft skills like critical thinking and decision-making, I personalize content to connect with audiences, staying relevant in a job market where AI is taking over automated tasks.

b. As a university student passionate about crafting engaging posts, I've been pursuing this career path by creating TikTok videos that go viral, earning extra income while studying.

c. This role aligns with my personality, allowing me to deal with human interaction creatively without feeling obsolete.

d. I'm qualified through self-taught coding and a certificate in digital media, eager to keep up with trends like data regulations to avoid misuse.

I look forward to discussing how I can contribute.

Best regards,

Alex Johnson.

A. d - b - c - a

B. b - a - d - c

C. d - c - a - b

D. c - d - a - b

**Question 7:**

a. Some companies are now preferring school-leavers with six-month bootcamps or apprenticeships over university graduates because those kids actually built projects themselves instead of letting tools do the work.

b. The gap between a shiny degree and actual workplace skills has never been wider.

c. New grads arrive expecting senior salaries but freeze when the internet goes down or when a client asks a question that isn't on Google.

- d. Managers say they have to babysit 23-year-olds who look confused without their AI crutches, and team productivity drops because no one trusts the “AI generation” to handle real responsibility.
- e. The message is clear: if you abuse AI in school, you’ll pay for it the moment you clock in on day one.

A. b – c – d – a – e      B. a – c – b – d – e      C. c – b – a – e – d      D. b – c – a – e – d

**Question 8:**

- a. One by one, they put aside pride and start learning plumbing, electrical work, or running the family bakery alongside their dads.
- b. The trades their families have done for decades suddenly look like the only stable option left.
- c. After years of chasing trendy degrees in media or business administration, thousands of graduates are now jobless and moving back into their parents’ houses.
- d. What used to feel “boring” now means real money, no debt, and a boss who actually cares about them.
- e. Many quietly admit they should have listened earlier instead of looking down on the jobs that never stopped paying.

A. c – a – b – d – e      B. b – a – c – e – d      C. c – b – a – d – e      D. b – c – a – e – d

**Question 9:**

- a. More and more people are choosing career paths built around their personality instead of following the old “safe” route.
- b. Both options are in great demand and allow her to act as her own supervisor.
- c. A barista who loves travel can become a flight attendant after short specialty training, or turn into a full-time content creator running digital channels about coffee culture and city guides.
- d. Meanwhile, jobs that rely heavily on human interaction and empathy, such as social worker or youth mentor, still can’t be fully automated, so they remain relevant and rewarding.
- e. As a result, young people today take lifestyle and mental health into account, cut down on soul-draining office hours, and feel completely comfortable going self-employed or gig-based if the money and freedom live up to their expectations.

A. a – b – d – e – c      B. a – c – b – d – e      C. c – a – b – d – e      D. a – c – d – b – e

**Question 10:**

- a. As a result, roles such as travel agent, barista, or even self-employed tutor have become appealing for those who value independence and soft skills over strict supervision.
- b. Ultimately, choosing a field of work is no longer about following a belief but about finding a path that you can genuinely commit to and live up to.
- c. Many school-leavers today prefer flexible careers that allow more human interaction and creativity rather than traditional 9-to-5 jobs.
- d. With industries changing so quickly, workers must take into account current regulations, job stability, and their own willingness to learn.
- e. Meanwhile, people passionate about problem-solving are exploring emerging paths like data detective or social worker, depending on their personality and long-term career goals.

A. c – e – b – a – d      B. c – a – e – d – b      C. c – b – a – d – e      D. d – c – e – a – b

**Exercise 7: Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C, or D on your answer sheet to indicate the option that best fits each of the numbered blanks.**

In the modern job market, seeking employment often involves a multi-faceted approach. Job seekers are encouraged to build a strong online presence, (1) \_\_\_\_\_. Tailoring resumes and cover letters to specific job openings can significantly increase the likelihood of securing interviews. (2) \_\_\_\_\_.

Networking remains a powerful tool in job hunting, (3) \_\_\_\_\_. Attending industry events, participating in online forums, and connecting with former colleagues (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Furthermore, staying informed about industry trends and continually developing relevant skills can enhance job seekers’ competitiveness in a rapidly evolving job market.

Being challenging, (5) \_\_\_\_\_, personalized applications, networking, and skill development to achieve successful employment outcomes.

[Adapted from Workello]

**Question 1:**

- A. to improve their visibility to employers across different industries

- B. including updating their LinkedIn profiles and engaging with professional networks
- C. aiming to attract potential recruiters who might review their digital portfolios
- D. because social media has replaced face-to-face communication

**Question 2:**

- A. Moreover, it is important to remember to take a short, necessary mental break from the intensity of the job search process every single day
- B. Furthermore, it's absolutely essential to diligently practice common interview questions and subsequently refine one's professional communication style
- C. Additionally, it's crucial to research companies thoroughly before interviews to demonstrate a genuine interest and understanding of their mission and values
- D. In contrast, thoroughly researching companies only after an interview can still occasionally provide helpful background details and context for follow-up

**Question 3:**

- A. though this method is slowly becoming less popular due to the rise of technology
- B. because relying on traditional job applications is more effective in today's market
- C. as many positions are filled through personal connections rather than traditional job postings
- D. despite the fact that few successful job seekers focus mainly on building relationships

**Question 4:**

- A. can open doors to opportunities that might not be publicly advertised
- B. usually waste time that could be spent applying directly online
- C. are becoming less important in the digital age of job searching
- D. should only be done after receiving a formal interview invitation

**Question 5:**

- A. the job market has become much simpler than in previous years
- B. making applicants feel uncertain during their journey toward long-term career growth
- C. employers often make hiring decisions based solely on qualifications
- D. job searching requires a strategic approach combining online presence

**Exercise 8: Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.**

Choosing a career path can feel like a daunting task. With so many options available, it's easy to feel overwhelmed. However, **by taking some time for self-reflection, you can discover a path that aligns with your interests, skills, and values.**

A good starting point is to consider what you enjoy doing. Do you find yourself **energized** by creative tasks, or do you thrive in a more analytical environment? Perhaps you crave helping others or working with your hands. Identifying your natural strengths and preferences will help narrow down potential careers.

Next, research different career options. Talk to professionals in fields that pique your interest. Job shadowing or volunteering can also provide valuable insights into the day-to-day realities of various professions. Consider the educational requirements and job outlook for different careers to ensure a practical fit.

Remember, your career path doesn't have to be a straight line. Your interests and skills may **evolve** over time, and that's perfectly okay! Many people change careers at some point in their lives. The key is to be open to new opportunities and stay curious about the world of work. By taking a proactive approach and focusing on self-discovery, **you** can find a career path that is both fulfilling and rewarding.

[Adapted from indeed.com]

**Question 1:** Which of the following is **NOT** mentioned as a way to explore potential careers?

- A. volunteering to understand daily tasks in a certain job
- B. speaking with people working in fields of interest
- C. completing job shadowing to gain real experience
- D. taking personality tests designed to measure career fit

**Question 2:** The word "**energized**" in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. exhausted                      B. motivated                      C. confused                      D. isolated

**Question 3:** The word “**evolve**” in paragraph 4 is **OPPOSITE** in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. remain                      B. grow                      C. shift                      D. progress

**Question 4:** The word “**you**” in paragraph 4 refers to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. your career path                      B. new opportunities  
C. a person seeking a career                      D. the world of work

**Question 5:** Which of the following best rephrases the sentence in paragraph 1: “by taking some time for self-reflection, you can discover a path that aligns with your interests, skills, and values.”?

- A. Only after careful introspection can one find a professional direction that matches their personal attributes.  
B. Self-reflection is only necessary when one is completely confused about all career choices.  
C. Taking time to think about yourself is the final step before making an irreversible career choice.  
D. You must possess interests, skills, and values before you can even begin the process of self-reflection.

**Question 6:** Which of the following statements is **TRUE** according to the passage?

- A. The most effective way to gain insight into a profession is by conducting thorough online research.  
B. Graduates should be prepared for a single, continuous career path without deviations.  
C. It is common for people's professional preferences and abilities to change as they get older.  
D. Consulting with professionals is less important than evaluating the educational requirements for a career.

**Question 7:** In which paragraph does the author recommend engaging in hands-on activities and interacting with experts to understand the actual workings of different jobs?

- A. Paragraph 1                      B. Paragraph 2                      C. Paragraph 3                      D. Paragraph 4

**Question 8:** In which paragraph does the author discuss researching different career options through real-world exposure?

- A. Paragraph 1                      B. Paragraph 2                      C. Paragraph 3                      D. Paragraph 4

**Ex 9:** Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C or D to indicate the correct answer to each of the questions.

### Gen Z and the Rise of Freelancing

In recent years, many people have noticed that Gen Z is becoming more interested in freelance work than traditional full-time jobs. This young generation grew up with the internet, digital tools, and social media, so they are very familiar with working online. [I] For them, freelancing feels natural and flexible. Instead of following the usual nine-to-five schedule, Gen Z wants a lifestyle that gives them more control over their time and energy.

One of the main reasons Gen Z prefers freelancing is freedom. [II] They like being able to choose when and where they work. Many young people feel that traditional offices are too strict or stressful. Freelancing allows them to work from home, a café, or even while traveling. This flexibility helps them maintain a healthier work–life balance. It also gives them the chance to focus on hobbies, personal growth, and mental health, which are very important to this generation.

Another reason is creativity and independence. [III] As freelancers, they can select projects that match their interests and values. They can also develop new skills, explore different industries, and build a personal brand. [IV] This independence encourages them to think more like entrepreneurs. Many Gen Z freelancers enjoy the idea of being their own boss rather than following strict rules from a company.

However, freelancing is not always easy. Income can be unstable, and freelancers must manage their own workload, finances, and clients. Even so, many Gen Z individuals are willing to accept these challenges because they value flexibility and personal freedom more than job security. As technology continues to grow, it is likely that even more young people will choose freelancing as their main way of working.

**Question 1:** Where in paragraph [ ] does the following sentence best fit?

Gen Z often wants to do work that feels meaningful and reflects their personality.

- A. [I]                      B. [II]                      C. [III]                      D. [IV]

**Question 2:** The phrase “**work–life balance**” is opposite in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. constant overworking                      B. flexible schedules                      C. personal hobbies                      D. remote work

**Question 3:** The word “**them**” in the first paragraph refers to which of the following?

- A. freelancers                      B. digital tools                      C. Gen Z                      D. traditional workers

**Question 4:** Which of the following is **NOT mentioned** as a reason Gen Z prefers freelancing?

- A. wanting work that matches their personality and creativity
- B. wishing to avoid strict environments found in traditional offices
- C. hoping to gain faster promotions than in normal full-time jobs
- D. desiring flexibility to travel or manage their time more freely

**Question 5:** Which of the following best summarizes the main idea of the third paragraph?

- A. Young individuals prefer the full-time stability of an office environment because they are naturally encouraged to be more collaborative and less competitive there.
- B. A key attraction of the freelance approach is that it allows Gen Z to be their own boss, selecting creative projects that align with their identity and strengthening their personal independence.
- C. The need to quickly build up a financial foundation means that Gen Z must frequently choose stable, high-paying corporate positions over more personally meaningful, lower-paying work.
- D. Gen Z must be highly selective about which projects they accept because constantly exploring different industries inevitably leads to significant work-related stress and burnout.

**Question 6:** The word "**unstable**" in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to which of the following?

- A. steady
- B. rare
- C. minor
- D. brief

**Question 7:** According to the passage, which of the following statements is **TRUE**?

- A. Freelancing work is generally considered much more stressful than working in a traditional office because the income is almost always very low and insecure.
- B. Gen Z's deep familiarity with both social media and various digital tools strongly contributes to their current comfort with the online nature of freelance employment.
- C. Traditional full-time jobs are widely preferred by Gen Z because they offer immediate access to much greater levels of control over personal time and professional energy.
- D. The challenges associated with freelance work, such as managing finances, are considered by the majority of Gen Z to be completely unacceptable risks to their career security.

**Question 8:** Which of the following best paraphrases the statement: "This independence encourages them to think more like entrepreneurs."?

- A. Having control over their projects inspires them to behave like individuals who build and manage their own businesses.
- B. Working without supervision pushes them to follow the same routines used by traditional company leaders.
- C. Being creative allows them to replace normal employees by taking on every role in a modern company.
- D. Freedom from rules forces them to develop financial strategies that match large corporate organisations.

**Question 9:** Which of the following can most likely be inferred from the passage?

- A. The overwhelming majority of Gen Z individuals are actively avoiding any jobs that require them to communicate directly with clients or external business partners.
- B. The traditional nine-to-five work schedule is predicted to make a significant return soon, primarily due to the intense financial risks associated with the freelance economy.
- C. Gen Z's preference for freelancing reflects a generational shift in priorities, valuing self-direction and personal mental health as essential components of a successful professional life.
- D. The current freelance market mainly caters to those who have recently graduated from university with a highly specialized technical degree or an advanced professional qualification.

**Question 10:** Which of the following best summarises the main idea of the passage?

- A. Gen Z increasingly chooses freelancing because it offers flexibility, independence, and meaningful work, despite challenges such as unstable income and self-management.
- B. Freelancing has replaced all full-time jobs, allowing Gen Z to avoid traditional offices and follow completely unstructured work routines.
- C. Young workers enter freelance careers mainly because they dislike technology and want jobs that require little digital skills or creativity.
- D. Gen Z chooses freelancing only because it helps them travel more frequently, even though most lack interest in long-term career development.