

Graduates versus apprentices

1. Read the article below. Choose the best word to fill each gap from A, B, C or D.

GRADUATES VERSUS APPRENTICES

In the past, school (0) ...leavers... have been encouraged to (1)..... on a university education because it would guarantee a quick route to a good job with security and benefits. People spoke of apprenticeships in a particularly (2) way, rarely applauding their value and suggesting this course to those who were considered academically weak.

However, the business world has changed considerably since those days and the current thinking is that recruiting apprentices is a better option for companies. Furthermore, apprenticeships which provide both work experience as well as giving them a(n) (3)..... for university study, seem to offer the best of both worlds for companies and employees.

In today's fast-changing world, it is imperative that companies have staff who can connect the (4) and who have the ability to (5) opportunities when faced with them. When employing graduates it can take quite a long time before they understand the company and its work culture, whereas the apprentice not only has sector-relevant skills as they have been (6)these ever since they started, but they also (7) in much more quickly.

Research has shown that today many employers regard graduate skills as being somewhat (8) from practice and the necessary industry knowledge so that they are unable to make an immediate impact on the business. Employing graduates can often mean having to (9)teams in order to accommodate them instead of their being able to contribute effectively to the team. It is therefore widely recognised that having an apprenticeship system within a company (10) several invaluable benefits.



0 A finishers B leavers C enders D workers

1 A train B learn C embark D educate

2 A pejorative B indignant C offended D disrespected

3 A budget B account C leverage D allowance

4 A spots B dots C points D marks

5 A spot B dot C glance D glimpse

6 A rehearsing B reviewing C honing D appraising

7 A sit B set C fit D get

8 A separated B distanced C split D divorced

9 A familiarise B rejig C expose D accustom

10 A confers B educates C reveals D discloses

2. Watch the video and complete the sentences.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tDnb9wWhPqE>



1. Apprenticeships are an opportunity to work and learn from day one. It's an opportunity to work alongside experienced professionals and get a qualification _____.
2. It's a great opportunity for us _____ talent that exists in other non-traditional demographics and parts of society.
3. Within seven years have been in the business you are almost guaranteed that you will be in quite _____. The only limit will be your ambition and your application.
4. The key thing in starting your career is to find an environment in which you can _____.
5. University does prepare you in my opinion in relation to _____. But it is one _____ that can give you the skills that will equip you for the future.
6. _____ never count in the top five things employers are looking for. I'm going to say, something else is more important to employers and that's your _____.
7. You need to think very carefully about what you enjoy, where you find your energy what _____ you what excites you.