

Gateway B1 Unit 7



- 1 What are the unusual jobs in the photos?
- 2 What do you think people do in these jobs?

**Do you have an unusual job?
We want to hear from you!**

[4 COMMENTS]

1 You don't have to be attractive to work on TV. If you watch any TV drama, you'll see normal people in the background, behind the main actors. TV or film directors don't want every scene to be full of George Clooneys or Keira Knightleys. They want things to look real, with normal people. That's my job. Some people call us 'background artists', but we're usually called 'extras'. Extras often have to be in the studio for long hours, but you usually only work for about two hours a day. So 10 you should take a good book or a crossword because most of the time you're just sitting waiting. And if you're working with famous actors, you mustn't ask them for an autograph. They just want to do their job in peace.

Lily Ann Lloyd, Glasgow – 1 Mar 2011, 2:31 PM

15 When I tell people what my job is, they all think I'm lucky. I suppose I am. I test computer games, so basically I spend hours and hours playing them, to see if they're good or not. Sometimes we have to keep playing the game until it breaks. It can be fun but it can also get really boring, 20 playing the same game again and again. We often have to work very fast too. What I really want to do one day is to design a computer game. I studied to be a computer programmer so I know about the technical side. But you have to be very creative to design a game that's original.

David Singleton, London – 1 Mar 2011, 2:57 PM

I'm a house sitter. You probably think that I just sit at home all day. Well, you're right. Except not at my own home. A house sitter is someone who looks after another person's house when they go away. Sometimes I stay for just a 30 couple of weeks when someone goes away on holiday. But sometimes I have to stay for six months, when a family goes to live for a long time in another country for example. People say that I'm a 'living burglar alarm'. That's more or less true. It's an easy job, but you shouldn't do it if you 35 love staying at home ... your own home, that is.

Stephen Redmond, Cornwall – 1 Mar 2011, 3:17 PM

My job isn't exactly unusual but I have to work with world issues, emotions, strange events, family problems, love, new pop groups, discipline, people who are too excited, 40 people who are bored, lunch, chewing gum, fashion, pollution, history, sport, literature, A+, C-, all this and the future of the world ... In my job you have to be reliable, well-organised, hard-working, creative, clever, sociable, caring, calm ... I'm a teacher and I love my job.

Louise Perry, Oxford – 1 Mar 2011, 7:20 PM

Blog

Read the texts in 2 again and decide if the statements are true (T) or false (F). Write down the number(s) of the line(s) where you found the answer.

1 Lily Ann is very attractive and this is why she works in TV.	T/F
2 Background artists and extras are different names for the same job.	T/F
3 Extras need to be patient.	T/F
4 Stars don't like signing autographs for extras.	T/F
5 David always enjoys his job.	T/F
6 David thinks that technical knowledge is not enough to create a computer game.	T/F
7 House sitters protect other people's property.	T/F
8 Being a house sitter isn't a good job for people who like being away from their home.	T/F
9 Louise needs to know about the past, present and future in her job.	T/F
10 Louise thinks that she needs a variety of skills to do her job well.	T/F

Match the underlined words in the text with their definitions.

- 1 takes care of, protects looks after
- 2 subjects, topics, questions
- 3 the place behind the main person or thing that you are looking at
- 4 handsome, beautiful
- 5 in a good situation, in a situation that other people want to be in
- 6 but