

A The armed forces



If you join **the armed forces**, you will be **serving** your country, but it is important to remember that the forces also provide a good **career structure**. Young men and women can receive **advanced technical** training in a variety of **fields** that can help them to develop a wide range of **skills**. An added **benefit** of this is that when you eventually leave the forces, you will have more experience and better **qualifications** than before you joined, and the opportunity to go on to another interesting career.

GLOSSARY

the (armed) forces	a country's soldiers who fight on land (the army), at sea (the navy), or in the air (the air force)
serve	do work for other people
structure	the way that the parts of sth are put together and organized
advanced	for sb who is already of a high level: <i>an advanced English class</i>
technical	connected with the practical use of machines, methods, etc. in science and industry
field	an area of study or knowledge: <i>the field of medicine</i>
skill	a particular ability or type of ability
benefit	sth that is good or helpful benefit v
qualification	an exam you have passed or a course you have finished

SPOTLIGHT *career, job, profession*

A career is the series of jobs you have in a particular area. **a career in the army/publishing/teaching**, etc.

A job is any work you do to earn money.

► *I got a job as a designer with ABC Designs.*

A profession is a job with a high level of training and/or education.

the medical/teaching/legal profession

1 Underline the correct or best answer.

- A **job/career** in medicine.
- 1 What are the **benefits / qualifications** of working as a team?
- 2 Making a **cake / mistake** is a skill.
- 3 You need technical knowledge to understand **poetry / computer systems**.
- 4 **Teaching / Bus driving** is a profession.

5 **Advanced / Elementary** courses are at a low level.

6 **Two years in the army / A university degree** is a qualification.

7 The **navy / army** work on ships or submarines.

8 I worked in the **field / job** of training and communication systems.

2 Complete the words in the text.

After I leave university, I would like to join the armed ► **forces** I have always wanted a (1) as a pilot, and the (2) has a very good career (3) It would also be an opportunity to (4) my country. I already have some experience of flying, but in the air force, you learn to fly a range of different aircraft: that is one of the great (5) As a result, you get a very (6) level of (7) training, and the opportunity to develop a wide range of different (8) If I trained as an air force pilot, I would have the (9) and experience that I need in later life.

3 ABOUT YOU Write your answers, or talk to another student.

- 1 Would you like a career in the armed forces?
- 2 If you were in the forces, would you prefer the army, the navy or the air force?
- 3 What qualifications do you have?
- 4 Are there other qualifications you would need or like to have?
- 5 Are there other skills you would like to have?
- 6 Do you want a career in just one profession, or would you prefer to work in different fields?



TEST YOURSELF

B A working life

I left school with very few qualifications. It was a time of high **unemployment**, but I got a job as a postman. However, it's not an **occupation** with a real career structure, so I soon left. I was **unemployed** for a while, but I finally **managed** to get a job in an engineering company. I worked really hard, and within two years I was **promoted**. The company then paid for me to do a two-year **diploma** in mechanical engineering, which was good for my **CV**. And by my late 30s, I was **appointed** assistant manager of a company in a nearby town, where I remained for the rest of my working life. I **retired** last year.

SPOTLIGHT *employment*

Employment is having a job you are paid to do.

► It is hard for young people to find **employment** at the moment.

Unemployment is when there are not enough jobs for the people who want to work. **unemployed** *adj*

GLOSSARY

occupation <i>formal</i>	job
manage (<i>to do sth</i>)	be able to do sth, often sth difficult
promote (often passive)	give sb a better job at a higher level in a company promotion <i>n</i>
diploma	a course of study. At the end of it you receive a piece of paper that shows you have passed an exam or finished the course.
CV (short for curriculum vitae)	a written list of your education and work experience that you send when you are trying to get a job
appoint	choose sb for a job appointment <i>n</i>
assistant	having a position below that of a senior person and helping them in their work: <i>an assistant manager</i>
remain <i>formal</i>	stay in the same way or place; not change
retire	stop working because you are a certain age (usually 65 or older) retirement <i>n</i>

- 4 Is the pronunciation of the underlined sounds the same or different? Write **S** or **D**. Use the  to help you. Practise saying the words.

- appoint / employment S
1 occupation / diploma
2 diploma / retire
3 curriculum / occupation

- 4 promote / appoint
5 occupation / manage
6 assistant / unemployment
7 manage / remain

- 5 Good news? Bad news? Not sure? Write **G**, **B** or **not sure**.

- They've appointed me. G
1 They've promoted me.
2 They didn't want my CV.
3 I remained with the company.
4 I was unemployed.
5 I had to retire.
6 I got my diploma.
7 I was manager, but now I'm assistant manager.
8 Unemployment is going down.

- 6 Complete the sentences with a single word.

- I did well and I was soon promoted. (*given a better job*)
1 I was pleased when they me. (*chose me for the job*)
2 It was difficult but I to finish the work on time. (*was able*)
3 He asked me for my name, address and (*the job I did*)
4 I've never been (*without a job*)
5 I thought about leaving but I've decided to (*stay in the same place*)
6 After five years, I was made manager. (*helper to the manager*)
7 I've got a in Business Studies. (*a course followed by an exam*)
8 I when I was 65. (*stopped working*)
9 There are problems with in my town. (*not enough work and jobs*)
10 I've sent in my to the company. (*a list of my education and work experience*)



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