

7.1 Good prospects

Vocabulary working conditions

1 Match words 1–6 to words a–f.

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 1 career | a satisfaction |
| 2 working | b accommodation |
| 3 be made | c prospects |
| 4 job | d redundant |
| 5 rent-free | e pay |
| 6 holiday | f hours |

→ **STUDY TIP** Word combinations like these are called collocations, which should be learnt as one chunk of language.

2 Read the text and substitute the parts in *italics* with the collocations from exercise 1.

Best place in the world to work? Google it!

What makes a good job? Salary? ¹*Chances of getting a better job in the future?* Job stability (how likely it is to ²*lose your job*)? Benefits such as ³*free housing*?

Every year, *Fortune* magazine makes a list of the 100 best companies to work for. In 2014, for the third year in a row, Google was at the top of the list. Why? Well, apart from all the benefits you would expect from a big company, such as up to twenty-five days ⁴*of vacation earning full salary*, Google offers some other unique advantages:

- Employees can spend up to 20% of their ⁵*time at work* on a project of their choice.
- They get free food, gym membership, carwashes and even haircuts!
- They can take their children and even their pets to work.

All this guarantees a high level of ⁶*happiness at work*, which makes the internet giant a dream company to work for.

3 Complete the interviewer's (I) questions and candidate's (C) answers from a job interview. The first letter is given.

- I Why were you ¹*unemployed* from January to August last year?
- C After I was made ²*redundant*, I decided to take a management course.
- I Are you flexible about ³*working* hours and travelling?
- C I understand that flexibility is an important part of this ⁴*job*.
- I What type of ⁵*work* ⁶*conditions* would make a difference to you?
- C Well, the ⁶*salary* is very attractive, but health insurance would be a real plus.

4 Complete the answers with words from the box. Which three answers won't help you get the job?

career prospects job satisfaction promotion
qualifications rent-free accommodation sick pay

- 1 I believe my *qualifications* will be useful to the company.
- 2 I really want to move out of my mother's house, so I need a job that offers *rent-free accommodation*.
- 3 This job is OK, but I'd like to get a *promotion* soon because I want to earn more money.
- 4 I'm looking for a job with good *job satisfaction*, and I'm prepared to work hard to achieve my professional goals.
- 5 The salary's important, but *career prospects* comes first for me. I want to be challenged, work in a lively atmosphere and enjoy my job.
- 6 I left my last job because I didn't get any *happiness at work* when I was ill. It wasn't fair.

career prospects



Grammar *used to and would*

- 5 Read the text and correct five mistakes. Two examples are correct.

There are many websites dedicated to people who have changed careers. Here are some amazing stories from some of them:

- *From Banking to Fitness* Marie Gregor ¹ *used to feeling* frustrated as a bank manager, but now she runs a successful fitness business.
- *From Marketing to Chef* Simon Hunt ² *didn't used to like* all the marketing courses he had to take, so he decided to retrain as a chef.
- *From Teaching to Gardening* Gianluca Biaggio owns a gardening business. The only thing he misses from his old job in a school is his friends, who he ³ *would talk* to every day.
- *From Telesales to Watersports* After Martin Holmes ⁴ *used to go* on a year-long holiday, he knew he couldn't go back to the life he ⁵ *used to have*, so he decided to qualify as a watersports instructor.
- *From Nurse to Actor* Ben Atkinson's talents were being wasted in the hospital where he ⁶ *is used to work*. Now he works in the theatre, which is his real passion.
- *From IT to Photography* Susan Wainwright ⁷ *would be responsible* for training people in IT, and now travels the world taking photos.



- 6a Read some answers to the question: 'Why did you decide to work from home?' Rewrite five of the sentences using *used to*. Put a cross next to the sentence you cannot rewrite.

- I spent more than two hours on the bus every day.
I used to spend more than two hours on the bus every day.
- I didn't see much of my children during the week.

- People interrupted me all the time.

- I was fired and became freelance.

- I hated wearing a tie every day.

- I felt depressed on Sundays, thinking about going to the office the next day.

- b In which four sentences can you use *would* instead of *used to*?

PRONUNCIATION similar sounds

- 7a 7.1 Listen and repeat.

used to I used to go to work by bus
they'd they'd go to work by bus

- b 7.2 Listen and tick the sentences you hear.

- ☒ I used to work at home.
☐ I use it to work at home.
- ☐ I'd go by car every day. I never walked.
☐ I go by car every day. I never walk.
- ☐ I used a copy from the Web.
☐ I used to copy from the Web.
- ☐ I'll travel abroad a lot.
☐ I'd travel abroad a lot.

- c 7.3 Listen and repeat the sentences.

I can ...

	Very well	Quite well	More practice
talk about working conditions.	☐	☐	☐
talk about finished habits and situations.	☐	☐	☐