

# 6

## My first job

### Grammar

#### Articles

1 Complete each gap with *a*, *the* or *-*.

#### Working in films

You don't need to be (1) ..... famous actor to get (2) ..... part on (3) ..... film set but you need to be willing to start at (4) ..... bottom. For example, you could spend hours standing in (5) ..... rain by (6) ..... gate in (7) ..... field stopping (8) ..... people from coming in. In (9) ..... Britain and most other countries, you should look for (10) ..... job as (11) ..... 'runner'. Runners fetch things and help generally. This is (12) ..... most junior job and even if you want to be (13) ..... camera operator, it's (14) ..... good place to start. You could do (15) ..... training course but (16) ..... best qualification is (17) ..... experience.



#### Countable and uncountable nouns

2 Complete each sentence with a word from the box. You don't need to use all the words but you will need to make some of them plural.

advice dish equipment experience food  
information knowledge luggage ~~meat~~  
scenery suggestion suitcase tool view

1 There are few ..... meals ..... of two courses which can be prepared in less than 20 minutes.

- 2 If you need any climbing ..... like a helmet or ropes, that shop over there is the place to go.
- 3 The amount of ..... the average family eats in Britain seems to go up every year.
- 4 If you take a large number of ..... onto the plane, you have to pay extra.
- 5 Jack sends long emails but they contain little ..... about what he's doing.
- 6 We climbed to the top of the tower where the ..... were spectacular.
- 7 Here are a few ..... on how to get a job in the music industry.
- 8 If you come to dinner, I will make you a traditional ..... like beetroot soup.
- 9 You can walk to the hostel from the station unless you have a great deal of .....
- 10 You might not get the job because you have little ..... in advertising.

### Vocabulary


#### Adjective collocations with *job* and *work*

1 EP For each sentence, choose a word from the box. Then circle *job* or *work* in each sentence.

weekend outdoor paid skilled  
full-time temporary

- 1 I have a ..... *job / work* – I work eight hours a day, five days a week.
- 2 I can't afford to live on what I earn – I need to find a well-..... *job / work*.
- 3 I'm looking for ..... *job / work* – I don't mind what it is but I'm only free on Saturdays and Sundays.
- 4 I'm only working here for six weeks because this is a ..... *job / work*.
- 5 You need qualifications and training to be a mechanic – it's ..... *job / work*.
- 6 ..... *job / work* can be very demanding in the winter but I prefer it to working in an office.

## Words often confused

2  Five of the sentences below contain an incorrect word. Correct them and put a tick (✓) next to the sentences which are correct.

- 1 I saw a really funny programme on TV last night.  
.....✓.....
- 2 I'm not working tomorrow so I'll take the **possibility** to play tennis.  
.....**opportunity**.....
- 3 Thirty years ago, people didn't have so many occasions to travel.  
.....
- 4 My father's written a novel and there's an opportunity it might be published.  
.....
- 5 The course will be funny as the other students are friendly.  
.....
- 6 I'll lend you my necklace as it's a special occasion.  
.....
- 7 Is there a possibility that you could work on Saturday instead of Friday?  
.....
- 8 I've been offered a wonderful occasion to play at a music festival.  
.....

## Writing | Part 2 A letter

1 Read the exam question below. Then complete each gap in the reply with a linking word or phrase from the box.

You have received a letter from an American student called Jay. Read this part of the letter and then write your letter to Jay.

When I finish school, I'm going to spend the summer in your country and I'd like to get a job. Can you tell me what kinds of jobs are available for students and which you think is best to apply for?

Thanks,  
Jay

Write your letter in 140–190 words in an appropriate style.

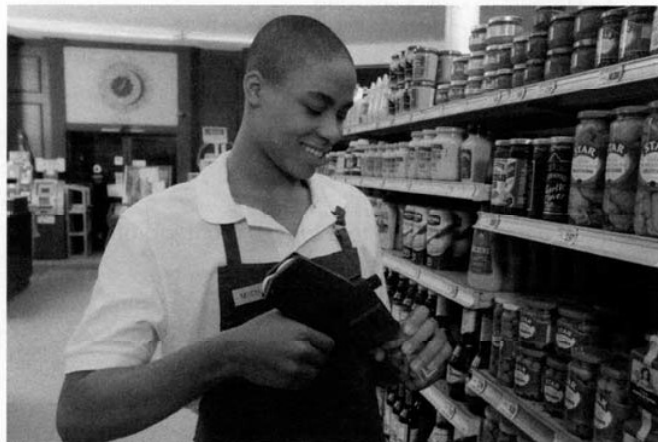
although both ~~but~~ for the same reason,  
if you like, so as a result  
the disadvantage is that on the other hand,

Dear Jay, Thank you for your letter. I have a job in a shop near where I live. I work every Saturday (1) .....~~but~~..... in the holidays I work full-time. (2) ..... I enjoy the contact with people, it's a shoe shop and I'm not really interested in what I'm selling! Most people don't want to work in the evening (3) ..... it's not too difficult to get an evening or weekend job in a supermarket. Some even stay open all night! (4) ..... students often work in restaurants and cafés because that's usually evening and weekend work too so you could look for a job as a waiter. (5) ..... the weekends are probably when you want to spend time with your friends. (6) ..... you might get free food and that will save you money! I hope that's helpful. (7) ..... the jobs I suggest are hard work. However, I think working in a restaurant is more interesting. (8) ..... I can send you details of some websites you could look at which advertise summer jobs. I look forward to seeing you in the summer. Best wishes, Ben

2 Answer these questions.

- 1 Which jobs does Ben write about?
- 2 What explanation does he give for suggesting these jobs?
- 3 Which job does he suggest is best? What reasons does he give?

3 The letter doesn't have any paragraphs. Mark where they should go.



## Listening | Part 1

07 You will hear people talking in eight different situations. For questions 1–8, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

- You overhear two people talking at the end of the day. Where are they?  
A in a shop  
B in an office  
C at home
- You hear a man talking on the phone about a job he has been offered. How does he feel?  
A confused  
B upset  
C disappointed
- You hear a woman talking on the radio about her job. She says it's  
A tiring.  
B interesting.  
C exciting.
- You hear a woman talking to a group of students. What is she doing?  
A asking for information  
B giving advice  
C explaining a decision
- You hear two people talking about their office. What do they agree about?  
A They need more places for storage.  
B There are too many people in it.  
C There's too much noise.
- You hear a teenager talking to his boss. What excuse does he give for being late?  
A He didn't have any transport.  
B He wasn't given information he needed.  
C He had to help someone.
- You hear a message on a telephone answering service. The speaker wants to  
A offer thanks  
B make a suggestion  
C change a plan
- You hear a girl talking to a friend. What job does she prefer?  
A waitress  
B kitchen assistant  
C receptionist

## Reading and Use of English | Part 7

You are going to read an article about being a newspaper reporter. For questions 1–10, choose from the people (A–D). The people may be chosen more than once.

## Which person says

- they had a particular advantage when applying for one job?
- time for research is often limited?
- their present job is good training for their future career?
- they find it difficult when they are not permitted to finish something?
- it is important to take advantage of subject areas you know a lot about?
- a wide range of general knowledge is important?
- it is important not to make mistakes?
- they have not advanced steadily in their career?
- it is important for them to build links with the community?
- that journalists should not let their own point of view influence what they write?



## Working in the news

*Newspaper journalists or reporters source, research and write stories for publication in local, regional and national press. Four young reporters tell us what it's like for them and offer tips for those who are hoping to become journalists.*



### A Craig

As a reporter, you really have to be ready for anything. A story could come up on a subject you know nothing about and you may have just half an hour to read a report or past stories before you interview someone. I spend most of my time in the office, unfortunately. My advice for potential journalists is that you need to be able to speak to anyone in all walks of life. A story could come up where the subject is close to your heart but you have to be unbiased and open to other people's opinions, even if you do not agree with them. Every subject is useful – you need to know a little bit about everything.

### B Beth

I would say about 60% of my time is spent inside the office. It is always better to visit someone in their house as it makes for a much better story, but due to time constraints unfortunately this is not always possible. The experience I'm gaining at a local newspaper will set me up for a job on a bigger newspaper. Local newspapers are a great source of news for national newspapers. The general agreement at my newspaper is that the story can be passed on as long as it has appeared in our paper or on our website first. To be a journalist you must be outgoing and professional, and you also have to ensure accuracy in all stories. You will often find yourself in a situation where you have to generate a conversation with a complete stranger who may not want to speak to you!

### C Andrew

My first job was with a regional paper. I think the editor was impressed by the fact that I come from the area and know about local issues. I now work from home on a freelance basis, writing features for the Sunday newspapers. You have to be very self-motivated and able to generate ideas for new stories all the time. In a good week I'll sell two or three features to magazines. Some weeks I'll sell nothing. Journalism isn't a profession where you progress upwards from one position to the next. I've made several moves already but it's not clear whether they were upwards, downwards or sideways! You need to be prepared to work hard to get work experience, get a qualification and demonstrate your commitment. If you're a specialist in anything (sport, music, computer games), write about it.

### D Deborah

I had no career plan at all when I graduated – I found work with a very small family-owned paper where I found myself doing all sorts of jobs. While there I decided to train as a journalist. I must be the only person in the universe to 'fall into' journalism! A crucial part of my job is building contacts locally. I attend a lot of council meetings to try to find out what is going on with the 15,000 employees and attend numerous other meetings. Why do I do it? It's certainly not for the money, which is very poor. I really enjoy seeing my words change things. The frustrations include leaving a story I'm enjoying working on because the editor wants something else.