Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University

# LISTENING COMPREHENSION: CAREERS

(with audio/video guide)

# **STUDENT'S BOOK**



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Укладачі:

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Навчально-методичний посібник "Listening Comprehension: Careers (with audio/video guide)" розроблено як додаток до навчальних підручників, рекомендованих для студентів 2-3 курсів, з метою збагачення змісту, удосконалення навичок слухання автентичних текстів та підвищення якості філологічної підготовки студентів, які вивчають англійську мову як фахову дисципліну або другу іноземну мову у закладах вищої освіти.

Студентам запропоновано набір тестів різних видів, а також рекомендації, як самостійно працювати над розвитком навичок слухання та сприймання іноземної мови. Матеріал посібника можна використовувати у закладах вищої освіти, а також для проведення факультативних занять у гімназіях, гуманітарних ліцеях, загальноосвітніх школах із поглибленим вивченням іноземних мов, для слухачів курсів та осіб, які самостійно вивчають англійську мову.

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#### Preface

The manual consists of listening tests accompanied by authentic or semiauthentic recordings played twice along. Each test includes clear instructions how to do it correctly. The recorded text types/videos might include conversations, lectures, discussions, narratives, announcements, instructions or media broadcast. There will usually be one task for each of the recordings for a student to do. The typical task types include: multiple choice, true/false, matching and gap filling. Some tips how to do different types of tasks:

#### TRUE/FALSE

In this type of task, you need to decide if the given statements convey the same information as used in the text (and mark them *True*) or different (and mark them *False*).

- Remember that your task is to decide if a statement is true or false in reference to the text, not if it is true in general;
- remember that the questions follow the order of the information in the text;
- many true or false statements are built in such a way that the information from the text is conveyed by means of synonyms or antonyms.

#### **MULTIPLE CHOICE**

In a multiple choice task you need to rule out the incorrect answers and choose one answer that is correct. The correct answer should contain the same information as the text.

- Before you start reading the text, first read all the questions and then find in the text the parts that correspond to each question – it can be a single word, a sentence or a paragraph;
- remember that the questions follow the order of the information in the text. It is safe to assume that the answer to question number two will be somewhere before the answer to question number three. This might help you if you are not sure where to look for the answer to a particular question;

- never choose the answer on the basis of one word, as both the correct and incorrect answers may contain the same words used in the text. Pay attention to the general context of the text, which will help you rule out the answers which are not consistent with it;
- when choosing the correct answer, always double check if the information in the questions is the same as what is in the text. You may want to underline the parts of the text that contain the answer you need, which will help you finish the task more quickly;
- it is important for you to be able to locate the main idea of the text and separate it from ideas which are only details or illustration of the main idea. This will help you answer the questions correctly as a lot of wrong options in the exam questions ask about ideas of secondary importance.

#### **GAPPED TEXT (MATCHING)**

This is a special type of matching task in which you have a text with some parts (full sentences or parts of sentences) missing from it. As with all the other types of reading tasks, before you start doing the task, read the text ignoring the gaps to get the overall idea of what it is about.

- When completing the gaps, look for words which are used to refer to sentences that come before or after the gaps. Pay attention to:

\* *cause and effect markers*: if a sentence talks about an action, then the next one will most probably talk about its effect;

\* *pronouns and determiners:* if they are used in the sentences, they refer to the people or things that are already mentioned in the text;

\* *chronology markers:* look for words like *afterwards, eventually, finally* which show the order of events;

\* *vocabulary paraphrases:* neighbouring sentences often refer to the same person, thing or concept but use different words or phrases to describe them.

## **GAP FILLING**

In this type of task, you will get a set of gapped sentences, a form, or a fact file with some information missing. Your task will be to complete the gaps using the information you find in the text. The sentences you need to complete are only paraphrases of what you read in the text – they convey the same information, but they are not phrased in the same way.

- Sometimes the instructions specify the number of words you can write, so make sure your answers are the right length. If the instructions say you have to write one or two words, your solution of three words will not be accepted, although otherwise it may be correct;
- read the gapped sentences carefully before you start doing the task and try to guess what word category is missing from each gap. If you do this, it will be easier for you to find the correct answers;
- the sentences you have to complete are given in the same order as the information in the text. Bear this in mind when you work through the task.

# Test 1 An Interview with a News Reporter

You will hear a news reporter called Angela Bond, talking on the radio about her job. For questions 1-6, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

- 1 Where is Angela working at the moment?
  - A Britain
  - **B** The USA
  - C Asia
- 2 Angela likes her job because she
  - A loves being in dangerous situations.
  - **B** never knows where she'll go next.
  - **C** enjoys watching important events happen.
- 3 What did Angela bring home from Hong Kong?
  - A pictures
  - **B** carpets
  - **C** furniture
- 4 What time does Angela's day begin?
  - A 8.30 am
  - **B** 6.30 pm
  - **C** 10.00 am
- 5 Where did Angela meet her boyfriend?
  - **A** at her sister's house
  - **B** at university
  - C in Hong Kong
- 6 What does Angela do to relax?
  - A She cooks a meal.
  - **B** She goes sailing.
  - **C** She goes shopping.

# Test 2 Working in a Cake Shop

You will hear part of a radio interview with a woman called Linda Brown, who is talking about working in a cake shop when she was a student. For questions 1-6, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

- 1 Linda worked in a cake shop because
  - A her parents didn't give her enough money.
  - **B** she wanted to give her parents some money.
  - **C** she needed to buy things for college.
- 2 Linda liked her first boss because he
  - A paid her well.
  - **B** was kind to her.
  - **C** sent her on a training course.
- 3 What did Linda enjoy about working in the shop?
  - **A** eating the cakes
  - **B** the smell of baking
  - **C** the clean workplace
- 4 In the shop, Linda helped with
  - **A** baking bread.
  - **B** displaying cakes.
  - **C** making sandwiches.
- 5 Linda says that the full-time shop assistants
  - **A** were friendly to her.
  - **B** hadn't got the same skills as her.
  - C didn't work as hard as her.
- 6 What does Linda say about serving customers?
  - **A** She didn't like dealing with complaints.
  - **B** She liked giving them advice.
  - **C** She enjoyed the busy part of the day.

# **Test 3 Talking about the Jobs**

Look at the six sentences for this part.

You will hear two friends, a boy, Rolf, and a girl, Maria, talking about the jobs they would like to do in the future.

Decide if the statements 1-6 are true (T) or false (F).

- 1 Maria would like to travel a lot as part of her job.
- 2 Maria is confident she will be able to work for an airline.
- 3 Rolf intends to do a job connected with his degree.
- 4 Maria and Rolf agree it is important to have a good salary.
- 5 Maria hopes to work for several different employers.
- 6 Rolf's ambition is to manage his own company one day.



# Test 4 Dream Jobs

Listen to people talking about their dream jobs. What problems does each speaker talk about?

Listen again and answer questions 1-8. Write Nicola (N), Luca (L) or Amy (A).

- 1 Who had a boss who worked in the media?
- 2 Who worked for a big company?
- 3 Who spent a lot of time by the sea as a child?
- 4 Who had to try and invent new ideas for the job?
- 5 Who decided to do this job because they saw someone else doing it?
- 6 Who had a different job in the summer and in the winter?
- 7 Who had a difficult relationship with their boss?
- 8 Who started to find their job boring?



#### Test 5 Getting a Job as an Au Pair

1. Do you know what an au pair does? Read this section of a letter written by an au pair. All the vowels (a, e, i, o, u) are missing. Fill them in and find out what she does.

I w\_rk tw\_nty-f\_v \_ h\_\_rs \_ w\_\_k \_ nd b\_bys\_t tw\_ n\_ghts \_ w\_ \_k. I h\_ ve t\_ 1\_\_k \_ft\_r th\_ ch\_ldr\_n, cl\_\_n th\_ h\_\_s\_, d\_ th\_ w\_sh\_ng \_nd \_r\_n\_ng \_nd s\_m\_t\_m\_s d\_ s\_m\_ c\_k\_ng. I d\_n't p\_y f\_r my r\_m \_r my f\_\_d \_nd th\_ f\_m\_ly p\_ys m\_ f\_fty p\_\_nds \_ w\_\_k. I \_ls\_ g\_ t\_ \_ngl\_sh cl\_ss\_s.

- 2. Listen to the conversation between Tania, an au pair, and Mr Palin, someone looking for an au pair. Answer the following questions.
  - a) What day of the week is Tania going to see the Palin family?
  - b) What time is Tania going to see the Palin family?
  - c) What ages are the Palins' children?
  - d) What time do the kids need to be at school?
  - e) What time do the kids need to be collected from school?
  - f) Until what time does Tania need to look after the kids?
  - g) How many nights does Tania have to babysit?
  - h) Would Tania have her own room? Will it be big?
  - i) What is the Palin's address?
  - j) What is the nearest station to the Palins?
- 3. Roleplay the interview between Mr and Mrs Palin and Tania.

**Mr and Mrs Palin** - Think about what Tania will have to do each day. What questions will you ask her?

**Tania** - Think of any questions you want to ask the family. Are you clear about your duties? Don't leave until you know exactly what you will have to do each day.

# **Test 6 Careers**

Listen to Becky, Georgina and Stephen talking about careers, then fill in the gaps in the summaries.

## Becky

Becky would like to be a performer. She wants a job where she can use her a)\_\_\_\_\_\_, perhaps working on the radio or telling b)\_\_\_\_\_\_ on tape. Her dad is c)\_\_\_\_\_\_ and has to take work as it comes, but Becky wants to have a d)\_\_\_\_\_\_ income. If she found a job where she was happy and valued by others, she wouldn't mind that she hadn't achieved the ideal of her e)\_\_\_\_\_\_.

## Georgina

Georgina would also like to be a performer, but she knows this career is difficult because her dad is an f)\_\_\_\_\_\_. It's hard for him to make plans or g)\_\_\_\_\_\_ a holiday. There are some terrible h)\_\_\_\_\_\_; 97% of actors only earn £4,000 a year through performing. Although she realises she might not be successful, she's going to i)\_\_\_\_\_\_ this career as far as she can. But for now, she's following the advice that adults have always given her - get your j)\_\_\_\_\_\_ first.

# Stephen

Stephen would like to be a film director or producer. He doesn't want a job with lots of k)\_\_\_\_\_ where people won't notice him. He wants a job that everyone will i)\_\_\_\_\_ him by.



#### **Test 7 Everything about work**

You are going to hear 5 short dialogues related to work. Match the speakers
1-5 to the statements A-F. There is one extra statement that you do not need to use.

A Someone is going to retire soon

B The boss is threatening to fire someone.

C Employees are protesting against unfair treatment at work.

D Someone is trying to get a job with an airline.

E Someone is trying to get a pay rise.

F Someone is explaining to new employees how good their job is.

1\_\_\_\_\_ 2\_\_\_\_\_ 3\_\_\_\_\_ 4\_\_\_\_\_ 5\_\_\_\_\_

2. Listen to dialogue 4 again. Complete this list of advantages of the job the person is talking about:

"We've got the best starting s\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the country; fantastic b\_\_\_\_\_: six weeks p\_\_\_\_\_ h \_\_\_\_\_ a year, guaranteed s \_\_\_\_\_ p\_\_\_\_, free d\_\_\_\_\_ c\_\_\_\_\_ for pre-school children.

Which of these things would be the most important for you? Discuss with the partner.

3. Listen to dialogue 5 again and write down the names of all the jobs the man has done (there are six!). Which of the jobs could you do for some time?

# Test 8 An Interview with a Tour Leader

You will hear part of a radio programme about people's jobs. For questions 1-7 choose the best answer A, B or C.

- 1. Nick decided to work in his present job
- A when he started his tourism course
- B because he didn't enjoy being an accountant
- C while he was still doing a course
- 2. To get a job as a Tour Leader with High Adventure Holidays, you have to
- A have experience of travel
- B be good at dealing with people
- C know a lot about other countries
- 3. We are told that, when leading a tour, Tour Leaders have to be able to
- A deal with demanding people
- B react to problems calmly
- C forget their own wishes
- 4. Adventure holiday tour leaders are different from other tour leaders because
- A they don't have any time on their own
- B they have to travel longer distances.
- C they have to follow strict instructions
- 5. According to Nick, a big disadvantage of the job is that he
- A can't talk about his own problems
- B often has to change arrangements
- C may not like members of the group
- 6. What does Nick say about tour leaders' careers?
- A leaders go to more interesting places after a while
- B leaders' salaries tend to be low at first
- C most tour leaders eventually do office-based jobs
- 7. What does Nick particularly like about the job?
- A remembering the places he has been to
- B being appreciated by others
- C making friends that he keeps.

#### Test 9 The Best Job in the World

1. Do this exercise before you listen. Which five activities can you do in Australia? Tick ( $\checkmark$ ) all the correct answers.

get to know aboriginal culture
look at dinosaur fossils
learn how to cook traditional, local curries
go skiing
visit ancient Inuit monuments
enjoy a firework display at New Year
see lions and tigers in the wild
go surfing

2. Do this exercise while you listen. Complete the gaps with the correct word.

1. The organisation Tourism Australia is offering six jobs, for six

- 2. If you want one of these jobs, you have to make a short \_\_\_\_\_\_.
- 3. The job of outback adventurer is for someone with a passion for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ life.

4. Job number two is a park \_\_\_\_\_\_ in Queensland.

5. The wildlife caretaker job on Kangaroo Island is for someone who loves

6. If you're not an outdoor person, the next job is for someone whose talents are in

8. The final job is based in \_\_\_\_\_.

•

- **3.** Do this exercise while you listen. Put the job requirements with the correct job.
- a) write, take photographs and make films
- b) help preserve and promote plants, animals, fossils and indigenous culture

<sup>7.</sup> The taste master will need to \_\_\_\_\_\_ about food as well as enjoy eating it.

- c) work with some dangerous animals
- d) work with the organizers of festivals
- e) find the best places for "wining and dining"
- **f**) learn how to make alcoholic drinks
- g) work in a state with the world's biggest sand island
- h) use social media to tell people about cool events
- i) find adventures and employment for young people on working holidays
- **j**) travel in a hot air balloon and be prepared to eat insects
- $\mathbf{k}$ ) use different types of transport and leave only footprints
- I) report on cafés, concerts and days out

outback adventurer park ranger wildlife caretaker

# lifestyle journalist

taste master

chief funster



## Test 10 I'm an Architect

Look at the eight sentences for this part. You will hear a job-related conversation between 4 friends Magda, Olivia, Harry and Sarah.

- 1. Decide if the statements 1-8 are true (T) or false (F).
- 1. Magda got the job.
- 2. Salary isn't good.
- 3. Harry usually remembers people's jobs.
- 4. Sarah has recently bought a flat.
- 5. Fadi's cousin wants to know about Sarah.
- 6. Sarah receives rent.
- 7. Olivia offers to speak to Fadi.
- 8. Olivia will phone Fadi.
- 2. For questions 1-3 choose the best answer (A, B or C).
- 1. What is tricky about Magda's Job?
  - A She won't be paid enough.
  - B She'll have to work extra hours.
  - C She got it only for a month.
- 2. Why isn't Harry satisfied with his job?
  - A The salary is low.
  - B He has to work at weekends.
  - C He isn't paid extra money for extra work.
- 3. What will Magda do at her work?
  - A admin work
  - B design buildings
  - C draw sketches

## **Test 11 Todd Overseas**

You will hear two people, a man, Todd, and a woman, Julia, talking about the possibility of working online from anywhere in the world.

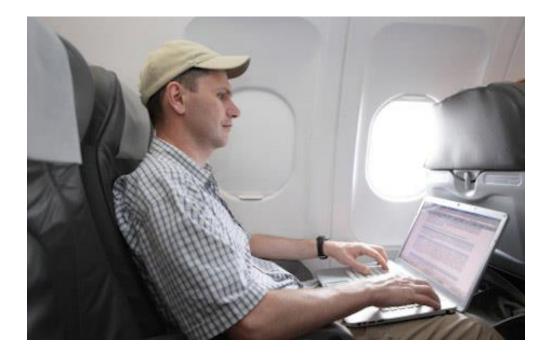
For questions 1-6, choose the best answer (A, B or C).

- 1. During his year as a nomad, Todd...
  - A met many people.
  - B lived in 5 countries.
  - C worked in restaurants.
- 2. What is a problem with online work?
  - A You need a computer.
  - B It's lonely.
  - C You can't work outside.
- 3. The idea of complete freedom was \_\_\_\_\_ for Todd.
  - A exciting
  - B motivating
  - C frightening
- 4. Todd realized that he wanted to have \_\_\_\_\_ again.
  - A a boss
  - B an office
  - C a schedule
- 5. Julia thinks trying having complete freedom is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A a test of values
  - B everybody's dream
  - C terrifying
- 6. What does the phrase "it's just not all it's cracked up to be" mean?A It's not worth it
  - B You've made a mistake and you are really sorry about it
  - C It's not what you expected, and you are disappointed

## Complete the sentences 1-9 with the correct word from the box below

# nomad \* itinerary \* crave \* normalcy \* value cracked \* paralyzing \* abyss \* report

- 1. Growing up in a big family made her \_\_\_\_\_ her alone time.
- 2. Finding out that his father had died was almost \_\_\_\_\_ for him.
- 3. He says that traveling for work is not all it's \_\_\_\_\_ up to be, but I think it would be fun.
- 4. The \_\_\_\_\_ is so deep that you can't see the bottom.
- 5. He spent a few months as a \_\_\_\_\_after graduation, just traveling around and visiting friends.
- 6. People from cities usually \_\_\_\_\_ action.
- 7. This job is always changing. There is no \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8. There are five employees that \_\_\_\_\_ to her.
- 9. I didn't read the \_\_\_\_\_ very closely, and I thought we were going to the other airport terminal.



#### Test 12 You are not a Good Principal

You will hear a short story about a woman called Tina who decided to quit her teaching job.

Complete the text below with one word in each gap.

Tina was going back to school for her \_\_\_\_\_ master's degree. She was a Special Education teacher, but she couldn't take her job anymore, so she had \_\_\_\_\_. The kids were out of control. There were too many of them in one classroom for her to \_\_\_\_\_ effectively. The school administration ignored her \_\_\_\_\_ to add teacher assistants. They ignored her complaints that some of the kids were simply little monsters. They were discipline problems that other teachers had shunted off to Special Education.

The administration didn't even respond to her \_\_\_\_\_ that one oversized young student had pushed her down one day onto the floor. Tina wanted to call the police, but the school principal talked her \_\_\_\_\_ of it with promises to improve things. Two weeks later, not one promise had been\_\_\_\_\_.

Tina angrily visited the principal, who told her that if she didn't have the patience to wait for things to \_\_\_\_\_, maybe she wasn't cut out to be a teacher.

"How dare you! The \_\_\_\_\_\_ is not whether I'm \_\_\_\_\_\_ out to be a teacher," she angrily replied. "I am a teacher, and a darn good one. But no teacher can get along forever with inadequate\_\_\_\_\_\_, with overcrowded classrooms, with students who are dumped into her class, and with students who attack her. And especially," she growled, "with idiots like you in \_\_\_\_\_\_ who continually ignore the needs of Special Education students and teachers."

## **Test 13 Unusual Jobs**

You will hear 3 people speaking about unusual jobs they have.

For questions 1-12, chose the best answer (A, B or C).

- 1. I've sold products for animals.
  - A speaker one
  - B speaker two
  - C speaker three
- 2. Sometimes I look at people on a computer.
  - A speaker one
  - B speaker two
  - C speaker three
- 3. Modern technology has made my job even more unusual.
  - A speaker one
  - B speaker two
  - C speaker three
- 4. I've never met anyone famous while doing my job.
  - A speaker one
  - B speaker two
  - C speaker three
- 5. One of my past jobs involved me just standing somewhere.
  - A speaker one
  - B speaker two
  - C speaker three
- 6. I think this job will always be required.
  - A speaker one
  - B speaker two
  - C speaker three
- 7. Speaker 1 What does he do at the lighthouses?
  - A make sure the lights work well

B make sure the GPS is functioning

C make sure ships can see the light

8. Speaker 1 - Why was he trapped in Wales for two days?

A the boat wasn't working

B he fell ill

C there was a storm

9. Speaker 2 - Why does she have a good view from the plane?

A they fly at low altitude

B she sits by the window

- C Australia always has clear blue skies
- 10. Speaker 2 How many babies have been born after her intervention?
  - A 8
  - B 7
  - C 6
- 11. Speaker 3 What do her employers want to see in the companies' treatment of customers?

A equality

B generosity

C strictness

12. Speaker 3 - What was the reaction of the shoe store owner?

A he was frightened

B he was angry

C he was amused



# Test 14 Friends from 9 to 5

You will hear four people (Dan, Melissa, Clara and Christopher) talking about their work colleagues.

Complete sentences 1-8 by choosing the correct letter of the phrases below.

a) to have things hidden away everywhere

- b) to make your special day very special
- c) to ignore all the angry people
- d) to put on weight
- e) to pass on news and information
- f) to think about your decisions
- g) to think that others love sports
- h) to complete a great creative work
- 1. Dan could be inclined \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2. Dan tries \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3. Melissa helps you \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4. Melissa does her best \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5. Clara seems \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6. Clara seems unable \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7. Christipher is trying \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8. Christopher seems able \_\_\_\_\_.



# **Test 15 Job Interview**

You will hear Pia's job interview.

Fill in the gaps (1-10) in her RESUME with the correct information.

Name: Pia Marcotti

Place of Birth: 1\_\_\_\_, Italy.

Age: 2\_\_\_\_\_

Post-University Experience

October 3\_\_\_\_\_- September 2002

Worked for mother's 4\_\_\_\_\_company, Meals On Wheels. Main responsibilities: webmaster and advertising.

September 2002 - February 2003

Travelled mostly in Europe but also a month in 5\_\_\_\_\_.

March 2003 - July 2005

Worked for 6\_\_\_\_\_ Footwear, shoe company near hometown. Worked in

7\_\_\_\_\_department for most of this time.

Languages Spoken:

8\_\_\_\_- fluent

9\_\_\_\_\_ - good after 10\_\_\_\_\_years study.



# Student's Self-Study

# Task 1

- 1. Watch the DVD. What is the main problem Gavin has during his first day at work?
- 2. Work in pairs. Decide if it's normal (N) or strange (S) to do these things on your first day in a new job.
  - 1 Get a hug from your boss.
  - 2 Learn how to use the phone system.
  - 3 Speak to your mother on the phone.
  - 4 Speak to your father on the phone.
  - 5 Speak to your friend on the phone.
  - 6 Take a tour of the office.
  - 7 Meet your colleagues.
  - 8 Learn how the company's website works.
  - 9 Get a visit from your girlfriend's uncle.
  - 10 Receive a parcel.
  - Which of these things does Gavin do on his first day?
- 3. Watch the DVD again. Answer the questions below. Choose one of the people. Use one of the people twice.

Bryn Gavin's dad Gavin's mum Huw Davies Owain Hughes the secretary

Who ...

- 1 gives Gavin a sign for his door?
- 2 shows Gavin how to use the phone system?
- 3 calls Gavin first?
- 4 says he will speak to Gavin later?
- 5 runs the company website?
- 6 brings Gavin a packed lunch?
- 7 delivers a parcel?
- 4. Complete the extracts from the DVD with the words/phrases below. cheers How's it going heads up in a bit mate who's who
  - 1 Aw.....Thanks!
  - 2 I'll take you round ....., show you what's what and ......
  - 3 ,..... darling? Are people being nice to you?
  - 4 Are you all right,....?
  - 5 Owain ..... the website.

- 5. Answer the questions.
  - 1. What does Huw, the boss, give Gavin?
  - 2. When does Gavin say he will call his mother?
  - 3. How many phone calls does Gavin receive?
  - 4. What does Uncle Bryn bring for Gavin?
  - 5. What is the message on the balloon? Who do you think sent it to him?
- 6. Discuss. How do you think Gavin will feel at the end of his first day at work?



# Task 2

- 1. Listen to someone describing a typical day in her life. Do you think she likes her job?
- 2. Read the key phrases below. Complete each phrase by adding one word.

I usually wake up \_\_\_\_\_\_ (about) 6.30 I have to leave home by 8.30 at the \_\_\_\_\_\_. The first \_\_\_\_\_\_ I do when I get to work/school is ........ In the afternoon I \_\_\_\_\_\_ to catch up on ...... I usually (make some deliveries/do some shopping/...) on my \_\_\_\_\_ home. I try to be \_\_\_\_\_\_ by (about) 7 o'clock. I \_\_\_\_\_\_ just cook supper and watch some television.

- 3. Prepare to tell other students about a normal day in your life. Write notes about your typical day. What do you have in common?
  - hours of work/studying
  - tasks you have to do
  - people you spend your day with
  - problems and challenges
  - how you relax
  - the best parts of your day



#### Task 3

Watch 10 top must-see movies about arts and write a film review on any of them:

#### 1. The Pursuit of Happyness (2006)

This autobiographical film, starring Will and Jaden Smith, tells the story of Chris Gardner and his rags-to-riches story of his rise from homelessness to becoming a CEO of his own stock brokerage firm. From selling portable bone scanners to seeking out employment as a stock broker for a top firm, Gardner faced his challenges with the right attitude and determination for the sake of his young son. His journey will inspire each and every one to seek out better opportunities for themselves and their families. Viewers will marvel at this father's determination to lift up him and his son's life situation. Ultimately, it's a story of unwavering faith even in dire situations.

#### 2. Erin Brockovich (2000)

In this true-to-life tale, Julia Roberts—in one of her best performances to date—stars as the title character, an unemployed single mother whose tenacity, sass and drive helped in the fight against a huge US petroleum company over health safety violations. In the beginning, all Brockovich wanted was to get compensated over injuries she sustained in a car accident. When she didn't get her way, she never backed down and instead sought employment for the law firm who defended her case. That's when she discovered a case involving health and environmental violations between Pacific Gas and Electric and the residents of a small California town. Her unwavering search for truth and justice helped bring much-needed relief to the town's residents who were getting sick from chromium poisoning from the company's local plant. Like Brockovich, you can take solace in the fact that even if things may not go your way (missed job opportunities, failed interviews), you can fight back by toughening up to face the challenges that come your way. Doors being closed on your face? Force yourself to kick back and demand people to listen to you (figuratively, of course!). Don't let career setbacks

derail you from your goals, and instead look at them as motivation to work even harder.

#### 3. Jerry Maguire (1996)

Successful sports agent Jerry Maguire just got fired from his job at a top talent agency, Sport Management International. This sudden change didn't deter him and he vowed to start his own agency but with only one athlete and one other employee to start his business from the ground, will he be able to bounce back from this setback? Cameron Crowe's "Jerry Maguire" teaches us that a solid support group can help us a lot during times of uncertainty in our careers. Doubters will surely be around but having family and friends as support can help push us to work even harder. If you're feeling down in the dumps while job hunting, talk to your loved ones and let them know how you feel. If you're feeling lost or unsure, reach out to them and lean on them for support and comfort. Look at them as your personal cheerleaders who will always be there for you every step of the way.

#### 4. I don't know how she does it (2011)

Kate Reddy is a junior fund manager at the investment firm Edwin Morgan Forster in the regional Boston office, the job which entails frequent traveling. She is also wife to architect Richard Reddy, who just opened his own small and struggling architecture firm, and mother to kindergarten student Emily and two year old Ben. Kate is seen as a Goddess by other working moms, such as her best friend, single mother lawyer Allison Henderson. In general, the comedy is centered on the life of the main heroine, who is not only a finance executive in a big firm, but also the breadwinner for her husband and two kids.

#### 5. The Devil Wears Prada 2006

Andrea is a small-town girl in her first job out of college, who tries to navigate the waters of the high-powered fashion magazine world - while surviving her impossibly demanding new boss, Miranda Priestly.

#### 6. Office space 1999

Peter Gibbons (Ron Livingston) is a computer programmer working for Initech in Houston. Every day, he and his friends Samir (Ajay Naidu) and Michael Bolton (David Herman as not THAT Michael Bolton), suffer endless indignities and humiliations in their soulless workspace from their soulless boss, Bill Lumbergh (Gary Cole). For Peter, stuck in his cookie-cutter apartment with paperthin walls and IKEA furniture, every day is worse than the one before it - so every day is the worst of his life. To cap it off, Initech has hired a pair of "efficiency experts" to downsize the company.

#### 7. Up in the air 2009

Ryan Bingham, a corporate hatchet man who loves his life on the road, is forced to fight for his job when his company downsizes its travel budget. He is required to spend more time at home just as he is on the cusp of a goal he's worked toward for years: reaching five million frequent flyer miles and just after he's met the frequent-traveler woman of his dreams.

#### 8. The Intern 2015

A 70-year-old widower who has discovered that retirement isn't all it's cracked up to be. Seizing an opportunity to get back in the game, he becomes a senior intern at an online fashion site, founded and run by Jules Ostin a young, career-driven woman.

#### 9. Boiler Room 2000

A young and ambitious broker is trying to create a career in an investment firm, but his company is not as legitimate as he might think it is. The movie teaches us a valuable lesson about doing background checks on the companies we join; it also shows how the trading sales environment looks like and how robust yet exciting sales can be.

#### **10. Horrible Bosses (2011)**

Horrible Bosses is not just a great comedy; it's a box office hit. It's also one of the best movies about manager-employee relationships. It tells the story of three different employees: Nick (Jason Bateman), Dale (Charlie Day) and Kurt (Jason Sudeikis), who are all miserable at work and share the common desire to murder their bosses.

#### "Oh, don't be silly - EVERYONE wants this. Everyone wants to be \*us\*." — Lauren Weisberger, The Devil Wears Prada



#### "EXPERIENCE NEVER GETS OLD"

#### THE INTERN

# Don't ever let someone tell you that you can't do something. Not even me. You got a dream, you gotta protect it. When people can't do something themselves, they're gonna tell you that you can't do it. You want something, go get it. Period. – Will Smith (The Pursuit of Happyness)

# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR USE WITH ANY FILM THAT IS A WORK OF FICTION

- Did you learn anything from this movie? If you did, what was it?
- What is the message of this movie? Do you agree or disagree with it?
- Was there something you didn't understand about the film? What was that?
- What did you like best about the movie? Why?
- What did you like least about the film? Why?
- Who was your favorite character in the movie? Why?
- Who was your least favorite character in the film? Why?
- Did anything that happened in this movie remind you of something that has occurred in your own life or that you have seen occur to others?
- What were you thinking as you finished watching the film?
- Would you recommend this movie to a friend? Explain your reasons.
- What part of the story told by the movie was the most powerful? Why?
- If you had a chance to ask a character in this movie a question, what would it be?
- If you had a chance to ask the screenwriter a question, what would it be?
- If you were writing the screenplay for this movie, would you have changed the ending? Explain your answer.
- What feelings did you share with any of the characters in the movie?
- Did any of the characters in this movie make you angry? Tell us why.
- Did you come to respect any of the characters in this movie? Who was it and why did you come to respect that character?

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