



Jobs & Professions

Talking about your job, career, and work experience

A2 – B1 Elementary–Intermediate



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Jobs & Professions

Level: A2–B1 (CEFR)



1 warm up — what is their job?

Look at each picture. Choose the correct job from the word bank. Write it under the picture. Then write a sentence about each person.

1



2



3



4



5



6



WORD BANK — JOB TITLES:

· engineer · doctor · teacher · chef · waiter · farmer

Now write a sentence about each person. Use: He/She is a ____ . He / She works in / at a ____ .

Example: She is a doctor. She works in a hospital.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____



2 video comprehension

Watch the BBC podcast, then complete all four parts.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qHWtJtRSYjc>

BBC Learning English — Real Easy English, Episode 5: "Talking about jobs" — Neil & Beth

Part A — Multiple Choice. Choose the correct answer. Circle the letter.

1. How long has Neil worked at the BBC?

- a) For about 10 years b) For more than 20 years c) For around three years

2. What was Neil's job before he worked at the BBC?

- a) He was a farmer b) He was a chef c) He was a teacher

3. How long has Beth worked at the BBC?

- a) For about six years b) For more than 20 years c) For around three years

4. Where did Beth work when she was a teenager?

- a) In a restaurant b) On a farm c) In a hotel

5. What problem happened at Beth's teenage job?

- a) She served cold food b) Goats escaped and she had to chase them c) She got lost on the farm

Part B — Fill in the Gaps. Use the words in the box.

WORD BANK:

career · waiter · since · farm · hotel

- When Neil was a student, he worked in a _____ and in restaurants.
- Neil worked in restaurants as a _____.
- Beth has worked at the BBC _____ 2021.
- The word _____ means all the jobs you have had over your working life.
- When Beth was a teenager, she worked on a _____.



Look at the pictures and write their profession with each one.

**Part C — Comprehension Questions. Answer in full sentences.**

1. What is the difference between a "job" and a "career"? Use the podcast to explain.

2. What different jobs did Neil do when he was a student? Name at least three.

3. How long has Beth lived and worked in London? Use "since" in your answer.

4. What is the difference between "since" and "for"? Give one example of each from the podcast.

5. What was the funniest thing that happened to Beth at work? Describe what she had to do.

Part D — Discussion Questions. Talk with your teacher. Give extended answers.

1. Neil has worked at the BBC for more than 20 years. Have you worked in the same job for a long time? Would you like to? Why or why not?

2. When you were younger, did you have any interesting or unusual jobs — like Neil in the fish and chip shop, or Beth on the farm? Tell your teacher.

3. Neil says his career includes all the jobs he has had and might do in the future. How would you describe your own career so far? Where do you want it to go?



Look at the pictures and write their profession with each one.



3 vocabulary

Read, repeat, and master these words before reading the article.

career

job

salary

shift

since

for

client

venue

organise

exhibition

Match each word (1–10) with the correct meaning (A–J). Write the letter in the box.

#	Word	Ans.	Meaning
1	career	---	A. Used to talk about when something started — with a date or point in time
2	job	---	B. What you do for work every day
3	salary	---	C. A person or company that uses your professional services
4	shift	---	D. All the jobs you have had over your working life — your long-term work history
5	since	---	E. A public display of art, photos, or interesting objects
6	for	---	F. Used to talk about a period or length of time
7	client	---	G. The money you earn regularly for your work
8	venue	---	H. The place where an event, concert, or meeting is held
9	organise	---	I. To plan and arrange an activity, event, or project
10	exhibition	---	J. A fixed period of time when someone works — e.g., a morning or night shift

Now use three of the words above in your own sentences.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



Look at the pictures and write their profession with each one.

**4 reading**

Read the article with your teacher. Fill in gaps (1)–(5) using the word bank. Then answer the questions on the next page.

Working at a Creative Agency

My name is Carlos. I work at a large company called Creative Events London. I have worked here since 2019. Before this, I worked at a design agency for two years. That job was interesting, but I wanted to do something more exciting. So when I saw the job advertisement for Creative Events London, I applied immediately.

My job is to (1) events for famous artists and musicians. Every week, our busy office is full of new ideas and energy. We plan concerts, (2) , and festivals all across the city. It is creative, exciting work and I love it.

A typical day for me starts at eight o'clock in the morning. First, I make a coffee and check my emails. Then I look at my diary to see what meetings I have. I usually have two or three meetings every day. In the morning, I speak to (3) about their projects. A client might be a famous singer, a painter, or a company that wants to organise a big event. I listen carefully to what they want and then I write a detailed plan for them.

After lunch, I work with my team. We have a creative and friendly group of people in our office. There are twelve people in our team and everyone has a different role. Some people work on the design, some people manage the money, and some people speak to the press. My job is to manage the whole project from start to finish.

Sometimes I have to travel around the city to visit a modern building or a museum to check the (4) of my favourite parts of the job because I get to see interesting and beautiful places. I have visited amazing theatres, galleries, and outdoor spaces. Last year, we organised a famous event for over five thousand people in a beautiful park in the centre of London. It was one of the best nights of my life.

The job can be very busy and sometimes stressful. When there is a big event coming, I often have to work long hours. Sometimes I work in the evenings and at the weekends. But I never feel bored. Every project is different and there is always something new to learn or a new problem to solve.

I have worked in the events industry since I was twenty-two years old. It is my career. Before this job, I studied arts management at university for three years. My manager says I am good at my job because I am organised, I work well under pressure, and I enjoy working with people.

The salary is not the most important thing for me. Of course, it is important to earn enough money to live comfortably, but I think it is more important to love what you do every day. I believe that (5) and hard work are more important than the size of your company or your job title.

In the future, I want to start my own company. I want to work with creative artists from around the world and bring people together through music, art, and culture. My dream is to organise a huge international festival one day. It will take time and a lot of effort, but I know that if I keep working hard, I can do it.

Gap-Fill. Use the words in the box to fill gaps (1)–(5) in the article above.

WORD BANK:

organise · exhibitions · clients · venue · passion



Look at the pictures and write their profession with each one.



True or False. Read the article again. Write T (True) or F (False). If the sentence is false, write the correct sentence on the line below.

#	Sentence	T / F
1	Carlos has worked at Creative Events London since 2019.	---
	If false: _____	
2	Carlos works at a small café in London.	---
	If false: _____	
3	There are twelve people in Carlos's team.	---
	If false: _____	
4	Carlos thinks salary is the most important part of a job.	---
	If false: _____	
5	Carlos wants to organise a large international festival in the future.	---
	If false: _____	

Comprehension. Answer in full sentences using information from the article.

- Where does Carlos work and what does his company do?

- Describe a typical morning for Carlos. What does he do first, and then what happens?

- What did Carlos study before he started working in the events industry?

- Carlos says the job can be stressful. Why? What does he do to manage this?

- What is more important to Carlos than salary? Do you agree with him? Why or why not?



Look at the pictures and write their profession with each one.



5 vocabulary extension — adjective + noun collocations

Some adjectives and nouns work together as a natural pair. These are called **collocations**.

Look back at the article "Working at a Creative Agency." The five collocations below all come from the text. Match each adjective in **Column A** with the correct noun in **Column B**.

EXAMPLE

Carlos works in a **busy** office. → "busy" + "office" = a **busy office**

COLUMN A — ADJECTIVES

1. busy
2. modern
3. creative
4. famous
5. large

COLUMN B — NOUNS

- a. building
- b. artist
- c. event
- d. company
- e. office

WRITE YOUR COLLOCATIONS HERE:

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. busy + _____ | = a busy _____ |
| 2. modern + _____ | = a modern _____ |
| 3. creative + _____ | = a creative _____ |
| 4. famous + _____ | = a famous _____ |
| 5. large + _____ | = a large _____ |

Extension. Now write 2 sentences using two of the collocations above. Think about your own job or workplace.

Example: I work in a busy office. We work with a famous artist every year.

1. _____

2. _____



Look at the pictures and write their profession with each one.

**6 speaking practice**

Talk about your job or a job you find interesting. Use full sentences.

Task 1 — Talk about your job or career. Use these sentence starters.**SENTENCE STARTERS**

- I work as a ...
- I am responsible for ...
- I usually ... at work.
- I have worked here for / since ...
- I like my job because ...
- I don't like ... because ...
- In the future, I want to ...

Write your sentences here:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Task 2 — Your teacher will ask you these questions. Answer in full sentences. Try to say two or three sentences for each.

1. What do you do every day at work? Walk your teacher through a typical day.

2. Why do you like or dislike your current job? Be specific.

3. How long have you worked there? Use "for" or "since" in your answer.

4. Like Neil and Beth, have you had different jobs in your life? Which was the most interesting?



7 grammar: present perfect — "for" and "since"

Use the Present Perfect to talk about experience and how long you have done something.

Present Perfect — Structure & Use

Form: **have / has + past participle** (worked, been, had, lived)

Subject	Have / Has	Past Participle	Time phrase
I / You / We / They	have	worked	here for 3 years.
He / She / It	has	been	a teacher since 2020.

FOR vs SINCE — from the podcast:

FOR — a length of time	SINCE — a starting point
"I have worked at the BBC for 20 years." (Neil)	"I've been here since 2021." (Beth)
"I worked in a fish and chip shop for a summer."	"I've been in London since 2018." (Beth)
for 3 years / for 6 months / for a week	since 2019 / since January / since I was 22

① **Remember:** Use **for** with a period of time (how long). Use **since** with a point in time (when it started).

Part B — Controlled Practice. Write the correct form of the verb in brackets.

1. Neil _____ (work) at the BBC for more than 20 years.
2. Beth _____ (be) in London since 2018.
3. I _____ (have) this job since last January.
4. She _____ (work) as a teacher for five years.
5. How long _____ you _____ (study) English?



Look at the pictures and write their profession with each one.



Part C — Free Practice. Write 3–5 sentences about your own job or work experience. Use the Present Perfect with *for* or *since*.

1.

2.

3.

8 discussion

Give extended answers. Connect your ideas to the video, the article, and your own experience.

1. What is your job? How would you describe it to someone who doesn't know your industry?

2. Neil says a "career" includes all your past jobs and your future plans. How would you describe your career so far?

3. What job do you want to have in the future? Why?

4. Why is your job — or the job you want — important for society?

5. Do you prefer working alone or in a team? What are the advantages of each?

**homework**

Choose ONE task. Complete it before your next lesson.

Option A — Write about your job (5–8 sentences)

Write 5–8 sentences about your current job or a job you would like to have. Use the Present Perfect with *for* or *since* at least once. Include: what you do, where you work, how long you have worked there, and what you like or dislike.

Option B — Record a voice message (1 minute)

Record yourself talking about your job or dream job. Include: what you do or want to do, how long you have worked there (or why you want this job), and one thing that is interesting or unusual about it. Bring your sentences or recording to the next lesson. Be ready to share and discuss.

 **Video Transcript**

BBC Learning English — Real Easy English, Episode 5: "Talking about jobs" — with Neil & Beth

Neil: Hello and welcome to Real Easy English. In this podcast, we have real conversations in easy English to help you learn. I'm Neil. **Beth:** And I'm Beth. Remember, you can find a script for this episode to read along on our website — BBC Learning English dot com.

Neil: Hello, Beth, how are you? **Beth:** I'm very well, Neil. How are you? **Neil:** I'm good, thank you. Good. What are we talking about in this episode, Neil? **Beth:** Well, we are going to be talking about jobs and our careers.

Beth: OK, so can you explain the difference between a job and a "career"? **Neil:** Yes. So our job is what we do for work. So I work at BBC Learning English. It's my job. But "career" is a word we use to talk more about our work in the long term. So all of the jobs that we've had and the jobs that we might want to do in the future. **Beth:** OK, and also with career, it's a word we use to talk about the type of work we do. So you might have a career in teaching or a career in TV, for example.

Beth: So, Neil, I know you work here at BBC Learning English, of course. But have you had any other jobs? **Neil:** Oh, yes. I've had lots of other jobs. Before I worked at the BBC, I was a teacher, an English teacher. And before that, I had lots of jobs when I was a student. **Beth:** OK, so how long have you worked at the BBC for? **Neil:** 20 years. More than 20 years. **Beth:** Oh, wow! OK, so when you were a student and you had jobs, that was quite a long time ago. **Neil:** It was ages ago, Beth! Before the internet was invented.

Beth: And what jobs did you do when you were a student? **Neil:** So when I was a student, I worked in a hotel. I worked in restaurants as a waiter. I worked in a fish and chip shop. **Beth:** Did you? **Neil:** Yeah! **Beth:** How long did you work in a fish and chip shop for? **Neil:** I worked in a fish and chip shop for a summer.

Neil: And how about you, Beth? When did you start working at the BBC? **Beth:** I have worked here for around three years. So I've been here since 2021, but I've been working in London for six years, cos I've been here since 2018.

Neil: So, Beth, you said that you have worked at the BBC since 2021. Since — what does it mean when we use since? **Beth:** Well, we use "since" followed by a date or a point in time and we use it to talk about when something started. But also it's something that is still true. So I have been here since 2021 and I still work here now, so it's still true. **Neil:** Yeah, and that's different to "for", isn't it? When you say I've worked here for 20 years, we're talking about the length of time. **Beth:** Exactly. And that can be something that is still true. For example, you've worked here for 20 years and you still work here now, but it also could be something in the past. So, for example, you said you worked in a fish and chip shop for a summer. And that summer has a length of time, it has a start and an end.

Neil: So what is the funniest thing that's ever happened at work, Beth? **Beth:** Er... Well, when I was a teenager, I worked at a farm and sometimes the goats would escape. So I had to run after baby goats and I would have to pick them up and put them back. But I got a little cuddle with a baby goat. So it was funny, but it was also very nice.

Neil: Ah, that's a nice thing to do in your job! Right, let's recap the words we've learnt today. We had "career" which means "the jobs we've had over time." "Since" — which we use to talk about "the time when something started." "For" — which we can use to talk about "a length of time." For example, I've worked at the BBC for 20 years.

Neil: That's it for this episode of Real Easy English. If you enjoyed this podcast, you can find more activities and courses to help you with your English on our website — BBC Learning English dot com. Next time, we'll be talking about our habits and daily routines. See you then! **Beth:** Goodbye. **Neil:** Bye!



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