

5 Language Skills worksheet

Reading

- 1 Read this magazine article about unusual jobs. In which job do you need to be creative?

Unusual jobs

Are you bored with the idea of a conventional nine to five job? Do you want to avoid having an everyday routine? Maybe a more unconventional job would give you the independence and adventure you need!

Private detective Being a private detective doesn't have to be a dream; a lot of people build a successful career out of it. These days, the demand for private detectives is high. A private detective may have to find out what people are doing in their private lives, or they may have to solve a computer-related crime. You don't need to have any particular formal requirements, although many private detectives are ex-police or ex-army officers. If you're good at problem-solving, independent research and computer technology, then you'll make a good private detective.

Freelance journalist Would you like to make a living as a freelance journalist? If you're creative, hard-working, and independent, then you'll probably be a good journalist. Thousands of editors around the world depend on freelance journalists to write the articles that fill their newspapers and magazines. If you're a good writer, you'll be able to sell even a short magazine article for a good

sum of money. Start by writing short articles about different topics (travel, for example) and send them to different magazines. Don't

expect payment for your first articles, though. The most important thing is to see your work in print!

Dog psychologist Do you love dogs? Do you think you'd enjoy working with them? Then a career as a dog psychologist could be good for you. More and more people these days are using the skills of dog psychologists to help them understand their pet's behaviour. This has become popular following a successful TV show which studies dogs with behaviour problems. Now there are special courses you can do in order to get qualifications in this area. Once you have qualified, you can help owners understand why their dog behaves the way it does – and help them deal with difficult dogs. Working with animals in this way is a really interesting way to make a living.



- 2 Answer the questions.

1 Do a lot of people use private detectives these days?

2 Should you expect payment for your first articles?

3 Why has dog psychology become popular?

- 3 Complete the sentences with the correct information.

1 A private detective may have to find out what people are doing _____.

2 Many private detectives are _____.

3 Thousands of editors depend on _____.

4 If you're a good writer, you'll be able to sell even a short article _____.

5 People use dog psychologists to help them understand _____.

6 There are _____ to help you get qualifications.

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Writing

- 4 Write a short article for the school website about your ideal job. Complete the notes below and then write a paragraph of 80 to 100 words.



Name of job	
Skills needed	
Why you want to do it	


Remember!

Use first and second conditional:

If I go to university, I'll learn a lot of skills.

If I won the lottery, I would go travelling.

Listening

- 5  05 Listen to a radio interview with Tony Griffiths, an economics expert, and circle the correct answers.

- 1 According to Tony, what will happen in Britain by the end of 2020?
 - a) Sixty per cent of the population will be over 30.
 - b) Thirty per cent of people who work will be over 60.
 - c) Thirty per cent of the population will be over 60.
 - d) Three per cent of the people who work will be over 60.
- 2 Millions of these people
 - a) will want to earn some extra money in retirement.
 - b) won't have enough money for their retirement.
 - c) will want to continue working.
 - d) haven't decided what to do when they retire.
- 3 What problem will employers have?
 - a) They will have to choose between old and young workers.
 - b) There won't be enough young workers.
 - c) There won't be enough old workers.
 - d) The young workers won't have any new ideas.
- 4 Will there be more jobs in the future?
 - a) Yes, if there are more supermarkets.
 - b) Yes, because jobs will be easier.
 - c) Yes, but only if companies are more flexible.
 - d) Yes, because there will be more people.
- 5 Why will people spend their money on sport and leisure?
 - a) Everyone will be very fit.
 - b) People won't be very active at work.
 - c) Because it will be cheaper.
 - d) Because their jobs will be very easy.
- 6 What does Tony say about holidays?
 - a) People don't want to have more.
 - b) Employers want people to have more.
 - c) He doesn't think we will have more.
 - d) He thinks we will have more.

5 Language Skills worksheet

Speaking pairwork Student A

- 1 Imagine you are a member of your local town council. You have £20,000 to spend on ONE of the following proposals. Decide which one is best for your town. Think of your reasons and make notes.



The swimming pool is very old and dirty. We need to rebuild the changing rooms so that they are clean and safe for everyone. We also need to think about how to make the pool more environmentally friendly. Modern pool systems are available but they aren't cheap.

The community centre has very old furniture and few comfortable chairs. What's more, the television has lost its colour recently and someone has stolen a lot of the books from the library. More older people are using the centre now and the whole place needs to be modernized.

A local businessman has offered to donate two rooms to be used as a youth centre for the young people of the town. At the moment teenagers have nowhere to meet and there is little for them to do in the town. With one supervisor, the youth centre could open two nights a week and offer indoor entertainment and refreshments.

Most people in our town haven't got gardens but there is some land for sale in the centre of the town that we could buy. It could be used to make vegetable gardens which local people could rent and look after. We could also start our own local fruit and vegetable market.

The council has a small piece of land which would make a good skateboarding park. It would stop teenagers using the shopping centre, which is dangerous, and also upsets the local community. In the future it might be possible to add a coffee bar or kiosk where young people could buy soft drinks and food.

- 2 Discuss the proposals with your partner and put them in order of preference. Justify your reasons using conditional sentences.

If we bought new furniture for the community centre, our older people would feel more comfortable there.

But if the older people don't like it, it will be a waste of money.

- 3 Compare your ideas with another pair of students, explaining your decisions.

5 Language Skills worksheet

Speaking pairwork Student B

- 1 Imagine you are a member of your local town council. You have £20,000 to spend on ONE of the following proposals. Decide which one is best for your town. Think of your reasons and make notes.



The swimming pool is very old and dirty. We need to rebuild the changing rooms so that they are clean and safe for everyone. We also need to think about how to make the pool more environmentally friendly. Modern pool systems are available but they aren't cheap.

The community centre has very old furniture and few comfortable chairs. What's more, the television has lost its colour recently and someone has stolen a lot of the books from the library. More older people are using the centre now and the whole place needs to be modernized.

A local businessman has offered to donate two rooms to be used as a youth centre for the young people of the town. At the moment teenagers have nowhere to meet and there is little for them to do in the town. With one supervisor, the youth centre could open two nights a week and offer indoor entertainment and refreshments.

Most people in our town haven't got gardens but there is some land for sale in the centre of the town that we could buy. It could be used to make vegetable gardens which local people could rent and look after. We could also start our own local fruit and vegetable market.

The council has a small piece of land which would make a good skateboarding park. It would stop teenagers using the shopping centre, which is dangerous, and also upsets the local community. In the future it might be possible to add a coffee bar or kiosk where young people could buy soft drinks and food.

- 2 Discuss the proposals with your partner and put them in order of preference. Justify your reasons using conditional sentences.

If we use the land to grow vegetables, people won't have to spend so much on expensive imported food.

But if people don't want to look after the land. It will look messy.

- 3 Compare your ideas with another pair of students, explaining your decisions.

5 Language Skills worksheet

Speaking: Teacher's notes

Language

First and second conditional

Instructions

- 1 Divide the class into pairs and decide who is Student A and B in each pair. Hand out one Student A worksheet and one Student B worksheet to each pair.
- 2 Ask students to read the five proposals and decide which they think is the best and the worst. Remind students that their town has £20,000 (around 24,000 euros) to spend on just one of the proposals. Ask them to prepare notes to defend their choice, and also to talk about the proposals they don't like.
- 3 In pairs, students discuss the proposals and decide on an order of preference. They should justify their reasons as they do this.
- 4 Students discuss their preferences with another pair.
- 5 Elicit which proposal is the most popular and why.

Answers

Students' own answers.

Optional activities

- Students write a report explaining their choice of proposal. Ask them to include sentences using the first and second conditional, and to use as many comparative forms as they can.
- Ask students to work in pairs and create a poster about the most popular proposal. The poster should include information about the project, when and how it will be done, what the benefits will be if it works well, how the project will be organized and run, etc. Ask students to include some photos and illustrations in their posters. Use them to make a classroom display.