



Describing a job - American English

Lesson code: 1392-61QA-JFKB

Pre-intermediate (A2-B1)

American English

1 Jobs and people

Match the jobs below to the descriptions.

a chef
an actor

a concierge
a secretary

a firefighter
a vet

a mechanic
a waiter

an accountant
a doctor

- "I help people when they have problems with their health." a doctor
- "When people have problems with their cars, they call me. I try to fix the problem." _____
- "I serve food in a restaurant." _____
- "I'm responsible for welcoming and helping people who visit our office." _____
- "One of my duties is greeting guests who arrive at our hotel." _____
- "It's my job to help animals that are sick or injured." _____
- "I cook meals in a restaurant." _____
- "When there is a fire, people call us." _____
- "I am often on television. I play the lead in a popular drama series." _____
- "I do a lot of financial calculations in my work." _____

2 Describing jobs

Study the adjectives in the left column and match them with their opposites.

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. dangerous | a. badly-paid |
| 2. stressful | b. easy |
| 3. well-paid | c. exciting |
| 4. boring | d. relaxing |
| 5. hard | e. safe |
| 6. secure | f. unstable |

In pairs, talk about the jobs in Ex 1. Ask if your partner would like to have each job. Answer with 'yes, definitely', 'maybe', 'not really', or 'definitely not'. Explain your answers using the adjectives above:

A: Would you like to be an actor?

B: Yes, definitely. It seems like an exciting and well-paid job.



3 Talking about work

Complete the dialogue below with the questions. Read the dialogue in pairs.

What's your job like?

What are your responsibilities?

What qualifications do you need?

What skills do you need?

What do you do?

A: _____ 1

B: I work as a bank teller.

A: _____ 2

B: I'm responsible for serving customers in a bank. For example, answering questions and exchanging money.

A: _____ 3

B: For this job, you only need a high school diploma. You don't need a college degree.

A: _____ 4

B: You need to be good at counting money and you must be friendly because you work with customers.

A: _____ 5

B: My job is not very well-paid, and it's sometimes a little boring, but it's secure.

Match the columns to complete the phrases:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1. I work as a | a. a teaching certificate/an MBA/a college degree |
| 2. I'm responsible for | b. firefighter/policeman/architect/doctor |
| 3. You need to be good at | c. helping patients/interviewing workers/giving presentations/serving drinks |
| 4. For this job, you need | d. speaking in public/working with your hands/using a computer |

Work with a partner. Interview each other about your jobs. Use the questions from the conversation above and your own ideas.

If you don't have a job or if you don't want to talk about your work, you can talk about a friend or family member. Your partner can ask you:

- What does he/she do?
- What are his/her responsibilities?
- What's his/her job like?

To learn the names of more jobs in English, go to <https://www.linguahouse.com/r/52> or scan the code on the right with your mobile device.



1 Jobs and people

Go through all the jobs, translating or explaining any unfamiliar words, or have the students look up the meaning in a dictionary. Students read the sentences. Pre-teach or be prepared to explain unfamiliar terms, for example 'I'm responsible for +ing', 'One of my duties is ...', 'It's my job to ...'. Students can work individually and then check in pairs. Go through the answers.

2. a mechanic
3. a waiter
4. a secretary
5. a concierge
6. a vet
7. a chef
8. a firefighter
9. an actor
10. an accountant

2 Describing jobs

Go through all the adjectives. Students have a conversation in pairs about the jobs in Exercise 1. Model with a strong student. Set a time limit and monitor the activity.

1. e 2. d 3. a 4. c 5. b 6. f

3 Talking about work

Explain what a 'bank teller' is or translate the term. Students can work individually and check in pairs.

1. What do you do?
2. What are your responsibilities?
3. What qualifications do you need?
4. What skills do you need?
5. What's your job like?

1. b
2. c
3. d
4. a

