

## Reading

# Looking for job security?

Security is one of the fastest growing industries in the world. Thirty years ago, we didn't have to wait in line for half an hour at a sports event or a museum to show the contents of our bag. We didn't need to have so many guards watching people in shops to make sure they didn't steal anything. Now stores have both guards and automatic systems to scan you as you enter and leave. All of this security requires not only top-class equipment but also lots of workers. Security is big business.

In developing countries, private security guards are often employed in larger numbers than official police officers. Wealthy people are afraid of crime against their property or their families, such as robbery or kidnapping. A large number of security guards are employed and state-of-the-art surveillance equipment is fitted in most luxury houses. Computer experts are needed to design all that equipment.

In many countries, there are now certain areas or towns that organise their own security when they are unhappy with the security the state can offer. In most countries, the number of

# Get a job in security

police officers and prison guards that the local authorities can afford to provide is declining; this opens opportunities for security firms to manage prisons or transport criminals. Around the world governments are very happy to pay a private company to do this.

Large corporations pay millions of dollars these days to keep their information technology systems safe from hackers and competitors. They also need to keep an eye on their own employees and have special staff to monitor email and report back on any unusual activity.

The financial world has also become an important area for security experts, too. These days banks have to defend themselves against all sorts of white collar crimes such as fraud or money laundering. All in all, an industry which in the past was reserved for retired boxers is now one of the largest industries in the world, employing millions of people and offering a vast range of opportunities to all involved.

### 1 Read the article and put the topics in the order they are mentioned.

- A Solutions for the rich \_\_\_      D Changes over the last decades \_\_\_  
 B Money crimes \_\_\_              E Taking over from traditional security forces \_\_\_  
 C The corporate world \_\_\_

### 2 Read the article again and complete the sentences using the words and phrases in the box. Some are not used.

companies   careers   hackers   workers   police   prisons   technology  
 the right equipment   their employees   their families

- The security business needs lots of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Rich people are worried about \_\_\_\_\_.
- In many countries there aren't enough \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ are a danger to corporate information technology systems.
- Companies use security systems to monitor \_\_\_\_\_.
- Security is a business which offers good \_\_\_\_\_.

### 3 Complete the notes in the table.

Retail	Rich people	Countries	Corporations and banks
Guards watch customers to check they don't 1 _____.	They are afraid of crimes such as 3 _____ or kidnapping.	In certain countries, there are less and less police officers and more and more 5 _____ security guards.	Special staff are used to 7 _____ email in certain companies.
Shops monitor customers as they enter and 2 _____.	They employ private security guards and pay for security companies to install the very latest security 4 _____.	Private companies now manage 6 _____ in lots of countries.	They need to defend themselves against 8 _____ and money laundering.