

Unit 9. CHOOSING A CAREER

PART 3: READING

I. Choose the right word to fill in the blank.

force *develop* *aspects* *potential* *expenses*
relationships *beneficial* *direction* *responsibilities* *outweigh*

If college isn't your option or you need extra time to earn money for tuition, going straight into the work (1) offers many choices and benefits. Getting a job immediately after high school remains a good choice. Teens who go this route need to learn how to search for employment, write a resume, and (2) interviewing skills.

Many companies pay their employees for continuing education in areas related to their employment. You should ask about this benefit through the human resources departments of (3) employers.

Another option is an internship. Over the course of a year, you could potentially participate in two or three internships to explore career choices. But most internships are unpaid, so planning ahead is crucial if you need to save money for living (4)

Internships provide participants with the opportunity to learn about many (5) of a particular career. They're also a great way to take contacts and develop mentoring (6)

For some teens, taking a year off between high school and the "real world" can be (7) This can be a good time to travel, do community service, or even live in a foreign country before the (8) of life make it harder to do so.

However, teens should keep in mind that a brochure may look different from reality, such as with work and service camps in developing countries. They should expect difficulties but know that the rewards of community service often (9) the hardships - and can actually change the (10) of a person's life. Speaking with previous participants should give a more realistic view than promotional material.

II. Read the passage and choose the best answer.

It can take a long time to become successful in your chosen field, however talented you are. One thing you have to be (1) ____ of is that you will face criticism along the way. The world is (2) ____ of people who would rather say something negative than positive. If you've made up your (3) ____ to achieve a certain goal, such as writing a novel, (4) ____ the negative criticism of others prevent you from reaching your target, and let the constructive criticism have a positive effect on your work. If someone says you're totally in the (5) ____ of talent, ignore them. That's negative criticism. If (6) ____, someone advises you to revise your work and gives you a good reason for doing so, you should consider their suggestions carefully. There are many film stars (7) ____ were once out of work. There are many famous novelists who made a complete mess of their first novel - or who didn't, but had to keep on approaching hundreds of publishers before they could get it (8) ____. Being successful does depend on luck, to a (9) ____ extent. But things are more likely to (10) ____ well if you persevere and stay positive.

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|-------------------|------------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1. A. alert | B. clever | C. intelligent | D. aware |
| 2. A. overflowing | B. full | C. packed | D. filled |
| 3. A. idea | B. brain | C. thought | D. mind |
| 4. A. don't let | B. shouldn't let | C. won't let | D. didn't let |
| 5. A. absentee | B. shortage | C. missing | D. lack |
| 6. A. hence | B. however | C. whereas | D. otherwise |
| 7. A. which | B. whom | C. they | D. who |
| 8. A. publish | B. to publish | C. published | D. publishes |
| 9. A. plenty | B. numerous | C. definite | D. certain |
| 10. A. turn out | B. sail through | C. come into | D. deal with |

III. Fill in each blank with ONE suitable word.

Today, it is not easy to choose a career. Hundreds of students pass various examinations every year and compete (1) one another for positions in the various professions which are not so many as there are applicants. I would, however, like to choose teaching as my (2)

Teaching is an interesting career for several reasons. As a teacher I can learn many things, especially if I teach to an upper-secondary school. If I teach History or English, for (3), I have to read many books to make my teaching lessons more interesting to my pupils. Thus, I can acquire more knowledge of the subjects that I teach than (4) I can learn from the class text books. It is indeed a fact that a teacher learns a lot from the class text books; but that is hardly (5) to make the teacher's lessons interesting to pupils. A good teacher must therefore read many other (6)

Again, as a teacher, I have to speak well so that my pupils will be able to understand my instructions well. In this way I can (7) my powers of expression. Even my pronunciation of words will improve to great extent.

Further, as a teacher, I shall have enough leisure to read and prepare for various examinations. It is possible today to sit (8) many important examinations by studying entirely at home. Thus, I can acquire important qualifications.

Finally, as a teacher I will be respected (9) an educated person. People will assume that I have certain qualifications and show their regard for me and the opinions that I express. Thus, I shall be (10) to live a happy.

IV. Read the following passage, choose the best answer for each question followed.

Choosing a career may be one of the hardest jobs you ever have, and it must be done with care. View a career as an opportunity to do something you love, not simply as a way to earn a living. Investing the time and effort to thoroughly explore your options can mean the difference between finding a stimulating and rewarding career and move from job to unsatisfying job in an attempt to find the right one. Work influences virtually every aspect of your life, from your choice of friends to where you live. Here are just a few of the factors to consider.

Deciding what matters most to you is essential to making the right decision. You may want to begin by **assessing** your likes, dislikes, strengths, and weaknesses. Think about the classes, hobbies, and surroundings that you find most appealing. Ask yourself questions, such as "Would you like to travel? Do you want to work with children? Are you more suited to solitary or cooperative work?" **There are no right or wrong answers;** only you know what is important to you. Determine which job features you require, which ones you would prefer, and which ones you cannot accept. Then rank **them** in order of importance to you.

The setting of the job is one factor to take into account. You may not want to sit at a desk all day. If not, there are diversity occupation - building inspector, supervisor, real estate agent - that involve a great deal of time away from the office. Geographical location may be a concern, and employment in some fields is concentrated in certain regions. Advertising jobs can generally be found only in large cities. On the other hand, many industries such as hospitality, law education, and retail sales are found in all regions of the country.

If a high salary is important to you, do not judge a career by its starting wages. Many jobs, such as insurance sales, offers relatively low starting salaries; however, pay substantially increases along with your experience, additional training, promotions and commission. Don't rule out any occupation without learning more about it. Some industries **evoke** positive or negative associations. The traveling life of a flight attendant appears glamorous, while that of a plumber does not. Remember **that** many jobs are not what they appear to be at first, and may have merits or demerits that are less obvious. Flight attendants must work **long, grueling hours without sleeps**, whereas plumbers can be as highly paid as some doctors.

Another point to consider is that as you mature, you will likely develop new interests and skills that may point the way to new opportunities. The choice you make today need not be your final one.

1. The word "**them**" in paragraph 2 refers to _____.
A. questions B. answers C. features D. jobs
2. The word "**that**" in paragraph 4 refers to _____.
A. occupation B. the traveling life C. a flight attendant D. commission
3. According to paragraph 3, which of the following fields is NOT suitable for a person who does not want to live in a big city?
A. plumbing B. law C. retail sales D. advertising
4. The word "**assessing**" in paragraph 2 could best be replaced by _____.
A. discovering B. considering C. measuring D. disposing
5. The word "**evoke**" in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to _____.
A. agree on B. bring to mind C. be related to D. differ from
6. It can be inferred from the paragraph 3 that _____.
A. jobs in insurance sales are generally not well-paid.
B. insurance sales people can earn high salary later in their career.
C. people should constantly work toward the next promotion

- D. a starting salary should be an important consideration in choosing a career.
7. The author states that "**There are no right or wrong answers**" in order to ____.
- A. emphasize that each person's answers will be different.
 - B. show that answering the questions is a long and difficult process.
 - C. indicate that the answers are not really important.
 - D. indicate that each person's answers may change over time.
8. In paragraph 5, the author suggests that ____.
- A. you may want to change careers at some time in the future.
 - B. as you get older, your career will probably be less fulfilling.
 - C. you will be at your job for a lifetime, so choose carefully.
 - D. you will probably be jobless at some time in the future.
9. Why does the author mention "**long, grueling hours without sleeps**" in paragraph 4?
- A. To emphasize the difficulty of working as a plumber.
 - B. To contrast the reality of a flight attendant's job with most people's perception.
 - C. To show that people must work hard for the career they have chosen.
 - D. To discourage readers from choosing a career as a flight attendant.