

Science & Higher Education: Comprehensive Student Worksheet

English Language Practice, Vocabulary, Reading Comprehension & Discussion

Name: _____

Date: _____

Part 1: Multiple-Choice Cloze (The Importance of Science)

For questions 1–9, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

The aim of science is to (1) out how the world and everything in it, and beyond it, works. Some people, though, (2) that much of what is done in the name of science is a waste of time and money. What is the (3) in investigating how atoms behave or in studying stars billions of kilometres away? Science, they argue, is of (4) only if it has some practical use.

When the Scottish scientist James Clerk Maxwell (5) experiments with electricity and magnetism in the late 19th century, he had no particular end in (6) and was certainly not (7) to make money; he was simply trying to reveal more about how the world works. And yet his work laid the (8) for our modern way of life. Computers, the internet, satellites, mobile phones, televisions, medical scanners all owe their existence to the fact that a scientist (9) the need to understand the world a little better.

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|---|--|
| 1. 1. A. open B. think C. find D. look | 6. 6. A. plan B. idea C. mind D. thought |
| 2. 2. A. claim B. demand C. tell D. review | 7. 7. A. reaching B. aiming C. targeting D. designing |
| 3. 3. A. basis B. cause C. point D. sake | 8. 8. A. sources B. origins C. structures D. foundations |
| 4. 4. A. gain B. profit C. advantage D. value | 9. 9. A. held B. felt C. chose D. used |
| 5. 5. A. brought on B. carried out C. pulled out D. set off | |

Part 2: Reading Comprehension (What is a Master's Degree?)

A master's degree is a postgraduate degree that shows a person's advanced knowledge of a specific subject. The degree program typically requires 30-60 credits in courses related to a major. To enroll in a master's program, a candidate must have an undergraduate degree preferably in a subject related to the postgraduate program. Graduates can enter the workforce with enhanced knowledge and skills or pursue a higher degree, such as a doctorate, to further specialize in their field. Students can earn master's degrees in different fields, such as business, language, history, science and health. Universities may offer various graduate programs, and their coursework can vary. It helps to research master's programs to determine which one is right for you before applying.

Part 3: Vocabulary Tasks

Task 1: Match the words with their definitions.

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1. postgraduate | a. to officially join a course or program |
| 2. advanced knowledge | b. the people who are working or available to work |
| 3. specific subject | c. education or a degree received before postgraduate study |
| 4. undergraduate degree | d. to continue or try to achieve something |
| 5. enroll | e. knowledge deeper than basic knowledge |
| 6. credits | f. a particular area of study |
| 7. coursework | g. units used to measure progress in university |
| 8. pursue | h. to focus on and become highly skilled |
| 9. specialize | i. related to study after first university degree |
| 10. workforce | j. academic work and subjects included in a course |

Task 2: Complete the sentences with correct words from Task 1.

1. You usually need an _____ degree before applying for a master's program.
2. Students must _____ in a master's program before they can begin their studies.
3. A master's degree gives students _____ in their chosen field.
4. Some students decide to _____ their studies and get a doctorate.
5. Universities require students to complete a certain number of _____ to graduate.
6. The _____ of a master's program can include lectures, assignments and research.
7. Students can _____ in areas such as finance, history or public health.
8. A master's degree can help graduates enter the _____ with stronger skills.

Part 4: Critical Thinking & Analysis

Discussion Questions

- Why do people choose to pursue a master's degree after completing an undergraduate degree?
- What are the main benefits of having a master's degree when entering the workforce?
- Do you think a master's degree is necessary for career success? Why or why not?
- What factors should students consider when choosing a master's program?
- Why do some people prefer to start working after a bachelor's degree or continue studying?

Idea Matrix: Benefits of a Master's Degree

Benefit Category	Description & Analysis
Specialized knowledge	Gaining specialized knowledge to advance in your field, show dedication, and build industry expertise.
Career advancement	
Increased earning potential	
Lifelong learning	
Enhanced professional network	
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Part 5: Presentations & Debate Task

Presentation Tasks:

- Present your Master's program. Compare it with similar programs in Ukraine and abroad.
- Present a Master's program you would like to do at a foreign university, detailing your field of knowledge.

Short Debate: "Worth the Investment?"

Divide into two groups — **Pro** (in favour of pursuing a master's) and **Con** (skeptical or questioning). Prepare arguments to support your stance and debate the motion.