

IELTS Work Vocabulary

Part 1-style questions

Examiner: What do you do?

Sasha: I **do a job-share** with a friend in a boutique ... I enjoy it ... I like working with customers ... unfortunately it's only **temporary work** but **one of the perks of the job** is I get a discount on the clothes ...

Examiner: Do you have any career plans yet?

Carly: Yes ... I'd like to **be my own boss** one day ... I'm interested in programming and I'd like to create apps for myself or for other companies ... I know being **self employed** would be a challenge but the idea of doing a **nine-to-five job** doesn't appeal to me at all ...

Examiner: What do you see yourself doing in 10 years time?

Marie: I'd hope to be working ... not **a high-powered job** ... but I'm quite a creative person so something where I can **work with my hands** would be nice ... as long as I'm not **stuck behind a desk** doing something boring **in a dead-end job** I'll be happy ...

Part 2-style task

Describe your ideal job. You should say:

- what this job is
- whether you would need any qualifications
- whether it would be easy to find work

and say why you would enjoy this job in particular.

Max: I've always loved watching wildlife programmes on TV and often thought how much I'd enjoy working with animals ... perhaps in a safari park ... something like that ... you'd probably need a degree to have any chance of being **called for an interview** and whether there are many **full-time jobs** I don't know ... I'm sure a lot of parks rely on **voluntary work** so it might not be easy ... and it probably wouldn't be **well-paid** either but money isn't everything ... I'd get so much **job satisfaction** ... I can't imagine it being the kind of job where you get **stuck in a rut** ... and I think I'd be good at it as well ... I'd love to work with animals I enjoy **manual work** and I'm **a good team player** ... so even though the **working conditions** might not be the best I think that would be my ideal job ...

Part 3-style questions

Examiner: If there are a limited number of jobs available who should be given priority, young people or older people with more experience?

Anna: Things are so different these days ... a few years ago older employees would often **take early retirement** or go onto **part-time** contracts and there were always opportunities for younger people but now jobs are so scarce ... I think younger people need to be given the chance whenever possible ...

Examiner: What are some of the important things a candidate should find out before accepting a job?

Ali: Well ... you'd need to know about your area of responsibility ... and your salary of

course and then there are things like **holiday entitlement** ... **maternity or paternity leave** ... if you're thinking of having children ... and what the situation is regarding **sick leave** ... that kind of thing ...

Examiner: What are the advantages of having your own business rather than working for someone else?

Julie: Well ... unfortunately being an employee at the moment is very stressful ... people have very **heavy workloads** ... they're always under pressure to **meet deadlines** ... **running your own business** isn't easy ... but I do think it would be far more satisfying ...

Definitions

- **to be called for an interview:** to be invited to attend an interview
- **to be your own boss:** to have your own business
- **a dead-end job:** a job with no promotional opportunities
- **to do a job-share:** to share the weekly hours of work with another person
- **a good team player:** somebody who can work well with other people
- **full-time:** the number of hours that people usually work in a complete week
- **a heavy workload:** to have a lot of work to do
- **a high-powered job:** an important or powerful job
- **holiday entitlement:** the number of days holiday allowed
- **job satisfaction:** the feeling of enjoying a job
- **manual work:** work that requires physical activity
- **maternity leave:** time off work given to a woman about to have a baby
- **to meet a deadline:** to finish a job by an agreed time
- **a nine-to-five job:** a normal job that consists of an 8 hour day (approximately)
- **one of the perks of the job:** an extra benefit you get from a job
- **part-time:** working less than full-time
- **to run your own business:** see 'to be your own boss'
- **to be self-employed:** see 'to be your own boss'
- **sick leave:** time allowed off work when sick
- **to be stuck behind a desk:** to be unhappy in an office job
- **to be/get stuck in a rut:** to be in a boring job that is hard to leave
- **to take early retirement:** to retire early (retire: to reach an age when you are allowed to stop working for a living)
- **temporary work:** work done for a limited time only
- **voluntary work:** to work without pay
- **to be well paid:** to earn a good salary
- **working conditions:** the hours, salary and other entitlements that comes with the job
- **to work with your hands:** to do manual work

IELTS Speaking Vocabulary. Weather

Temperatures:

- **boiling hot:** an expression to describe a very hot weather. *The last summer was boiling hot, the average temperature reached 40 degrees!*
- **hot**
- **mild:** warm and pleasant. *The weather in my country is mild in spring.*
- **warm**
- **chilly:** cold. *It's chilly today, so I think you should wear a coat.*
- **freezing cold:** very cold. *I wanted to go ice skating on the New Year day, but it was freezing cold and I decided to stay home.*
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- **degrees Celsius:** used to measure the temperature. *In the autumn, the average temperature here is 15 degrees Celsius*
- **to go below zero:** to become negative (about temperatures). *The temperature often goes below zero in the winter.*

Cloudy weather:

- **gloomy:** weather with dark clouds and dull light. *Personally, I don't like gloomy weather. It makes me feel depressed.*
- **clear:** without clouds. *I adore clear weather, when there are no clouds on the sky.*
- **to clear up:** when clouds and rain disappear. *After a long rain, it finally cleared up.*

Rainy weather:

- **to be drenched (to the skin):** to be completely soaked with water. *I forgot to take an umbrella and was drenched in the rain.*
- **gentle rain:** light rain.
- **drizzle:** a light rain that falls in very small drops. *It often drizzles in the morning.*
- **downpour:** a heavy fall of rain. *What a downpour! We are drenched to the skin.*
- **to pour down:** to rain heavily. *I like rainy weather. When it pours down, we sit at home with my family, talk and drink hot tea.*
- **humid:** containing a high amount of water. *In my country the climate is generally cold and humid, especially in the north.*

Snowy weather:

- **snow-covered:** covered with snow.*In the winter my family and I go skiing to the snow-covered hills of Switzerland.*
- **heavy snow:** when a lot of snow falls.*Children went to school in spite of the heavy snow.*
- **frosty:** cold.*Continental climate implies hot summers and frosty winters.*
- **snowstorm:** large amounts of wind and snow.*I don't like winters because of frequent snowstorms.*
- **hail:** when small balls of ice (hailstones) fall from the sky.*After the hail, we found hailstones that were the size of golf balls!*

Windy weather:

- **high wind = strong wind:***In the autumn strong winds are quite frequent.*
- **breeze:** a nice gentle wind.*I don't usually like windy weather, but a light breeze from the ocean makes me happy.*
- **wind chill factor:** when the wind makes the air feel colder than the real temperature.*In my hometown it's very windy in the winter. And though the temperature rarely goes below zero, with wind chill factor it feels like minus 10!*

Sunny weather:

- **sunshine:** the heat and light of the sun.*I love summertime because of the long days and bright sunshine.*
- **dry:** with no rain.*Summers in Turkey are often hot and dry.*
- **heat stroke (sun stroke):** a serious heat illness because of being too long in hot weather.*It's often boiling hot in my city in the summer and a lot of people suffer from heat stroke.*

Other vocabulary:

- **a spell of good weather:** a period of good weather. You can use other adjectives instead of "good" to describe weather.*After a three-day spell of rainy weather, there was a spell of sunny weather.*
- **changeable weather:** weather that often changes.*In my country the weather is very changeable, periods of hot weather can be followed by heavy rains or even snowstorms!*
- **mild climate:** a climate without extreme weather conditions.
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- **smog:** a cloud of pollution. *My town is so polluted that I don't see stars at night because of thick smog!*
- **forecast:** a prediction of how the weather will change. *Although the forecasts predicted a mild winter, the January was freezing cold.*