

23 | 09

Subject: Work, job satisfaction

Functions: Comparing

Language: Comparatives, superlatives

1 **The BIG question:****WHAT KIND OF JOB IS BEST FOR YOU?****FACT:**

According to a survey, 43% of people aged 14–19 want to set up their own companies, or work for themselves.

2 **FOCUS ON ...****Words**

A Match the people and what they do. Use the pictures in this unit.

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| 1 Computer programmers | a) teach winter sports. |
| 2 Accountants | b) run a business. |
| 3 Garden specialists | c) write software. |
| 4 Managers | d) keep financial records. |
| 5 Ski instructors | e) give advice about plants and sell them. |

- 6  Add other jobs you are interested in. Use a dictionary to add definitions.

B Find the right endings for these sentences:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Sole traders and partnerships are ... | a) riskier than working for a larger company. |
| 2 Large companies are sometimes ... | b) use more creative ideas. |
| 3 A small business lets people ... | c) usually the smallest businesses. |
| 4 Working for a small company is often... | d) stressful places to work. |

C These phrases are in the texts on page 17. Tick ☑ the expressions that mean the best things about a job. Put a cross ☹ for the worst things.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Working with people | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 Making lots of money | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 No time for friends | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 A secure job | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 Lots of meetings | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6 A challenging job | <input type="checkbox"/> |

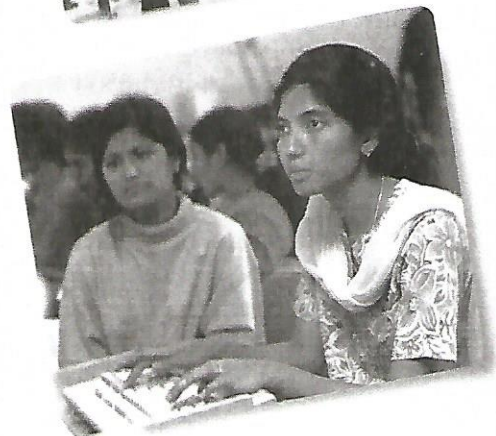
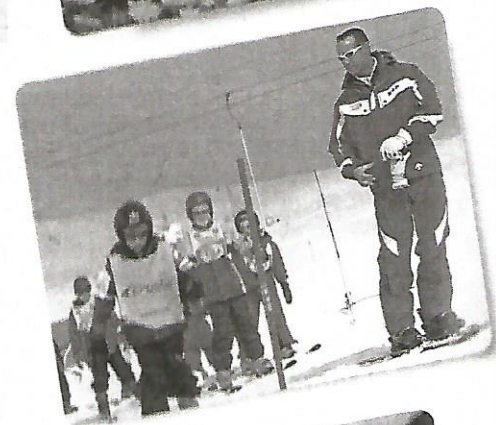
D Work with a partner. Ask and answer these questions:

- Why do many young people want to work for themselves?
- What is the best (or worst) kind of job for you?

Ideas

Discuss these statements with a partner:

- Being your own boss is a more secure way of working.
- It's more challenging to work for a large company.



3 READING

A Read these stories quickly. Choose the best title for each one.

- a) **More friends, less money** b) The most beautiful place in the world c) Being your own boss

In a recent survey, over 50% of students agreed that, "Being happy in your job is more important than making lots of money."

1

For Franco Ferrer, 23, the most important thing about a job is working with people. He left his job as a computer programmer in a Milan office to become a ski instructor in the Alps. "I was making more money, but I had less time for friends," he says. "Now I have a smaller flat and no car, but I have never been happier. For me, this is the least stressful lifestyle. Our ski school is a partnership. It's friendlier and healthier in every way than my old job."



2

Adriana Bunti left school at 16 and got a job in a small hotel in Bucharest. She worked as a cleaner, then started helping out at reception. Six years later, she's the hotel manager. But now she wants a more challenging job. "I really want to have my own business," she says. "I want a bigger hotel, and I want to make it the best in the city. Working for yourself is less secure, but being my own boss is the most important thing to me."



3

Gemma Donovan was an accountant in London. Every day, it took her two hours to drive to work. "It was a large company and everyone was stressed," she says. "Too many meetings; I got home late and tired." She moved to New Zealand, trained in a garden centre, and now owns her own small business growing and selling plants. "It's more challenging," she says, "and it's more interesting. I spend most of my time outdoors, in the most beautiful place in the world. What could be better?"



- B 1 Read the articles again. Who:
- a) cleaned rooms?
 - b) now lives in a beautiful place?
 - c) spent a lot of time in a car?
 - d) now has a friendlier job?
 - e) made a lot of money?
 - f) now wants a less secure job?
- 2 Complete the table with the correct expressions.

	Old job	New job
Franco Ferrer		
Adriana Bunti		
Gemma Donovan		

- a) working in a hotel
- b) owning a business
- c) a more challenging job
- d) working for a large company
- e) working with computers
- f) a healthier lifestyle

C Compare your ideas with a partner.

- 1 Do the articles conclude that one kind of job is better than another?
- 2 Which of the jobs do you find most interesting? Why?

4 LANGUAGE

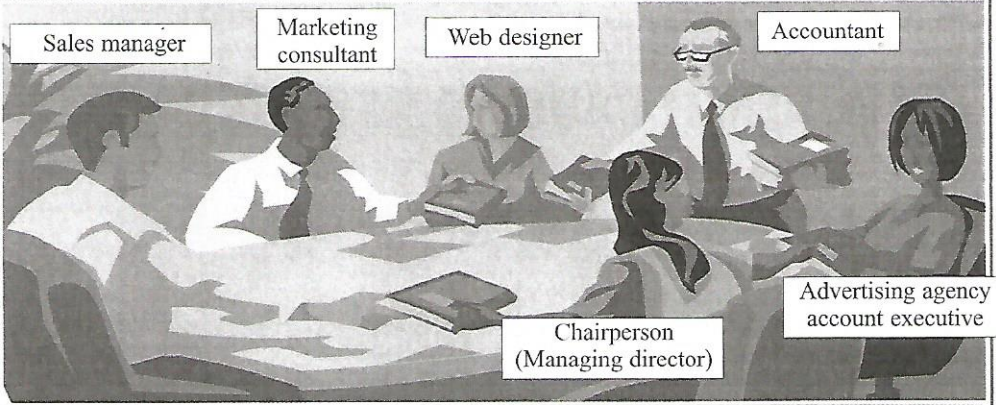
Look at these sentences:

- Being happy is **more important** than making money.
- **The most important** thing is having an interesting job.
- It's **friendlier, healthier, and less stressful** than my old job.
- It's **the most beautiful** place in the world.

- A Which sentences compare: 1 two things? 2 more than two things?
 B Find words that compare two things by adding **-er** to the end of the adjective.
 C Find words that compare two things by adding **more** or **less**.

8 BUSINESS STUDIES in English

There are about 11 million meetings in the USA every day. A meeting can be the best way to develop plans, motivate people and get action on good ideas. Yet studies show that over 50% of meeting time is wasted. Here are some ideas for better meetings.



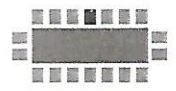
1. The right arrangement of seats for a meeting:



Creative brainstorm: everyone sits in a circle (more democratic).



Information/Training: in a U-shape, so it's easier to see presentations.



Decision-making: Chairperson sits in the middle, so he or she is in the best place to hear everyone else.

2. If you're organising a meeting:

- Send everyone a note stating the meeting place, starting and finishing time.
- Prepare an agenda – a list of the topics to discuss.
- Use ICT and other tools like flip charts.
- Name a person to take the minutes (write a report about the meeting).

3. If you're attending a meeting:

- Read the agenda carefully.
- Prepare information you need for the discussion.
- Ask only important questions during the meeting. Don't go off track.

- A** Find words or phrases in the text which mean:
- 1 really makes people want to do something.
 - 2 the person who leads the discussion.
 - 3 a report on what was said in the meeting.
 - 4 saying something that is not on the topic.
- B** With a partner, talk about these questions:
- 1 Are English language classes like business meetings?
 - 2 Do you ever attend meetings? What are your feelings about them?

10 Your answer: WHAT KIND OF JOB IS BEST FOR YOU?

What do you think now? Is an interesting job more important than a high salary? Is it best to be your own boss? What is the most important thing for you in choosing a job? What is the best kind of job for you? An outdoor job? A challenging job?

SEE WORKBOOK UNIT 3

9 PORTFOLIO WRITING

Write a letter to a company to ask for more information about a job that has been advertised (70-100 words). Use the following expressions, but in the right order.

- a) Yours faithfully
- b) I'm interested in your advertisement for a job in
- c) I think this job is best for me because
- d) I'd like to know more about (salary, hours, place) ...
- e) Thank you for your help.
- f) Dear Sir or Madam

Last word:

Can you use all the language items below? Write Yes, No, or Almost against each.

Functions: Comparing

Language: Comparatives and superlatives

Vocabulary: Work; job satisfaction; meetings