

## Choosing a career

*Youngsters often choose their future profession at random. What influences your professional choice?*

It goes without saying that choosing a profession is one of the most important decisions that influences our lives. As for me, I'm still hesitating about my future occupation because I don't want to spend my life on a job I hate. I think most of school leavers realise the importance of the problem and are ready to take the consequences of their choice. Any school leaver who is clever at Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, languages, History or any other school subject can choose to go to university and gain higher qualifications. Those who prefer to work with their hands, but not with their heads can go to vocational schools to have a trade which will enable them to get a job in a manufacturing sector. I can say for sure that many of us will find a vocation in life and fulfil the ambitions becoming journalists, designers, hairdressers, computer operators, travel agents, chemists, social workers, carpenters and dressmakers.

As far as I know, almost everyone wants to find a suitable job with good prospects and a high salary. The problem is that nowadays unemployment is increasing and there is a keen competition in both public and private sectors. Many school leavers have to seek their first job through an employment agency. It is rather difficult to satisfy all the requirements and get a good job if you have no qualification. I am deeply convinced that only ambitious, energetic and accurate people are capable of doing their jobs well. As for me, under no circumstances could I accept a tiring, dirty, monotonous job with no chances of promotion. But some of such jobs bring in good money and attract a certain number of school leavers.

There are many reasons for choosing this or that profession. It's not a secret that nowadays everybody's top priority is money. In our materialistic world young people usually try to get jobs that are well paid ones and connected with business and politics. Jobs connected with education, science, art are not so well paid and that is why are not so popular among young people. To my mind school-leavers should take into consideration such things as talent and personal interests. If you don't have abilities for the profession you have chosen, later you will encounter a lot of difficulties. Interests are also very important. Isn't it great when your job brings you moments of great pride, joy and satisfaction? I'm deeply convinced that people who are down-to-earth, full of common sense and sympathy, unselfish, patient and easy at dealing and mixing with all types of people are suitable for caring professions such as doctors, nannies, nurses, vets and teachers. People who are, on the whole, followers, not leaders and like their life to be well organised are capable of doing power forces professions such as military men, security guards, fire men. Those people should be sporty and love their life to be constantly on the go. They wouldn't mind living far from home and find the idea of exploring new countries and ways of life attractive.

As I know a lot of my friends choose a profession, just because they are following in their parents' footsteps or they just listen to their parents' advice. Others are encouraged by their friends or teachers. But I prefer to make my own choice and listen to my heart. As for me, I'd like to devote my energy to a profession which requires much skills and knowledge and provides pleasant working conditions, good promotion opportunities and immense job satisfaction. I would like to make a strong position in banking or economics and get a profession connected with these fields. As I feel, I am capable of doing such a job well because I'm well organised, hard-working and have a tidy mind. I like routines which don't vary too much and enjoy knowing what I'm doing day by day. I would like to have a good starting salary which can grow slowly as my progress up the career ladder.

I hope to be career-minded and get on well in life. Anyway, I'm sure everything is possible if I have a faith.

### ***Further discussion***

1. What skills / qualities do you think help people to get good jobs?
2. If you had to choose between a low-paying job which gave you lots of satisfaction and a high-paying job which was very stressful, which job would you choose and why?
3. Do you think some people get paid too much?
4. Which jobs do you think should be the highest paying ones?