

Jobs: Upper Intermediate

Describing a job

1 Look at the jobs below. Read the job advertisements. Which job is being described in each advertisement?

A teacher a referee a salesman

<p>We offer a position which is <i>difficult, requiring lots of skill and hard work</i>, but which is never <i>boring or repetitive</i>. You will be expected to travel and meet clients, and represent our company and its products. We are looking for people who have <i>lots of energy and an ability to work towards goals</i>, people who are <i>happy to work long hours and put in a lot of effort</i>, people who <i>never give up even when things are difficult</i>. If you have the relevant experience, please reply to the address below.</p>	<p>This is a new position in a modern institution. We seek applicants who are <i>quick at making their mind up</i>, who <i>can be relied on to perform their duties reliably</i> and who <i>have a first degree from university</i>. You will be working with young people in a job which is <i>very satisfying, giving you a real sense of achievement</i>.</p>	<p>The FA are seeking fit under-35s interested in an exciting new career. It is a job that <i>offers problems that really test your ability</i>. At times it can <i>put you under a lot of pressure</i> and you need to <i>be able to ignore personal criticism</i>. However, it is a great opportunity to be involved with the nation's most popular pastime.</p>
---	--	--

2 Use the adjectives below to rewrite the phrases in italics in the job advertisements in 1. You may need to use the verb *to be* in the correct form.

For example: We offer a position which is *demanding*...

Describing a job:

rewarding challenging mundane demanding stressful

Personal qualities:

responsible drive hard-working determined decisive thick-skinned
well-qualified

3 Look at these expressions which all use the word work. Use some of the expressions to complete the sentences below.

work long hours
in work
down to work

work shifts
out of work

work overtime
at work

work flexitime
get

- 1 Nurses have to _____. Sometimes they are _____ during the day, and sometimes through the night.
- 2 In my company we _____. We can start at any time between 8 and 10 in the morning.
- 3 Salesmen often _____, starting early in the morning and finishing late at night.
- 4 I usually finish work at 5, but if I have to _____, finishing at 7 or 8, I don't mind, because I get paid more money.
- 5 Before getting this job I was _____ for six months. It was boring and I had very little money. I'm glad that I am _____ now.
- 4 I'm finding it very difficult to _____ at the moment. I keep looking out of the window and day dreaming.

4 What's the most interesting or unusual job you have ever had or heard about? It could be your job now, of course. Prepare to describe it to your partner. Think about the questions below.

- 1 What job is it, and what were responsibilities come with the job?
- 2 How would you describe the job? Was it demanding or rewarding, for example? In what ways?
- 3 What was interesting or unusual about it?

5 Write a job advertisement for the job you described in 4.