

## **Jobs (Employment)**

### **Visual stimulation**

Choose from picture the picture a job (or tasks) you would do.

Find a job (or jobs) you would not do at any cost.

Talk about jobs you value most and least.

### **Topic**

1. Importance of work.
2. Name different kinds of jobs (manual and intellectual), depict criteria and motivation for choosing a job.
3. Attractive jobs (in childhood, in teen age - reasons, expectations)
4. Invent solutions to get a job: job centres, application form, curriculum vitae, retraining, job interview). Give reasons for unemployment.
5. Compare working time and free time in the lives of people in big cities and small villages.
6. Contrast working opportunities in Slovakia and abroad, working conditions (salary, social system)
7. Explain how people can build a career and a family life.

### **Role play**

Your friend, who is just starting his second year at university, wants to leave because he doesn't like it anymore. That's why he decided to work. You don't think it's a wise decision. Make a list of at least three reasons why he shouldn't drop out of school, and then try to convince him not to drop out.

1. Work plays an important role in our lives. This way we do not only earn money but also find our place in society, spend time with other people and feel useful. The economically active population includes people who are willing and able to work and people who search for work - the unemployed. The first group includes self-employed people and employees. The economically inactive people are minors, the retired, the disabled, the sick or those who do not wish or are unable to work.

Employment is a contract between an employer and an employee.

2. We know 2 kinds of jobs: manual and intellectual.

**Manual:** hairdresser, barber, carpenter, bricklayer, butcher, baker, mechanic, shop assistant, plumber, cleaner

**Intellectual:** banker, clerk, teacher, university lecturer, scientist, doctor, architect, journalist, psychoanalyst, interpreter, translator

Manual jobs, like carpenters or cleaners, require physical skills, while intellectual jobs, such as teachers or scientists, involve using your brain and knowledge. When deciding on a job, it's essential to consider what you enjoy doing and where your strengths lie.

For manual jobs, skills like using tools or physical strength are key. Intellectual jobs often demand specific degrees or expertise in a particular field. To do these jobs you need to have higher education (university or college). For some jobs you need to have certain qualities and character traits. For example a policeman must be bold, physical efficient and strong. Teacher should be friendly, good at explaining things and have a strong sense of fairness. There are professions in which you need to have a special talent and determination. People like artists, photographers and designers need to have a good imagination and lots of creativity.

When choosing a job, your motivation can be driven by various factors, including financial needs, the desire for a good work-life balance, or the wish to make a positive impact on society.

3. Some children want to be like their parents, they admire them and want to copy them. Other kids dream of cool jobs like being astronauts, superheroes, or princesses. These dreams make us happy and excited, imagining adventures and doing good things. When we get older, we think about jobs based on what we like, what people expect, and who we look up to. Teens want jobs that give them money and also make them happy and proud. Some of them want to be doctors, scientists, teachers, policemen or firemen.

4. Getting a job can be achieved through various steps. Job opportunities are usually advertised in newspaper, on the internet or in job centres. Job centres are helpful resources providing career guidance. Candidates send in their job applications and their CVs, together with a letter of motivation. CVs include personal details, details about education, skills and work experiences. Those who are selected, go to an interview. At the interview they answer the questions, describe their motivation and expectations. If a candidate succeeds, He/she is given an official offer of employment with a defined starting salary, medical benefits and vacation days. Employees can be hired to work full time or part time. Some only have fixed-term contracts. People who don't get a salary and work for free are called volunteers.
  - Reasons why people change jobs: bad working conditions, bad salary, an unpleasant or intolerant boss or colleagues, long working hours, get a better job offer, they can be made redundant (prepustený s nadbytočností)
  - The problems of young people with their job: don't have enough experience, have to learn how to get on with their colleagues, have to learn to work under pressure or in stressful conditions
5. In Slovakia in most professions working hours are 40 hours a week (8 hours a day). However, there are more and more professions where people work longer hours. Shift work is typical for healthcare service, emergency service, production and transportation. In general people start work at 8 a.m. and finish at 4 – 5 p.m. Some people have flexible working time. Some people work from home and it's called teleworking. People working in the village usually start earlier and finish earlier. Many of them travel to work to big cities.

In big cities, people are often very busy with work, and they have less time for themselves. They might spend a lot of time commuting and working long hours. On the other hand, in small villages, life is calmer. People work more predictable hours, and they have more free time for their families and community activities. In cities, the pace is faster, and people are always connected, while in villages, life is slower, and there's a better balance between work and free time. The comparison between big cities and small villages highlights the different lifestyles shaped by the urban-rural divide, where each has its unique challenges and charms.

People in towns and villages spend their free time differently:

City – lots of possibilities for cultural life, free time and sports activities,...

Village – usually work in the garden, keep pets, they like DIY, watch TV, walk the dog,...

6. Job opportunities in Slovakia and abroad differ in several ways, affecting working conditions. In Slovakia, the job market is influenced by the country's economy, offering employment across various sectors. Salaries here often reflect the economic situation, varying among industries. However, working conditions include social benefits like healthcare and education.

Contrastingly, working abroad may offer higher earning potential, but it comes with challenges like adapting to a new environment. Overseas, social systems vary, impacting healthcare accessibility and retirement benefits.

Ultimately, the decision between working in Slovakia or abroad involves considering job opportunities, salary, and the social system. Each option has its advantages, with Slovakia offering familiarity, and working abroad providing potential for higher earnings.

7. Achieving a balance between a successful career and a fulfilling family life demands strategic planning and effective time management. Individuals can build a career and family by setting clear priorities, establishing boundaries between work and personal time, and communicating openly with family members about expectations.

**Role play:**

A: Hey there! I heard you're thinking about leaving university and looking for work instead. What's going on?

B: Yeah, I've been thinking about it a lot lately. I just don't enjoy university anymore, and I feel like I could be doing something more practical with my time.

A: I get that it's challenging, but before you make such a big decision, can we talk about a few reasons why staying in university might still be the right choice?

**More Job Choices:** Finishing your degree open more job options. Employers like it when you have a university education, and it can lead to better-paying jobs.

**Growing Personally:** University isn't just about classes; it's a chance to become a better person and learn important skills like thinking critically and solving problems. These skills are helpful in any job and make you a more well-rounded individual.

**Building Connections:** University is a great place to make friends and connections that can help you in the future. Your classmates and professors might offer support, advice, or even job opportunities as you move forward in your career.

## **Vocabulary:**

### **• physical and intellectual work:**

- hairdresser, barber, carpenter, bricklayer, butcher, baker, mechanic, shop assistant, plumber, cleaner

-banker, clerk, teacher, university lecturer, scientist, doctor, architect, journalist, psychoanalyst, interpreter, translator, sales representative, lawyer, attorney, artist, musician, accountant, surgeon, politician, mayor

**kaderník/kaderníčka, holič/holička, tesár, murár, mäsiar/mäsiarka, pekár/pekárka, mechanik/mechanička, predavač/predavačka, inštalatér/inštalatérka, upratovač/upratovačka**

**bankár/bankárka, úradník/úradníčka, učiteľ/učiteľka, vysokoškolský prednášateľ/vysokoškolská prednášateľka, vedec/vedkyňa, lekár/lekárka, architekt/architektka, novinár/novinárka, psychoanalytik/psychoanalytička, tlmočník/tlmočnica, prekladateľ/prekladateľka, obchodný zástupca/obchodná zástupkyňa, právnik/právnička, advokát/advokátka, umelec/umelecká, hudobník/hudobníčka, účtovník/účtovníčka, chirurg/chirurgička, politik/politička, starosta/starostka**

### **• employment:**

- to take on, to take up a post, to employ sb., to hire sb., to search for..., to hunt for...

-employer, employee, unemployed/jobless, self-employed, volunteer, long-term/permanent contract, short-term/temporary contract, part-time job, full-time job, freelance, seasonal jobs, casual job

**prijat', získať pracovné miesto, zamestnať niekoho, najat' niekoho, hľadať, loviť...**

**zamestnávateľ, zamestnanec, nezamestnaný/bez práce, živnostník/živnostníčka, dobrovoľník/dobrovoľníčka, dlhodobá/stála zmluva, krátkodobá/časová zmluva, čiastočný úväzok, plný úväzok, voľný profesionál, sezónne práce, príležitostné práce**

### **• schedules:**

-35-hour working week, eight-hour working day, work from 9 to 5, overtime, flexitime, shift work, night shift, doing flexitime, telecommuting (telework)

**35-hodinový pracovný týždeň, osemhodinový pracovný deň, práca od 9 do 5, nadčas, flexi-čas, práca na zmeny, nočná zmena, flexi-čas, práca na diaľku (telepráca)**

### **• hiring:**

advertisement, application, background check, drug testing, job-hunting, probation, personnel department, personnel selection, employment counsellor, curriculum vitae (CV), motivation/cover letter (job application), references, interview, overqualified, recruiter, recruitment

**inzerát, žiadosť, kontrola minulosti, test na drogy, hľadanie práce, skúšobná doba, personálny oddelenie, výber personálu, pracovný poradca, životopis (CV), motivačný/list motivačný (prihláška o zamestnanie), referencie, pohovor, nadkvalifikovaný/nadkvalifikovaná, náborár/náborárečka, nábor**

• **job termination:**

dismissal, letter of resignation, layoff, suspension, permanent termination of employment, retirement, early re-tirement, pensioner, pension, to quit, to resign, to get the sack.

**vyhlásenie, odstúpenie, prepúšťanie, dočasné pozastavenie, trvalé ukončenie pracovného pomeru, odchod do dôchodku, predčasný odchod do dôchodku, dôchodca/dôchodkyňa, dôchodok, odísť, odstúpiť, byť vyhodený/vyhodená**

• **unemployment:**

voluntary, involuntary, jobless, to be made redundant, to be dismissed, to be fired, to be sacked, job agency, unemployment benefits (the dole)

• factors when searching for a job:

working hours, possible promotion, career development, travel opportunities, place of work, commuting, further education and training, career vs. family life, tempting offer, benefits

**dobrovoľná, nechcená, bez práce, byť prepustený/prepustená, byť odvolaný/odvolaná, byť vyhodený/vyhodená, úrad práce, podpora v nezamestnanosti (podpora v nezamestnanosti)**

• **benefits:**

pay (salary, wages, income, pay rise, sick pay), medical benefits, vacation days, annual leave, health insurance, life insurance, parental leave, sick leave, unemployment benefit, bonus, perk  
**pracovné hodiny, možný postup, kariérny rozvoj, cestovné príležitosti, miesto práce, dochádzanie, ďalšie vzdelávanie a školenia, kariéra vs. rodinný život, lákavá ponuka, výhody**

• **qualities and skills:**

reliability, flexibility, responsibility, motivation, experience, communication skills, management skills, problem solving, dealing with complaints, creativity, team building, following the latest trends, driving skills, patience, speaking a foreign language

**spoľahlivosť, flexibilita, zodpovednosť, motivácia, skúsenosti, komunikačné zručnosti, manažérske zručnosti, riešenie problémov, riešenie sťažností, kreativita, budovanie tímu, sledovanie najnovších trendov, vodičské zručnosti, trpezlivosť, znalosť cudzieho jazyka**

**• responsibilities and duties:**

to be responsible for, to deal with, to handle, to be in charge of, to involve, to control, to check, to manage, to supervise, to advise, to treat, to look after, to communicate in person, to run your own business, to set up/establish/ found a company

**spoľahlivosť, flexibilita, zodpovednosť, motivácia, skúsenosti, komunikačné zručnosti, manažérske zručnosti, riešenie problémov, riešenie sťažností, kreativita, budovanie tímu, sledovanie najnovších trendov, vodičské zručnosti, trpezlivosť, znalosť cudzieho jazyka**

**• career vs. family life:**

workaholic, maternity leave, maternity pay, working mothers, to be under pressure