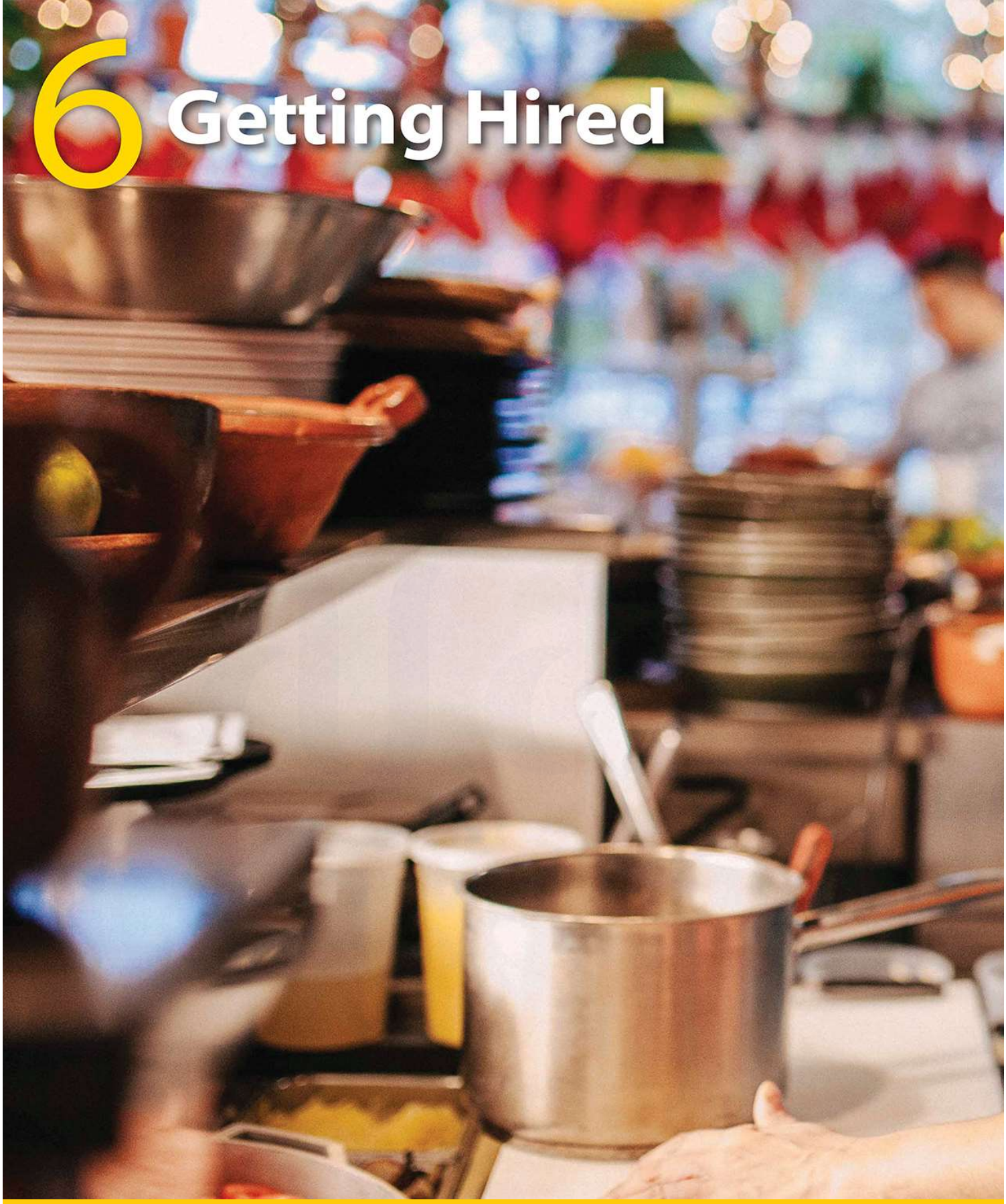
6 Getting Hired



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UNIT OUTCOMES

- Identify job titles and skills
- Identify job skills and personality traits
- Interpret job advertisements
- Complete a job application
- Interview for a job
- Discover a career in general management

Answer the questions.

Chef Diana Dávila, prepares a Mexican dish at her Chicago restaurant, Mi Tocaya Antojería.

1. What can you see in the photo?
2. How does someone get hired to work in a restaurant?
3. What special skills does this chef have?
4. What type of equipment do you see in this kitchen?
5. Why do you think this chef uses clay pots?

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LESSON 1

Jobs and Careers

GOAL ▶ Identify job titles and skills

A **Look at the photos and write the correct letter for each job.**

a. 

b. 

c. 

d. 

Job	Letter
graphic designer	c
dental hygienist	_____
home health aide	_____
accountant	_____

B **ANALYZE** **Talk to your partner about the four jobs in A. Which job is the most interesting? Which job is the most difficult? Why?**

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C Match the job with the description.

_____ 1. graphic designer	a. cleans teeth
_____ 2. repair technician	b. takes care of children
_____ 3. administrative assistant	c. designs and maintains yards
_____ 4. dental hygienist	d. supervises internet security
_____ 5. landscaper	e. designs artwork for companies
_____ 6. accountant	f. does general office work
_____ 7. home health aide	g. uses equipment in a factory or on a construction site
_____ 8. cyber security specialist	h. keeps financial records
_____ 9. nanny	i. fixes appliances and equipment
_____ 10. machine operator	j. takes care of sick people in their own homes

D Look at the pictures. What do you think each person does? Write a job title.

cyber security specialist	judge	physical therapist	server
doctor	~~lawyer~~	plumber	teacher



1. lawyer



2. _____



3. _____



4. _____



5. _____



6. _____



7. _____



8. _____

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E **IDENTIFY** **Work in a small group to write one skill for each job title.**

1. doctor _____
2. server _____
3. cyber security specialist _____
4. postal worker _____

F **Work in a small group again to write the job title for each skill.**

1. _____ fixes leaking pipes
2. _____ helps children learn
3. _____ delivers mail and packages
4. _____ works for a client in matters of the law

Simple Present

The simple present is used to talk about things that are routine or always true.

G **Practice the conversation with a partner. Use the job titles and skills from this lesson to make new conversations.**

Student A: What does a graphic designer do?

Student B: A graphic designer makes artwork for companies.

H **Work with a partner. Think of more jobs and write what each person does.**

1. A farmer grows fruits and vegetables.
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

I **When searching for information online, you want to ask a clear question or type in key words. Read the question below and underline the key words.**

Life ONLINE

What skills do you need to be an electrician?

Now write your own question and key words that you would type into a search engine about a job you are interested in.

Question: _____

Key words: _____

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LESSON 2

What Can You Do?

GOAL ▶ Identify job skills and personality traits

A **EVALUATE** **What are your job skills? Check (✓) the things you are good at. Add two skills to the list.**

- ☐ manage schedules
- ☐ assemble things
- ☐ cook
- ☐ draw
- ☐ drive a car or truck
- ☐ fix machines
- ☐ order supplies
- ☐ balance accounts
- ☐ operate machines
- ☐ talk to customers
- ☐ communicate clearly
- ☐ sew
- ☐ speak other languages
- ☐ take care of children
- ☐ take care of the elderly
- ☐ type
- ☐ repair computers
- ☐ manage social media accounts
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

B **Write two skills you want to improve and two skills you want to learn.**

Skills I Want to Improve	Skills I Want to Learn

C **Work with a partner. Think of ways your partner can learn or improve the skills he or she wrote in B. Use ideas from the box and make suggestions for your partner.**

ask a friend to teach you	practice at home	take an online class
do training at your company	take an evening class	volunteer

Student A: I want to learn how to take care of the elderly.

Student B: Maybe you could volunteer at a hospital or nursing home.

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D **SUGGEST** **Claude needs a job. Can you suggest two for him?**

Claude is quiet and shy. He is friendly, but he doesn't really like to talk to customers. He is very good at assembling things. When he was a teenager, he enjoyed fixing bicycles. He likes to be busy. He wants to get a job where he can use his technical skills.

1. _____

2. _____



E **Study the chart with your classmates and teacher. Then underline examples of infinitives and gerunds in the paragraph in D.**

Infinitives and Gerunds Infinitive = *to* + Verb Gerund = Verb + *ing*			
Verb	**Infinitive or Gerund**	**Example Sentence**	**Other Verbs That Follow the Same Rule**
want	infinitive	He wants **to get** a job.	plan, decide
enjoy	gerund	He enjoys **fixing** bicycles.	finish, give up
like	both	He likes **to talk.** He likes **talking.**	love, hate
Some verbs take the infinitive and some verbs take the gerund. There are some verbs that take both.			

F **Are these verbs followed by an infinitive, a gerund, or both? Check (✓) the correct answers.**

1. I like _____ on a team.	☐ to work	☐ working	☐ to work / working
2. I enjoy _____ problems.	☐ to solve	☐ solving	☐ to solve / solving
3. I want _____ to customers.	☐ to talk	☐ talking	☐ to talk / talking
4. I decided _____ math.	☐ to study	☐ studying	☐ to study / studying
5. I hate _____ decisions.	☐ to make	☐ making	☐ to make / making
6. I gave up _____ two years ago.	☐ to smoke	☐ smoking	☐ to smoke / smoking
7. I love _____ machines.	☐ to fix	☐ fixing	☐ to fix / fixing

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G **EVALUATE** **What kind of personal skills do you have? Check (✓) the ones that describe you and add more skills to the list.**

- ☐ solve problems
- ☐ work under pressure
- ☐ work in a fast-paced environment
- ☐ work on a team
- ☐ make decisions
- ☐ pay attention to details
- ☐ work with my hands
- ☐ read and follow directions
- ☐ help people
- ☐ organize information
- ☐ work with money
- ☐ talk to customers
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

H **Study the chart with your classmates and teacher.**

Gerunds and Nouns after Prepositions					
Subject	**Verb**	**Adjective**	**Preposition**	**Gerund / Noun**	**Example Sentence**
I	am	good	at	fixing bicycles.	I am good at **fixing bicycles.**
She	is	good	at	math.	She is good at **math.**
A gerund or a noun follows an adjective + a preposition. Some other examples of adjectives + prepositions are *interested in, afraid of, tired of, bad at,* and *worried about*. When a noun is plural, it is also common to use the preposition *with*: *I am good with customers*.					

I **Tell your partner about your skills and interests. What things are you *good at, bad at, interested in, tired of,* and *afraid of*? Your partner will suggest a good job for you.**

EXAMPLE: **Student A:** I'm good at paying attention to details. I'm interested in organizing information.

Student B: Maybe you should be an accountant.

J **APPLY** **Write a paragraph about your job skills. Describe the job skills you have or are interested in learning. Say why these skills are important and useful.**

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

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LESSON 3

Help Wanted

GOAL ▶ Interpret job advertisements

A **Read the following job advertisements.**

1. **AUTO TECHNICIAN**

Job Type: PT

Do you like to work on cars? Do you have an excellent attitude, good mechanical skills, and the ability to learn fast? Strong electronics background preferred. Call Kip Jones at (310) 555-9078 or email resume to kjones@j0ne5aut0m0tive.com

APPLY NOW

2. **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

Job Type: FT 40K–45K / year

Acme Construction. Minimum two years' experience. Good computer skills required (Word, Excel, manage social media accounts). Must be good at working under pressure. Email: jobs@acm3.com

APPLY NOW

3. **RECEPTIONIST**

Job Type: PT (weekends: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.)

HS diploma (or equivalent) and one year's experience. Excellent phone and organizational skills along with a pleasant attitude are a must! Please apply in person at: 396 Marcasel Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90066

APPLY NOW

4. **MEAT AND PRODUCE MANAGERS**

Job Type: FT

Fast-growing supermarket chain seeks bright and motivated managers for meat and produce sections. Prior management experience required. Excellent salary and benefits. Call: (626) 555-1342

APPLY NOW

5. **PHARMACY CLERK**

Job Type: PT

Detail-oriented pharmacy clerk needed to process insurance forms and assist customers. Must be bilingual (English and Spanish). Must have strong communication and organizational skills. Great benefits. Call Armine: (626) 555-6613

APPLY NOW

6. **CUSTODIAN**

Job Type: FT $14–16 / hr + benefits

Dependable custodian for three apartment buildings. Minimum two years' experience in plumbing, carpentry, painting, and repairs. Must have own tools and car. Call: (818) 555-3500 ext. 523

APPLY NOW

B **Are there any words or abbreviations that are new to you? List them below and discuss them with your classmates and teacher.**

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

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C **INTERPRET** **Read the ads in A again and answer the questions below.**

1. What experience should the auto technician have? electronics background
2. Which employer wants someone who can work under pressure? _____
3. Which job requires a friendly personality? _____
4. Which job requires a car? _____
5. Which job requires someone who is detail-oriented? _____
6. Which job requires someone who is bilingual? _____
7. What are ways to apply for these jobs? _____

D **What skills are required for each job advertised in A? Complete the table.**

Job	Skills Required or Preferred
auto technician	
administrative assistant	
receptionist	
meat and produce managers	
pharmacy clerk	
custodian	

afaq Language Center

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E **Read the descriptions and decide which job or jobs from A each person should apply for. Write the job titles.**

1. Addisu recently moved here and needs to find a job. At his old job, he answered the phone, scheduled meetings, and sent memos. He would like a job doing the same thing. Which job or jobs should he apply for?

_____

2. Kyung was recently laid off from his janitorial job at the local school district. He had been working there for ten years and took care of all the maintenance and repairs for the school. Which job or jobs should he apply for?

_____

3. Hayma wants to find some extra work on the weekends. She is good at answering phones and she is very organized. Which job or jobs should she apply for?

_____

4. Rita manages a bakery but wants to find a job closer to home. She is smart and willing to work hard. She really likes to work with people and would like to find a job in the same line of work. Which job or jobs should she apply for?

_____

F **REFLECT** **Answer the following questions about yourself.**

1. Which job advertised in **A** is best for you? Why?

_____

2. Which job would you most like to have? Why?

_____

3. Which job would you like the least? Why?

_____

G **CREATE** **On a separate piece of paper, write an ad for your dream job. Include the job title, skills, preferences, pay, and any other necessary information.**

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LESSON 4

Employment History

GOAL ▶ Complete a job application

A **Look at the ways people apply for jobs. How did you get your last job? What's the best way to get a job? Discuss your answers with a partner.**

- know someone at a company (personal connection)
- go to an employment agency
- join a professional network
- see a *Help Wanted* sign and fill out an application
- introduce yourself to the manager and fill out an application
- send a resume to a company

Life ONLINE

Joining professional social media sites is very useful. You can set the parameters of what type of job you are looking for, have alerts sent to you, and get recommendations there.

B **Not every business advertises available positions. If you want to work somewhere, you should go in and ask for an application. Read the conversation below.**

Ramona: Excuse me. May I speak to the manager, please?
Employee: She's not here right now. Can I help you?
Ramona: Are you hiring?
Employee: As a matter of fact, we are.
Ramona: What positions are you hiring for?
Employee: We need a manicurist and a receptionist.
Ramona: Great. Can I have an application, please?
Employee: Here you go. You can drop it off any time.
Ramona: Thanks a lot.
Employee: Sure. Good luck.

C **Practice the conversation in B. Use the job titles from this unit to make new conversations.**

D **On a job application, you have to fill in certain information. Match the type of information to its description.**

c 1. Personal information	a. people you have worked with
_____ 2. Employment history	b. previous jobs you have had
_____ 3. Availability	c. name, address, skills
_____ 4. Education	d. schools you attended
_____ 5. References	e. when you are free to work

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E **ANALYZE** **Look at Ramona's online job application. Think about how you would fill it out for yourself.**

Personal Information

*Indicates a required field

Legal Name

First Name* Ramona Last Name* Jimenez

Address

Address 123 Stanford Ave

City Garden Grove **State** CA **Postal Code** 92840

Email Address*

Phone

Phone Number* (714) 555-9765 Type* ✓ Cell

Work Experience

Job Title* Server Company* Carly's Coffee Shop

☑ I currently work here.

From* 9/23 To* 4/24

Role Description

Take orders, serve food

Education

School or University* Long Beach High School Degree* ✓ High School Diploma

Languages

Language* Spanish Overall * ✓ Fluent ☑ This is my native language.

Language* English Overall * ✓ Intermediate ☐ This is my native language.

Are you legally authorized for employment in the United States?* ✓ Yes No

Are you able to provide proof of legal eligibility to work?* ✓ Yes No

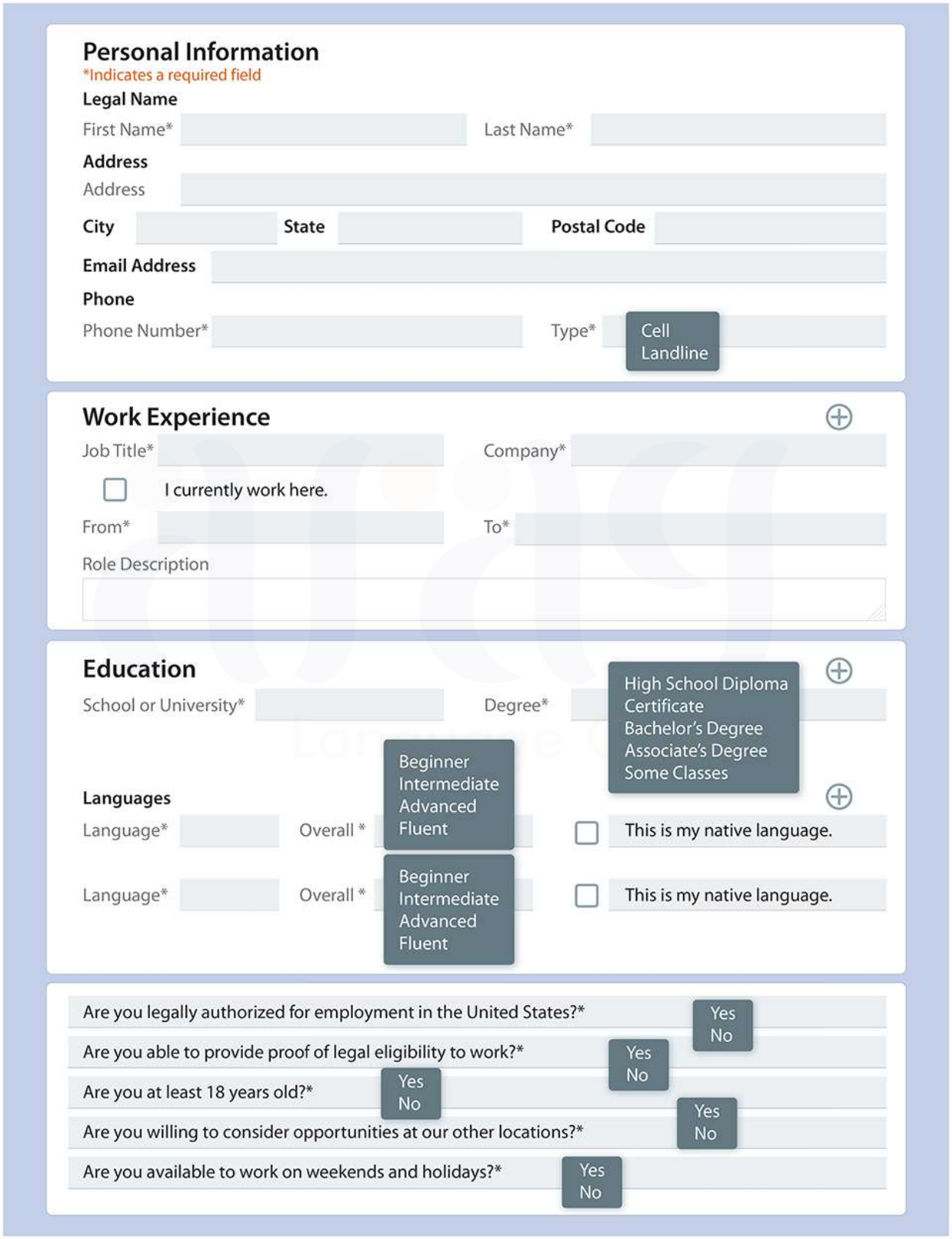
Are you at least 18 years old?* ✓ Yes No

Are you willing to consider opportunities at our other locations?* Yes ✓ No

Are you available to work on weekends and holidays?* ✓ Yes No

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F **APPLY** **Complete this online application form. Circle your answer in the drop-down menus.**



G **Think of three companies you could apply to work at. Go online and practice filling out an application.**

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LESSON 5

Why Do You Want to Work Here?

GOAL ▶ Interview for a job

A **Have you ever had a job interview? What happened? Tell your partner.**

B **During a job interview, an employer tries to find out about an applicant's character and personality. Read and listen to find out what interviewers look for during an interview.**

Your job interview is the most important part of the application process. This is when the employer gets to meet you and learn more about you. Employers are interested in your skills and experience, but they also look for personality and character traits.

Do you stand tall and smile confidently? Employers will notice your self-confidence. Managers want to hire employees who have confidence in themselves and will have confidence in the job they are doing.

Do you like to work hard and do a good job? Another important thing an interviewer looks for is enthusiasm about work. People who are enthusiastic about a job make great employees. They are happy with the work and usually stay with the company for a while.

Are you friendly and easy to talk to? Do you pay attention to how other people are feeling? Warmth and sensitivity are also very important traits. A person with these characteristics will make a good coworker; someone who can work well with others.

Do you have some or all of these traits? Can you show that you have these traits in an interview? If the answer is yes, you will have a good chance of getting the job.

C **EXPLAIN** **Discuss the following questions with a partner.**

1. In your opinion, which is the most important trait: self-confidence, enthusiasm, or a friendly personality?
2. According to the information in **B**, how can you use body language to show you are self-confident? Can you think of any other ways you can show confidence through body language?
3. How can you show an employer that you are enthusiastic about a job and a company?
4. According to the information, why do employers like to hire warm, sensitive people?
5. Do you think there are other character traits that employers like? What are they?

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D **Imagine you are interviewing someone for a job as an administrative assistant in a busy doctor's office. List six personality traits you would look for.**

arrogant	confident	friendly	helpful	intelligent	sensitive	thoughtful
careful	enthusiastic	funny	honest	motivated	sneaky	warm

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____

E **DETERMINE** **Discuss what clothing and accessories are appropriate or not appropriate for a job interview. Fill in the chart with your ideas.**



Men	
Appropriate	Not Appropriate
long-sleeved shirt	t-shirt

Women	
Appropriate	Not Appropriate
	t-shirt

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F **Study the chart with your classmates and teacher.**

Would rather					
Subject	***Would rather***	**Base Form**	***than***	**Base Form**	**Example Sentence**
I / You / She / He / It / We / They	would ('d) rather	work alone	than	work with people.	I **would rather** work alone **than** work with people.
Note: You can omit the second verb if it is the same as the first verb: *I would rather work nights than (work) days.*					

G **Which work situation do you prefer? Talk to your partner about your preferences.**

EXAMPLE: **Student A:** Would you rather work inside or outside?
Student B: I'd rather work inside because I hate the cold.

1. work alone / on a team
2. work days / nights
3. get paid hourly / weekly
4. have your own business / work for someone else
5. retire at 65 / work until you are 70
6. walk to work / drive to work

H **Write sentences about your ideal work situation.**

1. I'd rather work on a team than alone because I like talking to people.
2. _____
3. _____

I **PREPARE** **Imagine you are preparing for a job interview. Choose a job from the ads on page 152 or one of your own. Work with a partner and answer the questions below.**

1. What are your skills?
2. Why do you think you would be good at this job?
3. How would you describe your personality?
4. What did you like and dislike about your last job?
5. Would you rather work full-time or part-time?
6. What salary do you expect?

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LESSON 6

Explore the Workforce

GOAL ▶ Discover a career in general management

A **What does a general manager do? Write a brief description with a partner.**

A general manager _____

_____

B **Look at the statistics below and ask and answer questions with a partner.**

General Managers in the US
974,878

Gender
Male 71%
Female 29%

Average Age
44

Most Common Degrees
Bachelor's 56%
Associate's 19%



1. What is the average age of a general manager?
2. How many general managers are there in the US?
3. What is the most common degree for a general manager?
4. Is it more common for a general manager to be male or female?

C **Look at the statistics below. Using the information above, fill in the some of the missing words. Guess the rest. Then listen and confirm your answers.**

1. General managers are paid an average annual _____ of $65,517.
2. 29% of all general managers are _____, while 71% are _____.
3. The average age of a working general manager is _____ years old.

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4. The large number of general managers live in _____ and _____.

5. A general manager's average _____ is $36,000.

6. New York, NY, pays an annual average wage of _____, the highest in the US.

7. _____ is the best state for general managers to live.

8. General managers are most needed in _____.

D **INFER** **Discuss and write answers with a small group.**

1. Look at numbers 1 and 5 in **C**. What is the difference between an average annual salary and a starting salary?

_____

_____

2. Look at numbers 7 and 8. What is the difference between these two statements?

_____

_____

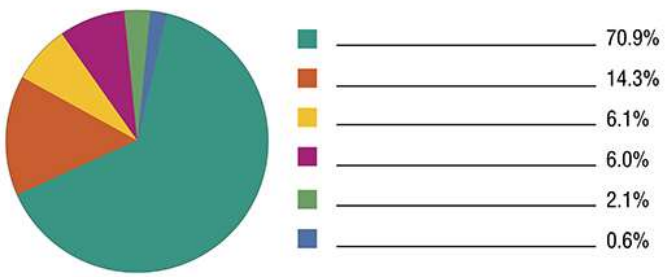
3. Why do you think more men than women are general managers?

_____

_____

E **Study the data in the chart. Use it to fill the pie chart legend.**

General Manager Race	Percentage
American Indian and Alaska Native	0.6%
Asian	6.1%
Black or African American	6.0%
Hispanic or Latino	14.3%
Unknown	2.1%
White	70.9%



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Based on your race AND where you live, do you have a good chance of getting a job as general manager? Why or why not? _____

_____

F **ASSESS** **What skills are needed to be a good general manager? Circle the skills below. Then check (✓) the skills you have.**

☐ Communication skills	☐ Leadership skills	☐ Organizational skills
☐ Problem solving	☐ Critical thinking	☐ Technical skills

G **ANALYZE** **Read the job ad and circle the parts that describe you.**

General Manager

Silver Sneakers Gym Fort Worth, TX **$70,000 to 100,000 annually**

Do you want to work in an environment with great people, have great benefits, paid time off, free gym membership and opportunities to learn to grow within a company?

We are looking for talented individuals who:

- Have a positive, upbeat, and outgoing attitude
- Are passionate about hospitality and excellence for our members
- Have fitness industry experience (preferred)
- Love to constantly learn and grow

There are some MUST HAVES:

- 3-5 years of management experience supervising 3-10 employees in a team environment, with measurable outcomes of employee development and promotion
- Success in creating new teams and / or rebuilding teams in a collaborative environment
- Excellent communication skills, oral and written, with a heavy emphasis on listening!
- A high school diploma or equivalent is required and gets you in the door, but we'd love to see a bachelor's degree
- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) certification required

Note: This job requires the ability to move and lift up to 25 lbs. Standing, sitting, or walking for extended periods of time and appearance in a clean uniform are also required.

H **REFLECT** **Is this a job you would like to have? Why or why not?**

I **Go online and find a job advertisement for a sales manager. Answer the following questions.**

1. What is the job title?
2. Where is the job located?
3. Is it full time or part-time?
4. What is the salary range?
5. What experience is needed?

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Review

A **Read each skill below and write the correct job title on the line.**

1. cleans teeth _____
2. send memos, files, and does general office work _____
3. takes a patient's temperature and blood pressure _____
4. fixes pipes _____
5. maintains office buildings _____
6. uses equipment in a factory or a construction site _____
7. takes care of children _____
8. maintains yards _____

B **List six job skills you have.**

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

C **Complete the sentences using the gerund or infinitive form of the verb in parentheses.**

1. I like _____ on a team. (work)
2. I am good at _____ to customers. (talk)
3. They hate _____ the phone. (answer)
4. I decided _____ a computer course next semester. (study)
5. He is interested in _____ cars. (repair)
6. We finished _____ our reports yesterday. (write)

Learner Log

I can identify job titles and skills.
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Maybe

I can identify job skills and personality traits.
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Maybe

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D Read the job ads.

1. ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

FT: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Requires HS diploma and one-year's experience. Excellent phone, computer, and organizational skills along with a pleasant attitude is a must!
Please send resume to: jobs@aaj08s.com

APPLY NOW

2. CUSTODIAN

Reliable custodian for local school district. Minimum one-year's experience cleaning, plumbing, carpentry, painting, and repairs.
Will provide supplies and tools.
$14–16 / hr + benefits
Call: (818) 555-6879

APPLY NOW

E Look at the ads in D. Write: *administrative assistant, custodian,* or *both.*

1. Which job requires experience?
2. Which job offers benefits?
3. Which job requires a high school diploma?
4. Personality is NOT important for which job?

F Fill out the partial online job application.

Legal Name
First Name* Last Name*

Email Address

Phone
Phone Number* Type*

Work Experience ⊕
Job Title* Company*

☐ I currently work here.

From* To*

Learner Log

I can interpret job advertisements. ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Maybe

I can complete a job application. ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Maybe

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Review

G **What kind of personality traits should people have for these jobs? Write two adjectives for each job. Share your answers with a partner.**

1. home health aide: responsible, caring
2. manager in a clothing store: _____
3. receptionist in a dentist's office: _____
4. hair dresser: _____
5. sales representative: _____
6. teacher: _____

H **Write six interview questions for one of the following jobs. Interview a partner.**

assembler in a factory	computer technician	home health aide	receptionist
bookkeeper	furniture store manager	landscaper	waiter

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

I **Dictionaries use different symbols to show word stress. Look up the following words in the dictionary. Write them with the correct syllable stress.**

1. applicant ap'-pli-cant
2. previous _____
3. bookkeeper _____
4. technician _____
5. computer _____
6. equipment _____
7. environment _____
8. require _____

Learner Log

I can interview for a job.
☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Maybe

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Create a Job Ad for a Job Fair

SOFT SKILL ▶ Collaboration

With your team, you will come up with a job ad and write a complete description of what you are looking for. Then you will present your job ad at the job fair.

1. Form a hiring committee of four or five students. Choose a position for each member of your committee.

Position	Job Description	Student Name
Student 1: Chair	Check that everyone speaks English and works on their tasks.	
Student 2: Secretary	Takes notes during the brainstorming session.	
Student 3: Designer	Designs job advertisement with help from the group.	
Student 4: Recruiter	Shares job advertisement at the job fair.	
Student 5: Member	Help secretary and designer with their work.	

2. **DECIDE** Choose a job that you would like to write a job description for.
3. **COLLABORATE** Work as a team to come up with a job title, job details (hours, pay, etc.) and requirements (experience, skills, education, languages, etc.). This should be a very detailed list of everything you want in an employee.
4. Take the information you've gathered and write a job advertisement (see examples in Lesson 3 and Review). Create an online version of the advertisement.
5. Share your advertisement at the job fair in your classroom.

Life ONLINE Use a shared doc to brainstorm. If everyone has access, you can type your ideas, and everyone will be able to see them.

COLLABORATION:

Brainstorm Ideas

There are different ways to brainstorm ideas.

1. Have everyone quietly write down their ideas on a piece of paper and then share.
2. Go around the group and one by one, each person / member adds an idea to the mix.
3. Students call out ideas as they come to them. Make sure that one person is writing all the ideas down.

Job Fair

A place where you go to see what jobs are available in your community. Companies will come to advertise their job, and you may even get to fill out an application and have an interview on the spot!

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Reading Challenge

A **Study the table and answer the questions that follow.**

Bureau of Labor Statistics (bls.gov) Annual Mean Wages in 2019	
Trade	**Wages**
Brick masons and block masons	$56,470
Carpenters	$52,850
Electricians	$60,370
Fitness instructors	$45,110
Plumbers	$55,160

1. What does each person do?
2. Which trades make the most money? The least?

B **Read the text.**

C **INFER** **Choose the best answer.**

1. In line 11, what do you think *job security* means?
   a. a job that is hard to find
   b. a job as a security officer
   c. a job that many people have
   d. a job that is secure, one that you can do for a long time
2. In line 11, what do you think *growth rate* means?
   a. how much something grows from one time period to the next
   b. a company that grows quickly
   c. a company that doesn't grow
3. According to the reading, which job should be the easiest to get?
   a. electrician
   b. solar panel installer
   c. plumber
   d. carpenter

D **REFLECT** **Look at the photo. Is the woman enjoying learning the welding trade? What trade would you like to learn? Choose a trade and write a short paragraph about why you would like to do this for a job.**

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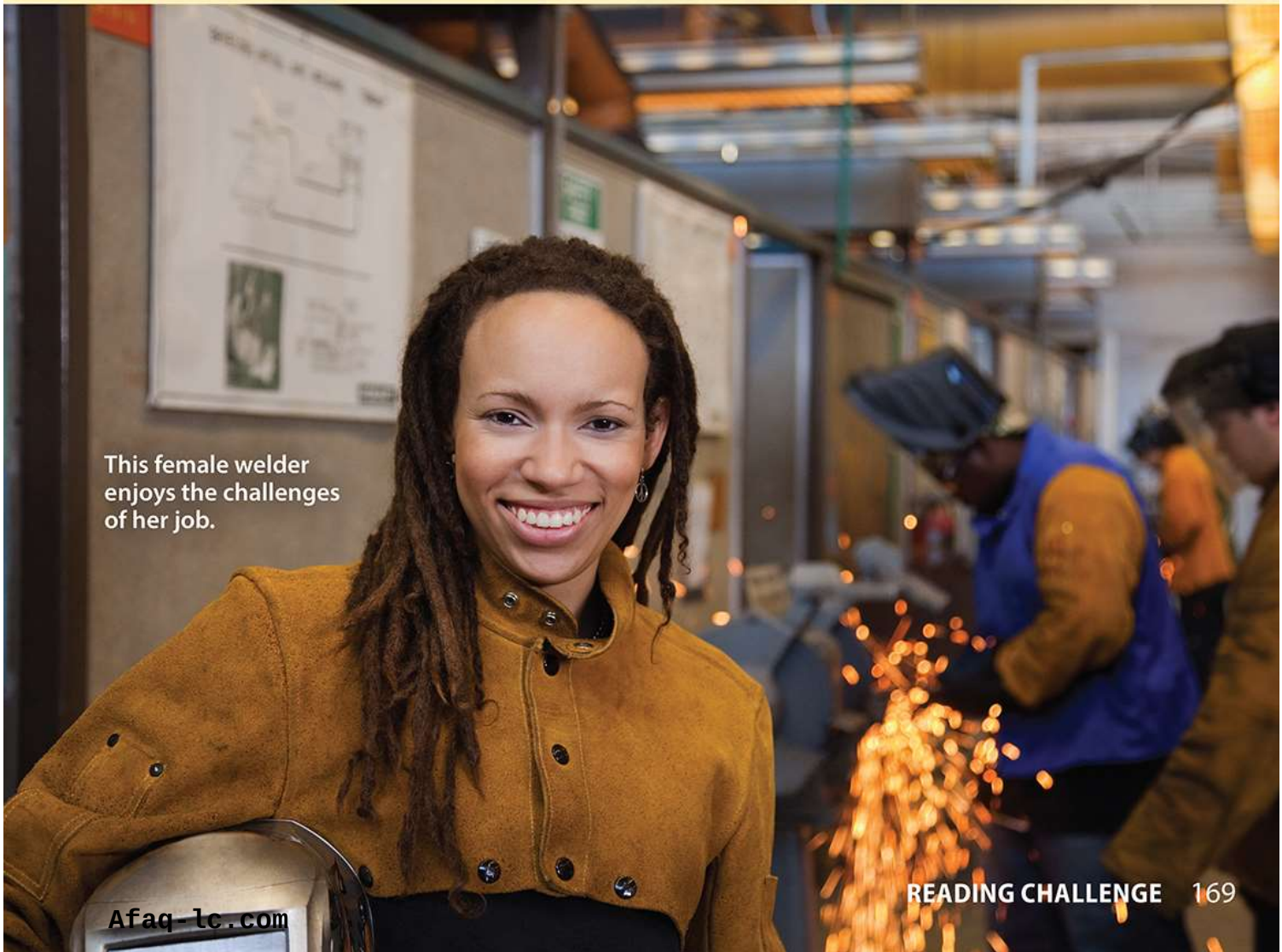
Should You Learn a Trade?

When the COVID pandemic hit in 2020, many people lost their jobs. Some industries never recovered. So, what did people do who needed to find a new line of work? Many people learned a trade, a job that requires a particular skill but no formal education, such as a plumber, an electrician, a brick mason, or a construction worker. There are many benefits to picking up a trade.

First, some trades will pay you as an apprentice. This means they will teach you how to do the job and pay you at the same time. For example, you could earn $20.92 an hour while you apprentice with an electrician. Or you could be an apprentice bricklayer and earn $16.02 per hour. Another benefit of learning a trade is you can enter the working world faster. Many people end up spending a lot of money to go to school and have a hard time finding a job when they are ready. But if you chose to do a trade, you can work and make money right away.

Also, there is job security in trades. In the next 10 years, the average growth rate for most jobs is 4%. However, jobs for electricians are expected to increase 8% nationwide from 2019-2029 and jobs for solar panel installers are expected to increase 51% over that same time! Finally, a great benefit to learning a trade is that one day, you can own your own business. Instead of working for a large company, many tradespeople work alone or with a few other people. The best part is that you have a choice.

Learning a trade can open so many doors. You will know how to do something that many people don't. And you will be able to make money doing it for the rest of your life.



This female welder enjoys the challenges of her job.

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