

# Workin' on Vocabulary

Instructors: Don't forget to make an Achievery account for <u>each</u> student! <u>Make</u> your account for the Achievery in English or <u>Make</u> your Account for the Achievery in Spanish.



**Objective:** By the end of this lesson, your students should have some familiarity with common terminology related to work.

Grade Span: OSY

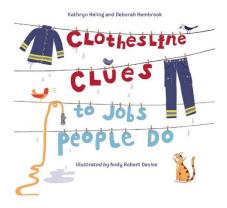
Subjects: ESL, Work Vocabulary

Why study this? General

English focuses on day-to-day conversations, basic vocabulary, and grammar. However, Work or Occupation English focuses on learning specific business-related practical words and conversation skills to use in interviews, job applications, meetings, and while on the job.

Even outside of work, there are lots of situations where students meet someone new and want to be able to tell them about their job. Maybe they're asked about it, or they just want to be able to introduce themselves. So how do they do that? Do they just say, "I am a salesman" and that's it? No, they need to say a bit more than that. Learning work-related vocabulary helps with that.

**Teacher Tip:** Build reading, writing, listening, and speaking opportunities into every lesson. Remember "writing" is not only writing essays. We can get our students to practice writing just about anything and it can be useful.



Lesson Intro: Start the discussion of work vocabulary and

expand students' vocabulary with a <u>read-aloud</u> of *Clothesline Clues to the Jobs People Do*. Have students make guesses using visual clues. Have the list of vocabulary words on the board and see if students can match them to the jobs/items shown.

**Lesson:** Begin with the "Work" lessons from <u>Ingles en Minutos!</u> Book 4.



Expand on it: Incorporate listening, speaking, reading, and writing activities.

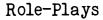
#### Picture it!

Students can look up lesson vocabulary in the <u>Picture</u> <u>Dictionary</u> from LanGeek and find images and definitions. Students can learn vocabulary with clear



definitions, fun pictures, and example sentences.

Explore interactive Picture Dictionary
pages from Language Tools, ex. Occupations 1, Occupations 2, Occupations
3, Occupations 4, Job Skills and Activities 1, Job Skills and Activities 2, Job
Search, Workplace, Office Supplies and Equipment, Factory, Construction
Site, and Job Safety.



One of the best ways to help students build confidence for the real world outside the classroom is to replicate the outside world in our classes.

How you set up your role-plays and the topics you choose, of course, depends on the level of the students. The general guide is to pre-teach some vocabulary, give students a scenario, and then let them work on both roles in pairs. After that, come back together as a class and discuss. Students can practice job-related scenarios like resignations, raises, conflicts, and more, using learned language.

## Practice Interviewing in English

Students often want to work on interview skills in classes. The key to this is to NOT let students memorize answers word for word. This is exactly what it sounds like in an interview, and it makes it sound like the person can't actually speak English.

Instead, cover the most common interview questions, let students take a few notes, and then go from there. Of course, offer lots of feedback and some key vocabulary words and grammar that people might need to know for interviews. It is a must-do activity for ESL business English students!

Incorporate the Achievery Lesson Pick Your Pitch. "Can you tell me about yourself?" It's a question you'll

asked throughout your life: at interviews, at family parties, in personal essays... But how should you actually answer it? In this lesson, you'll craft your answer and practice using it in a mock interview setting.



Additional resource:

Have students practice

reading, writing, and speaking with job interview questions with <a href="Interviews by ai.">Interviews by ai.</a> 1. Write or paste a job description, and receive



realistic interview questions tailored to the role. 2. Record your answer with audio, simulating the interview experience. 3. Get instant AI feedback and an improved sample response.



## Ace the Application

Filling out an application form is one of those things that seems simple, but there's a lot of specialized vocabulary. Students should practice in class first rather than have to fill out an application on the spot, but not know what things mean, or what they should write in that blank space Print off an application form or two from the Internet (a simple search for "sample job application form USA" can give lots of samples) or get some from a local temp agency or businesses, and you're well on your way to a fruitful writing exercise.

## Keep it going! Build on this lesson with additional resources, such as:

Incorporate the Achievery lesson <u>Finding Where Your Interests Intersect</u> into your plans. Have students explore which careers lie at the intersection of their interests? In this lesson,

students play DJ, and identify how the things they like and the things they believe in can get mashed up to create new options for their future.

Explore Does Money Make You Successful? (Gr 6-12) From a young age, it's drilled into our brains the idea that success is all about making and spending money.

But does money really make you successful? In this lesson, you'll hear different perspectives, and unpack your relationship with this question.

Add in elements of the Achievery lesson

Learning from Others' Paths (9-12). In
this lesson, students learn about the value of mentorship and talking to

professionals about the paths they took into their careers. Then, you'll lead an interview of your own, and talk to an adult in your life about their road through life.

Have them work on <u>Finding a Mentor</u> (9-12) from the Achievery. It's important to have someone who believes in you, supports your goals, and is there when you need guidance...and that's what having a mentor is all about. In this lesson, students develop a plan to find a mentor and build relationships with others.

Incorporate the Achievery lesson Paths to Building New Skills (9-12). In this lesson, students research different options for their future—from a four-year college to apprenticeships—to see which path best aligns with their interests and can help them build the skills they need.

Lead to Build (Gr 6-8): Learn how to develop teamwork and leadership skills so that you can be successful and create a sense of unity.

Have students explore the Business English Pod. Students can choose from 600 lessons and courses covering essential business English language and skills. Has a free version and a paid version. The free version has lots of available resources.

Listen and Practice: Finding a job takes patience and skill. Students listen and answer questions in Job Hunting. Then they review the script to improve their listening and pronunciation skills.

Use some of the worksheets and other resources for teaching about jobs and occupations. There are crosswords, word searches, and many more games and activities for reviewing job related vocabulary at Lanternfish ESL.



experience in a job interview in English.

Give students something to work towards with the Achievery Sentence a Day Writing Challenge. Write a story with this sentence-a-day challenge from author Kayla Cagan. Practice using transition words to sequence and connect ideas in your piece.