
Conversation Questions

Jobs & Occupations

A Part of Conversation Questions for the ESL Classroom.

Related: Self-employment

- At what age do people usually begin to work in your country?
- At what age do people usually retire in your country?
- At what age would you like to retire?
 - What do you think you will do after you retire?
 - How much money do you think you need to retire with your lifestyle?
- Can you talk about what a typical day at your current job is like?
- Can you describe some of the people that you work with?
- Can you describe your current job?
- What was your first job?
- Do women usually work after they get married in your country?
- Do you ever work overtime?
 - If so, do you get paid more for overtime work?
- Do you have a part-time job? If so, what do you do?
- Do you have to attend a lot of meetings for your job?
- Do you have to do a lot of paperwork?
- Do you have to work overtime?
 - If so, how often?
 - Do you have to work on Sundays?
- Do you know someone who has worked as an undertaker?
 - What is the job of a an undertaker?
 - Can women do this job or is it better for a man to be an undertaker?
- Do you like your boss? Why or why not?
- Do you like your job?
- Do you like your job? Why or why not?
- Do you think it is more important to make a lot of money or to enjoy your job?
- Do you think it's acceptable for women to be in the military? Why/why not?
- Do you think people over 65 should be made to retire?
- Do you think women and men should be paid the same for the same job?
- Do you think women are good bosses?
 - Are there women bosses in your country?
- Do you think your company is well run?
 - Do you think that the place where you work is well run?
- Do you work on weekends?
 - Do you work on Sundays?
- Does your mother work?
 - Does your mother work outside of the house?
- Have you ever been promoted?
- Have you ever taken any courses that specifically help you with the job you are doing now?
- Have you ever worked on a farm?
 - Did you like it?
 - Would you like to go back on this farm job?
 - If not , why?
- How do you like your work?
- How have working conditions changed in recent years?
 - Do you think that working conditions have improved? If so, in what ways?
- How long do you plan to continue working where you are?
- How long have you been working at your present job?

- How many days a week do you work?
- How many hours a week do you work?
- How many times have you been promoted?
 - When was the last time you were promoted?
 - Did you get a large pay raise at that time?
- How much do you think a doctor should be paid a month?
 - How about a secretary?
 - How about a truck driver?
- How much money do you make? (Maybe this is not a good question to ask.)
- How much money does a secretary get paid per week?
- How old were you when you got your first job?
- How well do you get along with your boss?
- If you could own your own business, what would it be?
- If you had to choose between a satisfying job and a well-paid one, which would you choose?
- Is it common for men and women to have the same jobs in your country?
- Is it easy to find a job in Canada? How about in your country?
- Name three occupations that you could do. (For example, be a mortician)
 - Name three occupations that you could never do?
- What are some common occupations in your country?
 - What are some common jobs for men in your country?
 - What are some common jobs for women in your country?
 - What are some jobs that children do?
- What are some jobs that you think would be boring?
- What are some jobs that you think would be fun?
- What are some questions that are frequently asked in a job interview?
- What are you responsible for?
- What are you trying to do in order to find a job that you really like?
- What do you do?
 - What's your job?
- What do you like most about that job?
- What do you think is the best job? What do you think is the worst?
- What do you think would be the most interesting job? The most boring?
- What does your father do? (What does your father do for a living?)
- What does your mother do?
- What influenced your choice of job? (Why did you choose your job?)
- What job do you want to have in five years' time?
- What job would you most like to have, if social/cultural boundaries did not apply? (How different are they?)
- What job(s) do you wish to have in the future?
- What jobs in your country are considered to be good jobs? Why?
- What kind of volunteer work have you done?
- What kind of work do you do?
 - What kind of work do you want to do in the future?
- What plans have you made for your retirement?
- What three adjectives would describe yourself as a worker?
- What time do you get home from work?
 - Is it the same time every day?
- What time do you start and finish work?
- What would be your dream job?
 - Do you think it would be possible for you to get this job?
- What's one job you wouldn't like to do? Why not?
- What's your brother's occupation?
- When you were a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?
- When you were a child, what job did you want to have when you grew up?
- Where do you work and what is your current job?
- Where do you work?
- Which job are you best at?
- Which job would you never do?

- Which jobs do you think are the most prestigious?
 - Who among the people you know has the most interesting job? What is it?
 - Why did you leave your last job - did you resign or were you sacked?
 - Would you be upset if your boss was a woman?
 - Would you consider the military as a career choice? Why or why not?
 - Would you consider yourself to be an ambitious person at work?
 - Would you describe yourself as a workaholic?
 - Would you like a job in which you traveled a lot?
 - Would you like a job that required you to sit at a computer all day?
 - Would you like to do the same job for the rest of your life?
 - Would you like to work in an office? Why or why not?
 - Would you rather be a doctor or a banker?
 - Would you rather work inside or outside?
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- What job would you most like to do?
- What are the names of some of the people with that job?
- Do you personally know any one with that job?
- How long do you plan to keep it for?
- When do plan to retire?
- What other fields or work will that job make you qualified for?
- What are the work details of that job; what will be your duties at that job?
- What steps are required from you to become a/an...?
- So, how long before you become a/an...; at what ages will you both start and finish this/each job/career?
- What do you hope to spiritually gain from that job?
- What do you wish to physically gain; what kind of things would you like to buy with your money?
- How much money do you need to make to fulfill your dreams and desires?
- If money weren't a problem for you, which job would you prefer to have?
- How does money affect your decisions?
- How do your wants and desires affect your career options and goals?
- How many years of schooling would you prefer to have?
- Can you improve on the way things are now being done in the field you choose?
- Which college courses are needed for you to be the very best in your field?
- Which college courses are required for your dream job?
- What other courses do you need to take so you can pursue your hobbies and personal interests?
- Which of the classes mentioned above are you giving the highest priority? Why?
- Who is the breadwinner (provider) in your family?
- Who makes the most money in your family? (This may not be a "polite" question to ask.)
- Is it common for people from your country to have one job for life?
- Do you see any unfair labour practices in your country's workforce?
- Do you have an after-school job?
- Would you like to have a management position?
- What are the pros and cons of being a manager?
- What are the qualities a good boss should have?
- What is a fair wage for the skills you have?
- Are there any jobs which can only be done by one gender?
 - If so, what are they?
 - What are some jobs that some people think only one gender can do, but can be done by either gender?
- What should you not do during a job interview?
- Who would you hire a employee with a lot of experience or an employee with a lot of education?
- Have you ever worked?
- **Getting a Job**
 - What is the difference between work and a job?
 - Do you have a job?

- How did you get it?
- Did you have to go to university to get it?
- What is the name of your job?
- Is it a popular job?
- Is it a job mainly for men, or for women?
- Did you need any special training to get your job?
 - What type of special training did you need?
 - How long and where was the training?
- Is it an indoor, or outdoor job?
- Which do you think most people prefer, indoor or outdoor jobs?
- Does your job pay a good salary?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages to your job?
- Which do you think are some of the more demanding jobs?
 - Which are the least demanding jobs?
- Which jobs are badly paid?
 - Which jobs are over-paid?
- Which job are more popular than others, and why?
- Is your job competitive?
- What about promotions?
- Is it too competitive?
- How is your relationship with your co-workers?
- Why would I choose you instead of the 50 others wanting this position?
- These were submitted as possible **job interview** questions.
 - What degrees do you have?
 - How much experience do you have?
 - Where have you worked?
 - Why did you choose this employment?
 - How much would you like to earn?
 - Have you ever worked in this field?
 - Where would you like to work? Why?
 - Why do you find your job interesting?

If you can think of another good question for this list, please add it.

<http://iteslj.org/questions/>

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