

# Job Research

A little job research can often save you a lot of time and money. Really find out about that job you are interested in. Is it really what you think it will be like? Does it match your skills and abilities? Does it support your personal values? Are there jobs available in that area? And find out if there are any aspects you might not enjoy.

The *Job Guide* gives you comprehensive information on hundreds of jobs. But before we start investigating your current career goal, it is important to understand that a job, occupation and a career are all different.

Explain the difference between these terms:

A job is

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An occupation is

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A career is

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Now using the *Job Guide*, choose **one** occupation and complete the following questions.

**3. Have employment opportunities changed in this area recently? How has this influenced the education and training needed?**

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**4. Name two jobs related to this occupation.**

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**5. Name two personal qualities you need for this occupation.**

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**6. Name a website you can go to for more information.**

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**7. Give two reasons why do you think you would enjoy this job.**

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**8. List two factors that might impact on work opportunities in this area? E.g. Are there too many people looking for work in this area? Low pay?**

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**9. List places you could go to get work experience in this area.**

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**10. Look in Section 1 of the Job Guide and discover what occupations have projected job growth. Name two growth areas and say what future job prospects look like for the occupation you are investigating?**

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**11. Identify a website from Section 1 where you can go for more information on skill shortages.**

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**12. Why do you think this kind of information is important to know when making a career decision?**

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# What is work?

**What exactly is work? Describe what work means to you?**

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**What will work give you?**

- \* The chance to fulfill your dreams
- \* Gain independence
- \* Develop new skills and abilities
- \* Make your mark on the world
- \* Gain self-confidence
- \* Make new friends
- \* Give life variety

## **Work is more than just earning money**

Work not only gives you money to do the things you want to do but also helps your community and country. Just think, if no one worked we wouldn't have any hospitals, schools, shops, movie theatres ... and the list goes on.

**Working conditions today are very flexible and meet the needs of almost everyone.  
Give examples of these different work alternatives:**

Volunteer:

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Casual:

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Contract:

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Part time:

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Entrepreneurship:

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**In the future you may need to consider one of these work alternatives to fit your personal circumstances and lifestyle.**

List the advantages of working

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List the disadvantages of working

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Yes there are some disadvantages to working. You usually can't do whatever you want to do. Even if you are self employed you have to work for your customers. Most people who work have at least some aspects of their work they do not enjoy. The people who enjoy their jobs least are those who feel like "square pegs in round holes", in other words, their skills and abilities do not fit with the job they are performing.

**DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN TO YOU**

Use these activities to explore your skills and abilities.  
This will help you to investigate careers that will fit your skills and abilities.  
**The more planning you do, the happier you will be in your career.**

Often volunteering will be your first experience in the workplace. List as many examples of volunteer work you have participated in that you can: Eg Coached Junior Football Team, Girl Guide Leader, helped at Year 7 orientation day

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What skills do you feel you have gained doing voluntary work?

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# Group Activity

As part of your school senior program, you are required to give service to the school on a volunteer basis.

The school has a number of committees that you can become involved in including:

Environmental committee	Peer tutoring	Buddies
Semi-formal committee	Year 8 sport round robin	Visitors
School disco committee	School landscaping crew	Sports day
Swimming carnival committee	Tuck-shop duty	Debating
School beautification committee	School magazine committee	Drama club

Working in small groups, choose a committee that you would like to be a part of (or with your teachers approval make up one of your own).

Name the committee

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As a group decide on a project you would like to participate in that will add something of value to the school.

Eg. Coach a team for Year 8 round robin; organize a graffiti art wall; organize the semi-formal.

What is your project?

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Devise a plan of action to make your project happen

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What skills do you think will be needed to complete this project successfully?

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- Suggestions:**
- \* Organizing materials
- \* Report writing
- \* Making phone calls
- \* Patience
- \* Team work
- \* Problem solving
- \* Planning
- \* Coaching

How would doing voluntary work help you when you get a paid job?

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Workplaces have changed a lot over recent years. Once upon a time men would never work in child care and women would never be plumbers. This is no longer the case. Brainstorm with your friends and come up with as many jobs as you can that men and women **now do**, they may not do say 20 years ago.

Non - Traditional Male Jobs

Non - Traditional Female Jobs

Investigate one of these more non-traditional job roles that you find interesting. Share what you learn with your friends. **Job area:**

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Don't forget to investigate some of these more non-traditional job roles when looking at your Career Pathway.