

Jobs and Work

Welcome to Talk Time!

How are you? How was your week?

Play a game. On a small piece of paper, answer this question: *What job did you want when you were a child?* For example, did you want to be a singer, a dancer, a scientist, a homemaker? **DO NOT** write your name. Fold your paper, and put in the center of the table. Each person will choose a paper to read aloud. As a group, discuss who you think each paper belongs to.

Let's get started

- **As a group, discuss the pictures.** What jobs do you think the pictures show?
- **Read together.**

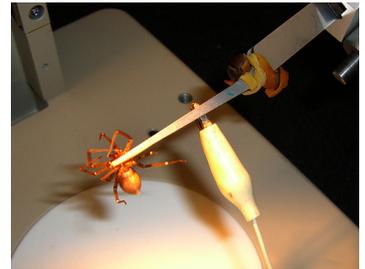
Dirty Jobs

Dirty Jobs is a popular television show on the Discovery channel. Each episode a man named Mike Rowe spotlights a different American job, and he introduces viewers to many hardworking men and women. The jobs are dirty and dangerous, but they are very important to America's health as a nation.

One episode shows the job of spider pharming. Spider pharmers catch poisonous spiders and sell the spiders' venom to medicine companies. Scientists use the venom to treat diseases such as diabetes and heart disease.

Here are other job duties this television show spotlights: turning soybeans into tofu, recycling sunken ships, turning cow bones into ink, catching and relocating skunks, and testing fireworks.

For more information, visit <http://dsc.discovery.com/tv/dirty-jobs/>



- **Discuss the questions in pairs. Then, share your answers with the group.**
 - What other dirty and/or dangerous jobs can you think of?
 - Work can be paid or unpaid, at home or at a business. What work have you done? Do you have a job now?
 - Tell about a work experience that was...

scary

funny

difficult

life-changing

Conversation skills

As we discuss, let's ask each other questions using the words *who*, *what*, *where*, *when*, *why*, and *how*. Let's also use the phrase "Tell me more." The best questions are the questions YOU ask!

Discussion

What was your first job? What was your favorite job? What was your least favorite job?

What work does your family do?

Are you or a family member looking for a job right now? Explain.

What do you think is the hardest part about getting a job?

Is it easy to find a job in your native country? Is it easy to find a job in the U.S.?

If you could have any job that you wanted, what job would you choose? Why?

Which is more important to you: enjoying your job or making a lot of money?

Have you ever written a resume? What information should a resume include?



Have you ever had a job interview? What was it like? How did you feel?

What are some common questions in a job interview?

In your native country, do people usually have the same career their entire lives? Explain.

Is it common for both parents to work outside of the home in your native country? What are some advantages when both parents work outside of the home? What are some disadvantages?

At what age do people usually start working in your country? At what age do people retire?

Does your native country have a minimum wage?

In America, a full-time job is usually 40 hours per week. Do people work more hours per week in America or in your native country?

In the U.S., there are laws about hiring and firing that protect workers from discrimination (based on race, religion, gender, age, or disabilities.) Are there similar laws in your native country? Explain.

Group Reflection

What did you learn today? What do you want to talk about next week?