

Step To Masters

Student Book

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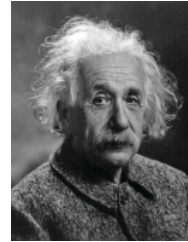
Work 02

Speaking

1 What do the quotations mean? Do you agree with them?

The truth is, everybody I've ever met who's successful is a workaholic.

ICE-T (American rapper)



People love chopping wood. In this activity one immediately sees results.
Albert Einstein (German physicist, 1878–1955)



It is impossible to live without failing at something, unless you live so cautiously that you might as well not have lived at all – in which

case, you fail by default.

J.K. Rowling (British author)

It's a recession when your neighbor loses his job; it's a depression when you lose your own.

Harry S. Truman (U.S. president between 1945 and 1953)



The big secret in life is that there is no big secret. Whatever your goal, you can get there if you're willing to work.

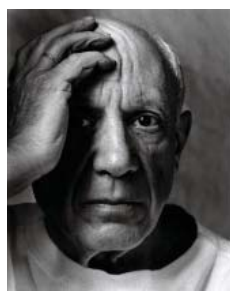
Oprah Winfrey (American media personality)



Your work is going to fill a large part of your life, and the only way to be truly satisfied is to do what you believe is great work. And the only way to do great work is to love what

you do. If you haven't found it yet, keep looking.

Steve Jobs (Apple Inc. co-founder, 1955–2011)



When I work I relax; doing nothing or entertaining visitors makes me tired.

Pablo Picasso (Spanish painter, 1881–1973)

Listening

Guess the Occupation

- 1 You will hear three people talking about their jobs. Write the jobs from the box in 1 to 3.

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

paramedic	landscape gardener	pilot	florist	optometrist
interior designer	flight attendant	train driver	radiologist	bricklayer

- 2 Listen again, and write the key words or phrase that helped you guess the job.

Section L3 Listening

- 3 You will hear two extracts from different conversations. After each extract there are 2 multiple-choice questions. You will hear the extracts once only.

Extract One. You will hear a woman talking about her job.

- What is the woman's job?
 - architect
 - engineer
 - graphic designer
- Regarding the financial rewards of this profession, she says...
 - it's very well paid.
 - income is unstable.
 - she has to stick to a tight budget.

Extract Two. You will hear a man describing his career as a policeman.

- What aspect of police work does he mention as being different from public perceptions?
 - the physical action
 - having to do boring paperwork
 - it's mostly about conversing with the public
- What does he feel is the hardest part of the job?
 - the shift work
 - never really being off-duty
 - how it affects family life

4 Academic Language

Choose the best sentence from each pair. What is wrong with the other sentence?

1. Sure, it's not easy for graduates to find work, but...
While it is certainly difficult for graduates to find work,...
2. My uncle lost his job because his factory moved to China.
Many workers have lost their jobs because companies have moved production facilities to China.
3. Affirmative action is a complex issue with compelling arguments for and against it.
Affirmative action is a hot issue, and like the proverb says, 'every coin has two sides'.
4. At the end of the day, bosses and workers need to compromise.
The unavoidable reality is that both employers and employees need to compromise.
5. Although a worthy aim, having a high minimum wage has several negative consequences.
Having a high minimum wage is a double-edged sword.
6. Females are still unable to get to the top.
Apart from a tiny minority, female executives are still failing to reach the highest positions.
7. Information technology companies such as Google employ relatively very few workers.
IT companies like Google employ very few workers.
8. Alas, job security has gone the way of the dinosaur.
Unfortunately, job security is increasingly rare.
9. So, what can we do about so many people being out of work?
There are several possible solutions that would help reduce unemployment.
10. Many corporations seem to have a preference for workers who are submissive and obedient rather than those who are too independent and likely to challenge authority.
The corporations want workers who are like ants, worker ants slaving away in front of their machines, lifeless and dull, unquestioning and obedient.

5 Stating Your Opinion

The 'Discuss' command in the essay question is asking for a discussion of the topic, not directly focusing on your opinion. You should give your opinion, but once or twice is enough.

Where can I state my opinion, in the introduction then again in the conclusion?

This is a matter of personal preference rather than one of right and wrong. Having your opinion in the introduction as well as the conclusion may make your essay easier to follow, but it carries the risk of repetition. In general, it is better to stick with just one opinion in the conclusion.

Can I state my opinion directly? Yes, you can write sentences such as:

All things considered, I am convinced that unions still have an important role to play.

You can also write a more depersonalised opinion such as:

All things considered, the inescapable conclusion is that unions still have an important role to play.

Although indirect opinions are more academic, they are not necessarily better for the essay because they are more difficult to write and sometimes the writer fails to accurately convey his/her opinion.

Politics and the News **03**

Speaking

1 What do the quotations mean? Do you agree with them?

Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely.

Lord Acton (19th century historian, writer and politician)

(**Note:** usually misquoted as 'Power corrupts...')



The reasonable man adapts himself to the world: the unreasonable one persists in trying to adapt the world to himself. Therefore all progress depends on the unreasonable man.

George Bernard Shaw (Irish playwright, 1856–1950)



It is not power that corrupts but fear. Fear of losing power corrupts those who wield it and fear of the scourge of power corrupts those who are subject to it.

Aung San Suu Kyi (Burmese opposition politician)



Democracy is the worst form of government except all those other forms that have been tried from time to time.

Winston Churchill (WWII British prime minister, 1874–1965)

People really don't care if politicians attack each other with untrue stories. They figure if you don't want to get hurt, you shouldn't have filed for office. They figure whatever happens to us, our lives will be better than theirs.

Bill Clinton (U.S. president 1993–2001)



Many of us saw religion as harmless nonsense. Beliefs might lack all supporting evidence but, we thought, if people needed a crutch for consolation, where's the harm? September 11th changed all that.

Richard Dawkins (English evolutionary biologist and author)



Reading

1 Section R2

In the Section R2 Reading (10 marks) examinees have to match news headlines with short news stories. There are 15 headlines and 10 short news stories.

Headlines are often hard to understand. They are written in a special way to catch the reader's attention and to take up as little space as possible. The grammar is different than that used in normal sentences. Words are left out, and short words are favoured.

Headlines may be noun phrases that do not have a verb.

RECORD HIGH TEMPS IN FRANCE

Simple verb tenses are used rather than more complicated forms.

WORKERS DEMAND 4% RAISE = are demanding

FARMER FINDS TREASURE = has found

The verb 'to be' is also frequently left out.

NEW STADIUM UNSAFE SAYS COACH. (is unsafe)

Infinitives are used to talk about the future.

BRIDGE TO OPEN LATE 2014 *POPE TO VISIT BRAZIL*

Sentences are usually not written in the passive.

FISHERMEN RESCUED = the fishermen have been rescued

Quotation marks are used to show that someone has said something, and that they are not facts.

SMITH: 'REF COST US THE GAME' *SUMMER TO BE 'WET AND COLD'*

Humour involving 'word play' is often used in headlines for lighter pieces of news.

GLUE LORRY COMES UNSTUCK

Alliteration is a common technique, words chosen for that purpose rather than accuracy.

TRAIN TIMETABLE TURMOIL

Abbreviations are common.

'MILLIONS AT RISK' OF FAMINE: UN WARNS *MP ARRESTED FOR FRAUD*
STABBED PC IN 'SERIOUS BUT STABLE' CONDITION *PM LEAVES HOSPITAL*

UN = United Nations **MP** = Member of Parliament

PC = Police Constable **PM** = Prime Minister