

# Choosing your Career

career, lifestyles, choices, environmental issues



## Get Ready

Work with a partner. Ask and answer these questions.

1. When you were a child, what did you want to be?
2. What is your job now? What kind of job do you want?
3. How did you / will you choose your career path?

## Engage

A

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### READ AND LISTEN

**SITUATION** Bruce has been offered two jobs. He's telling his friend Lenore about the offers. Which job offer does Lenore think he should take?



**Lenore:** So, how's your job search going?

**Bruce:** Great! You won't believe this—I got two job offers.

**Lenore:** Fantastic! Who are they from?

**Bruce:** I got one job offer from Promolix. And one from Ecolene, too.

**Lenore:** Congratulations! That sounds like an easy choice. Promolix is that global chemical company, right? With all those environmental lawsuits? I wouldn't touch that one!

**Bruce:** I don't know. They seem like a growing company with a bright future.

**Lenore:** Well, Ecolene is a great company, too. And they just won the "Champion of the Earth" award for their green policies. It's a very progressive company. The perfect place to work.

**Bruce:** Actually, I'm thinking about taking the Promolix job.

**Lenore:** You're kidding!

**Bruce:** Listen, I'd be crazy to say no. It pays a lot more than Ecolene. It's also a much bigger company. That means a lot more career advancement opportunities.

**Lenore:** But you'll be a robot in a suit! Is that what you want? The salary may be bigger, but you'll wind up

working—what?—70 hours a week!

**Bruce:** Well, you have to work hard to succeed. That's part of their corporate culture.

**Lenore:** I bet it is. So is polluting the air and water. And weren't they involved in a data grabbing scandal? Stealing information from their customers?

**Bruce:** That could happen to any company. Besides, who knows how long a small company like Ecolene will be around? I don't see any advantage to working there.

**Lenore:** Really? Well, less stress is one thing. And they're more socially responsible. And I bet they have a more creative work culture, too.

**Bruce:** Honestly, I think you're being a bit naive. Business is all about competition. And in a big company you have more room to move up.

**Lenore:** If I were you, I'd take less money and have a better life.

**Bruce:** But I have big dreams. I want to succeed!

**Lenore:** Well, I don't think money and a big office can make someone happy. I think you're making a mistake if you go for the Promolix job.



B

### GLOSSARY Say these expressions.

**progressive** = supporting new or modern ideas and methods  
**corporate culture** = the way that people in a corporation think and behave

**data grabbing** = getting data in an unfair way  
**naive** = showing a lack of experience

## Understand the Situation

### A CHECK YOUR COMPREHENSION

Work with a partner. Are the sentences true or false? Circle T or F or NI (not enough information).

- |   |            |
|---|------------|
| 1. Bruce would consider Ecolene if it paid more money.                            | T / F / NI |
| 2. Lenore thinks that Bruce should choose a company with a good work environment. | T / F / NI |
| 3. Bruce doesn't mind working in a competitive environment.                       | T / F / NI |
| 4. Bruce and Lenore agree about what success is.                                  | T / F / NI |
| 5. Bruce and Lenore agree about which job offer is better.                        | T / F / NI |

### B DRAMATIC READING

Work with a partner. Read the conversation out loud. One person is Bruce. One person is Lenore.

### C LANGUAGE PUZZLE

Find expressions in the conversation that are similar. Underline them.

It's stupid not to accept it.  
Because Ecolene is a small company, it may not last for a long time.  
I think you're being a little too simple.

## Think about the Issue

### A LISTEN 26 Do you agree or disagree with these opinions?

#### MARK

*Bruce shouldn't sell himself to whatever company pays the most. Lifestyle is important, too.*

**agree / disagree**



#### ANNA

*He should start out with Promolix and see how it goes. Like he says, if you want success, you have to work hard.*

**agree / disagree**



#### SHIN

*Lenore's not being realistic. Bruce should take the job that pays more.*

**agree / disagree**



#### IRIS

*Lenore's right about money. You can't buy happiness with it. He should take the Ecolene position.*

**agree / disagree**



### B THINK What do you think Bruce should do?

**MY IDEA** (I think... / I don't think...)

### C SHARE Now work with a partner. Ask for your partner's opinion. Say your opinion.

#### INTERACTION MODELS

I	think Shin	has the best argument.
		has the right idea.
What	do you think?	
	is your opinion?	
If you ask me, his	argument is a bit weak.	
	idea doesn't make sense.	

## Explore the Topic

### A ON YOUR OWN

Read the following job characteristics. Which are most important to you? Make a check (✓) in one column for each point. Then add two new ideas.

CHARACTERISTIC	REALLY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	NOT SO IMPORTANT
The size of the company			
Good benefits			
Creative work			
Easy commute			
Environmentally sensitive			
Flexible hours			
Chance to travel			
High salary			
Famous company			
Chance to move ahead			
Number of female executives			
MY IDEA			
MY IDEA			



 **THINK ABOUT** work culture, work environment, lifestyle

### B GROUP EXCHANGE

Talk to your classmates. Ask for their opinions.

"Which things are important to you in a job?"

"Is/Are \_\_\_\_\_ important to you in a job?"

When you talk, take notes. Fill in the table.



<b>Name</b> _____ . . .	<b>Name</b> _____ . . .
<b>Name</b> _____ . . .	<b>Name</b> _____ . . .

Which opinions are most popular?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Present Your Ideas

A job you want.

**A**

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**WATCH** Take notes on Amanda's presentation. (Script is on page 92.)



### CONTENT

Are these statements true or false?

1. Amanda wants to do creative work at this company. T / F
2. She wants to work at this company because the salary is good. T / F
3. She feels women have a good chance to succeed in this company. T / F
4. She is concerned about the environment. T / F

### YOUR REACTION

Work with a partner. Ask and answer these questions.

1. What parts of Amanda's presentation were interesting for you?
2. Amanda explained why she liked a company. Are those things important to you? What qualities are you looking for in a company or a place to work?
3. What was effective about Amanda's communication style?

**B**

**BRAINSTORM** Think about a company you want to work for. Why do you want to apply for a job with this company? Write your ideas: 5-10 key words.



**C**

**ORGANIZE** What do you want to say?

The title of your presentation:

Introduce your topic:

Your main ideas:

Your conclusion:

**D**

**PRESENT** Give your presentation to a partner.

**E**

**FEEDBACK** Listen to your partner's presentation. Fill in this form.

Partner's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of the presentation: \_\_\_\_\_

What is your overall impression? | | |

Did you understand the main idea? | | |

What are some important words from the presentation? \_\_\_\_\_

What do you want to ask your partner? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your reaction to the presentation? \_\_\_\_\_

Other feedback: \_\_\_\_\_