



1.1. PRIORITY PYRAMID AND CAREER LADDER



SPEAKING & VOCABULARY

Task 1.

Examine the factors people consider more or less important in their professional life. Set your own priorities by placing the most important aspects at the top and the least important ones at the bottom of the pyramid.

1. generous remuneration package
2. real team spirit
3. low level of stress
4. job security
5. substantial fringe benefits
6. travelling distance
7. informal work atmosphere
8. flexible work setting
9. clear promotion prospects
10. responsible tasks
11. opportunity to travel abroad
12. training and development
13. job satisfaction
14. multicultural work environment
15. opportunity to speak foreign languages

Task 2.

Describe your priority pyramid using the phrases below, and compare it with a partner.

In my opinion/view _____
 As far as I am concerned _____
 Speaking for myself _____
 I value/appreciate _____
 I consider/take into consideration/take into account _____
 The most/least important aspect for me is to _____
 It is equally important for me to _____
 It is more/less important to _____ than _____
 I prefer _____ to _____
 I do not care about _____

Task 3.

In Task 2., it is suggested to use the word *important* while describing your priority pyramid. Write four synonyms of this word, and try to use them in practice.

Important, in other words, means:

s _____
 c _____
 k _____
 v _____

Task 4.

Learners of English tend to overuse the word *thing*. Write four synonyms of this word, and complete the phrases below. Use a dictionary, if necessary.

the most/least important a _____ t
 the most/least important f _____ r
 the most/least important m _____ r
 the most/least important i _____ e
 the most/least important f _____ t
 the most/least important e _____ t

Task 5.

You are climbing up your career ladder. Consider the steps you have already taken and the steps you are going to take to develop your career. Deliver a short presentation on your career progression using the following timescale and the phrases below.



year: _____

career stages: _____

career stages: graduation | gap year | internship | full-time employment | first career move | career break | promotion prospects | maternity/paternity leave

I graduated from _____ in _____
Faced with difficult market reality, I _____
I got a placement with _____
I served my internship in _____
It took me two years to _____
As regards my first work experience _____
I gained my experience in _____
Taking up a career in _____
I launched a career in _____
I faced a real challenge _____
At the peak of my career _____
I achieved a lot in _____



GRAMMAR: CONDITIONALS

Task 1.

Fill in the gaps below with the correct conditional structure (Conditional 0, 1, 2 or 3).

1. If I were you, I _____ (APPLY) for the position of senior accountant.
2. Accounting seems to be a good career option provided that you _____ (HAVE) a head for figures.
3. If I get promoted this year, I _____ (TO BE ABLE TO) take out a loan.
4. I'll bring my CV for the job interview in case they _____ (NEED) to have a look at it.
5. If I _____ (RECEIVE) a master's degree in law, I would have got this position then.
6. Postgraduate study is a sound investment as long as you _____ (CHOOSE) a well-established college.
7. If people _____ (STUDY) hard, they usually receive higher grades.
8. If we hadn't checked our students' satisfaction with the classes, we _____ (TARNISH) our reputation.
9. It _____ (IMPROVE) our recruitment process, if we applied this new HR software.
10. Employees _____ (NOT WORK) hard unless you offer them a financial or non-financial incentive.
11. If I _____ (NOT TRAVEL) abroad, I wouldn't gain practical experience.
12. People take up studies in Poland when they _____ (COMPLETE) secondary school education.
13. If you learn more, your English _____ (IMPROVE) considerably.
14. Students _____ (NOT TO BE) ready to enter the job market unless they receive good higher education.
15. If I _____ (DECIDE) to become self-employed, I would seek regular career advice.

Task 2.

Complete the sentences below using your own ideas.

1. If I received a generous remuneration package, _____
2. If I had served my internship in _____, _____
3. As long as I work for the same company, _____
4. If I learn English twice a week, _____
5. If I studied abroad, _____
6. Unless I take up postgraduate study, _____
7. If I were a manager in a multinational company, _____
8. If I had graduated from another university, _____
9. If I perform challenging tasks at work, _____
10. Provided that I get engaged in different extracurricular activities at the university, _____



SPEAKING

Task 1.

Some people claim that the word *career* has a negative meaning because it reminds them of fierce workplace competition and constant rat race. Do you agree with this statement? Answer the question using the phrases below.

I couldn't agree more.
I entirely agree with _____
That's exactly how I feel.
That's true to some extent.
That's true, but _____
I have mixed feelings about _____
I'd say the exact opposite.
That's not always the case.
I beg to differ.



Task 2.

What problems do young people encounter while choosing a career? Complete the table below by listing potential problems and possible solutions to them. Then, work in pairs. Student A is a graduate seeking career advice who visits a career advisor and clarifies his/her problem(s). Student B is a career advisor who attempts to help Student A.

	Problem in choosing a career	Potential solution
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		

**WRITING: REPORT****Task 3.**

You were asked to write a report on the problems young people face while choosing a career. In your writing, use the information included in Task 2 as well as the report structure and phrases below.

Report structure:

1. Introduction
2. Findings
3. Results
4. Conclusions
5. Recommendations

Useful report phrases:

INTRODUCTION

The aim of this report is to examine/investigate/compare/discuss/analyse/
present/provide/introduce _____

The report aims to _____

This report is intended to _____

This report outlines _____

FINDINGS

A survey of _____ revealed that _____

It was found that _____

The results show that _____

The analysis indicates that _____

It is clear from customer feedback that _____

Customer feedback has shown a need for _____

RESULTS

Consequently _____

As a result _____

It resulted in/led to _____

This would help us to _____

The company would benefit in the following way _____

CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion _____

To sum up _____

To conclude _____

For the reason given above ...

Summing up the results/Based on the results, it can be concluded that _____

RECOMMENDATIONS

I think it would be a good idea to _____

It is therefore recommended that _____

Having considered the options in question _____

It would be advisable to _____

In the short/long-term, we suggest you should _____

One possible solution to this problem/issue/matter is to _____

The solution requires _____