



## Conversation Curriculum

### Work: Describing a Job

#### Learning Objective:

1. Students will be able discuss common jobs based salary, work environment, benefit information.
2. Students will be able to ask about and report on classmates' work experiences and preferences.

**Before Class:** Review the lesson plan and make copies as needed. Make sure you have enough job questions strips cut for the **They Do** activity.

- Grab the packet of large-print Profession pictures from the drawer labeled 'Photo cards' (also scanned below). Write the four **Warm Up** activity questions on the board: What does this person do?; Where do they work?; Who do they work with?; and Is this job easy or hard?

**Warm Up Activity (15 minutes):** Place large-print Profession pictures in a central location so that all students can reach. As students arrive, have them separate into pairs. Ask each pair to take turns choosing a photo cards from the stack and answer these questions about the card:

- What does this person do?
- Where do they work?
- Who do they work with?
- Is this job easy or hard?

#### **I do/ We do Activity (10 minutes):**

- Ask for volunteers from each pair to explain to the class one of the cards they discussed, including the answers to the questions listed above.
- Check for comprehension of general workplace vocabulary, starting with any vocabulary questions that came up with the **Warm Up** activity. Some terms may include: boss, co-worker, manager, employee, colleague, retirement, salary, wage, minimum wage, part-time and full-time, benefits. Write terms on the board and ask the students to help you define them.

**They do Activity (20 minutes):** Make a pile of job question strips in a central location, or separate several job question strips into a few coffee cups. Ask for a volunteer to model this activity with you, with the student asking you the questions first, then let the class begin.

- Students will pair up and draw three question strips.
- Once a pair has talked about three questions, they will find new partners and draw three new questions.
- Students may answer a question twice as long as they discuss it with different partners/teacher.

**Journal Writing (10 – 15 minutes):** Students will write in their dialog journals about one of the four following topics:

- Respond to the last entry (i.e. continue the ‘dialog’)
- Introduce yourself to the teacher (for new students)
- Do you work? What do you do? What is one thing you like about your job? What is one thing you would change about your job?
- What job would you like to do and why?



sales clerk



highway worker



firefighter



military



librarian



paramedic



teacher



mail carrier



pharmacist



judge



Rabbi

Imam

Minister

religious leaders



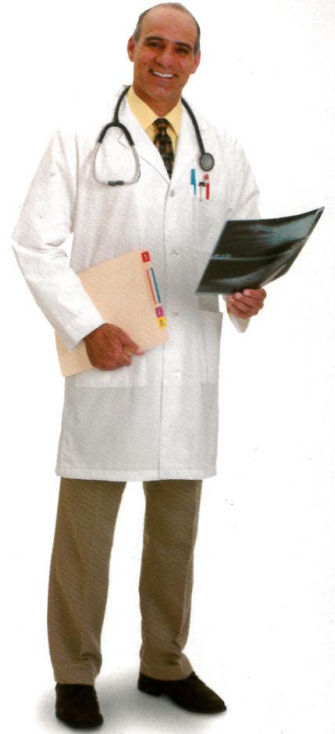
construction worker



delivery person



hairstylist



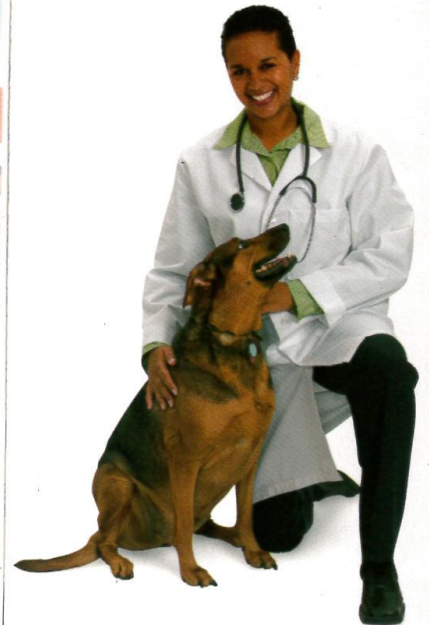
doctor



mechanic



farmer



veterinarian



bank teller



police officer



chef



sanitation worker



factory worker



pilot

### **Questions for Questions Strips:**

At what age do people usually begin to work in your country?

At what age do people usually retire in your country?

Do you think people over 65 should be made to retire?

Do women usually work after they get married in your country?

How have working conditions changed in recent years?

If you could own your own business, what would it be?

If you had to choose between a satisfying job and a well-paid one, which would you choose?

Is it common for men and women to have the same jobs in your country?

Is it easy to find a job in your country?

Name three jobs that you would like to try.

Name three jobs that you could never do.

What are some common jobs in your country?

When you were a child, what job did you want to do when you grew up?

Would you like a job that required you to sit at a computer all day?

Would you like to do the same job for the rest of your life?

Would you like to work in an office? Why or why not?

Would you rather work inside or outside?

Do you work? If yes, where do you work?

What does it mean to be retired? What is a good age to retire at?

Do you have a regular schedule? What shift do you work? What is the best shift to work? Why?

Would you like more hours? Fewer hours? Why?

What is best number of hours to work in a week? Why?

Do you work alone, or with other people?

Describe a typical day at work. (if you do not work, describe what typical day would be at your dream job)

What do you do at your job?

Describe the best boss you've ever had. Why was this person the best?

What makes a good boss? What does a good boss do?

Describe your dream job. Where would it be? What would you do? How many hours would you work?

Describe your co-workers. Who would be the perfect co-worker? Why? How would he/she act?

Is it better to have co-workers? Is it better to work alone?

How do you get along with your co-workers? Do you spend time together outside of work?

Do you use a computer at work? How often? Is it important to know how to use a computer for work?

How many days a week do you work? What is the best number of days to work in a week? Why?

Is work in the U.S. different than work in your home country? How is it different?

How far from your home is your job? How close should a job be to a worker's home? Is it better to be far away, or right next door?

Have you ever traveled for work? Is traveling for work a good idea? How often should someone travel for work?

Have you ever complained to your boss? What was your complaint? What did your boss do? Should workers be able to complain to their bosses?

Does your job change depending on the season? Is it better to have a seasonal job or a year-round job?

Where is a good place to work? Why is it a good place to work?