

I. Preview: Think about It

1. In this chapter we will look at the connection between jobs and personality. With a partner, think of some jobs that you would like to do—and some jobs that you would not like to do. Then ask each other questions, as in the example below. Remember to give reasons why you would or would not like to do the job.

A: What job would you really like to do?

B: I'd like to be an airplane pilot because pilots get to travel all over the world.

A: What job would you not like to do?

B: I wouldn't want to be a doctor because there's too much stress.

2. List three jobs that are unique to your country and write down some things you know about each job. Would you ever consider doing any of these jobs? Why or why not?

3. Why are some people better suited to a particular job? Do factors such as astrological sign or blood type play a part in matching us to certain jobs? Discuss these questions with a partner and write your ideas below.

II. Reading: Map of the Heavens



Before reading the essay below on astrology, make sure you know these words and expressions.

**ancient occurrence natural catastrophe celestial heavenly sphere horoscope
temperamental tendency susceptibility disease philosopher avid agricultural**

The English word “astrology” comes from the ancient Greek and can be translated* as “study of the stars.” And that is just what it is—the study of the positions and movements of the stars, planets, moon, and sun. But remember: this study is not for scientific purposes; it is conducted in the belief that such movements influence occurrences on earth such as wars, economic trends, natural catastrophes, and the lives of individual human beings.



A person’s astrological sign is his or her date of birth in relation to the zodiac, a system where the celestial or heavenly sphere is divided into twelve segments, each named for a constellation or star formation. Astrological forecasts, or horoscopes, are predicted based on these zodiacal positions at a given moment, usually the date and time of that person’s birth. This “map of the heavens” is used to “tell” a person’s temperamental tendencies, susceptibility to disease, luck (or lack of luck) in love and relationships, liability to accident, and, of particular importance to this class, his or her suitability for certain jobs.

The history of astrology goes back to the ancient Sumerians, who laid down astrology’s basic principles over 5,000 years ago. Some 2,000 years later the Babylonians grouped the stars into the constellations from which the signs of the zodiac take their name. The Greek philosopher Ptolemy was an avid student of astrology and produced the first astrological textbook in the 2nd century A.D. Later the Chinese adopted Ptolemy’s principles for use in their agricultural practices.

With the rise of Christianity and its emphasis on individual free will, however, interest in astrology tapered off. It suffered further decline when the scientific work of Copernicus and Galileo cast its principles into doubt.

*The underlined words and phrases in each unit’s reading are the Key Verbs and Idioms for that unit. They will be used in the exercise that follows.

Key Verbs and Idioms Match the definitions below with the these key words and phrases from the reading. Write the words on the lines.

influence ***group*** ***lay down*** ***translate*** ***cast*** ***adopt*** ***taper off*** ***predict***

1. _____ to change from one language to another
2. _____ to take something over and use it as one's own
3. _____ to arrange things together as one unit
4. _____ to foretell the future
5. _____ to have an effect upon someone or something
6. _____ to throw or toss
7. _____ to become less strong or significant
8. _____ to make or establish

Reading Comprehension Write full-sentence answers to these questions.

1. Where does the English word "astrology" come from?

2. What is astrology the study of?

3. How many heavenly spheres is the zodiac divided into?

4. Who were the first astrologers?

5. Why did interest in astrology begin to taper off?

Using Important Words: Complete these sentences with your own ideas and information.

1. I am an avid reader of _____ novels.
2. There are many natural catastrophes in my country; for example: _____.
3. To stop the spread of disease we should _____.
4. My favorite ancient building in my country _____.
5. I usually/don't usually read my horoscope because _____.

For Discussion With a partner or in a small group, ask and answer these questions.

1. Most people work at least eight hours a day from the age of 22 until the age of 65. That means that they spend on average one-third of their adult lives at work. Why do we work so hard? What are the good and bad points of working for a living? With a partner, come up with as many advantages and disadvantages as you can and then share them with the entire class.
2. Do you believe in astrology? What is your star sign? What qualities is someone with your star sign believed to possess?
3. Do you think personality traits are really related to blood type?
4. Do you read your horoscope in the newspaper or in a magazine before you leave home in the morning?
5. Have you ever visited a fortuneteller? Do you believe fortunetellers can actually predict the future? Why? Why not?

III. Activities

Activity 1: Job Satisfaction

When you decide upon a career, you should choose one for reasons that will lead you to maximum job satisfaction. Look at the list of reasons for choosing a career below and number them in order of importance for you. Then form small groups and compare your answers.

- _____ The salary is good.
- _____ I like meeting people.
- _____ I like to work by myself.
- _____ I can travel a lot.
- _____ I get long holidays.
- _____ I like the responsibility.
- _____ My co-workers are friendly.
- _____ I like making decisions.
- _____ I like a high-stress job.
- _____ I like to be busy.
- _____ I can get promoted easily.
- _____ I like the job security.

Activity 2: Game: What's My Job? In small groups one student should think of an occupation while the others ask various yes/no questions to see if they can guess what it is.

Use the following cues to help you make up your questions:

Do you...? Can you...? Is your job...? Are you...?

And here are some words and phrases you can use:

outside inside at night on weekends important good salary diplomas wear a uniform travel work with people/animals

Activity 3: The Best and the Worst First, answer the job-related questionnaire below on your own. Then interview two classmates to find out whether or not they agree with you. Remember to give reasons for your answers.

Which job...

1. is the cleanest?
2. is the dirtiest?
3. is the easiest?
4. is the most difficult?
5. is the most interesting?
6. is the most boring?
7. is the most tiring?
8. is the least tiring?
9. is the most stressful?
10. is the least stressful?
11. is the most dangerous?
12. is the least dangerous?
13. is the best paid?
14. is the least well paid?
15. has the most holidays?
16. has the fewest holidays?

My answer	Classmates' answers	
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12.		
13.		
14.		
15.		
16.		



Activity 4: Listening

As you listen to the short talk about hand types below, fill in the blanks.

There are four main types of hand: the conic hand, the psychic hand, the square hand, and the spatulate hand.

The conic hand _____ at the fingertips, and the skin texture is _____. People with conic hands are _____. They love rich food, money, and comfort, and they usually make good _____.

The psychic hand has long, _____ with pointed tips. People with psychic hands are motivated by their deepest feelings and they have a _____, but they do not find it easy to deal with practical problems. They make good _____.

The square hand is the hand of the _____. People with square hands love order, method, and stability. They are not emotional by nature, and do not adapt easily to new circumstances. They are careful with money and make excellent _____.

Spatulate hands fan out at the fingertips like a spatula. People with spatulate hands are _____. They excel in the fields of _____.

Listening Comprehension

Listen to the questions and write what you hear. Then answer each question with a complete sentence.

1. Question: _____?

Answer: _____.

2. Question: _____?

Answer: _____.

3. Question: _____?

Answer: _____.

4. Question: _____?

Answer: _____.

Activity 5: Blood Types Work with a partner. Find out the blood types of these famous people and match them with their good and bad personality traits. Write your answers in the chart below. Compare your chart with another pair's.

People

George W. Bush Jackie Chan Marilyn Monroe
John Lennon Luciano Pavarotti Leonardo DiCaprio Britney Spears
Adolf Hitler Ayumi Hamasaki Elvis Presley Paul McCartney
Thomas Edison Mick Jagger Al Capone Jack Nicholson Mikhail Gorbachev

Good Traits

reserved rational robust passionate empathetic athletic cool patient
flexible ambitious punctual optimistic self-confident creative tolerant modest

Bad Traits

obsessive aloof insensitive forgetful irresponsible arrogant stubborn
vain Self-conscious indecisive unforgiving self-centered

Blood Type	People	Good Traits	Bad Traits
A			
B			
AB			
O			

Activity 6: Role Play

Work with a partner. One of you is a fortuneteller and the other is a student who is worried about his/her possible future career. The student wants the advice of the fortuneteller to make sure he/she makes the right career choice. The fortuneteller will ask him/her questions about his/her personality and try to predict the best job for the student. Make up and practice their conversation. Reverse roles.

Activity 7: Composition and Presentation Write a 200-300-word essay on one of the topics below. You will use your essay in the next lesson to make a presentation to a partner or in a small group. When writing your essay, make sure you follow these guidelines:

- *Plan your essay carefully before you begin, noting down main ideas, important facts, and key words.
- *State your main topic and ideas in a short introduction.
- *Use the body of your essay to expand your ideas with pertinent details and sound reasons.
- *Arrange your ideas and facts in a logical order.
- *Give your essay an interesting title.

Topic 1 Choose one of the following topics and write a short essay on it. Use the Internet or other reference source to get your information.

- I believe/don't believe in astrology because...
- My ideal job is...
- I want / don't want to work overseas because...

Topic 2 Write a comparison of the good and bad points of working for a living. Think about ways in which the work environment could be made fairer or better. Conclude your essay with a statement of why you think you will or won't be suited to become a member of the workforce.

Topic 3 Compare the job market in your country with that of another country of your choice. Use the Internet or other reference resource to get your information.