

# Topic

**Conversation  
for Intermediates**



**D1**



Describe  
the  
picture.



A group of people, including a man in a blue suit and a yellow safety vest, are standing on a construction site. In the background, there are large concrete pillars and a building under construction.

Today's Topic

# Jobs and Occupations

**Jobs and occupations are the principal activities in your life that you do to earn money.**



# TARGET LANGUAGE

In this lesson, we will **talk about jobs and occupations:**

- learn words/expressions/phrases related to the topic;
- make sentences related to the topic;
- answer questions and share ideas related to the topic.

## Key phrases:

big bucks  
daily grind  
top dog  
happy hour  
chicken feed

## Key Sentences

Read and share your opinions.

1. I'm earning **big bucks** at my new job. I'll finally be able to afford that new car!

Q1. What kinds of jobs offer big bucks in your country?

Q2. What would you spend your money on if you were earning big bucks?



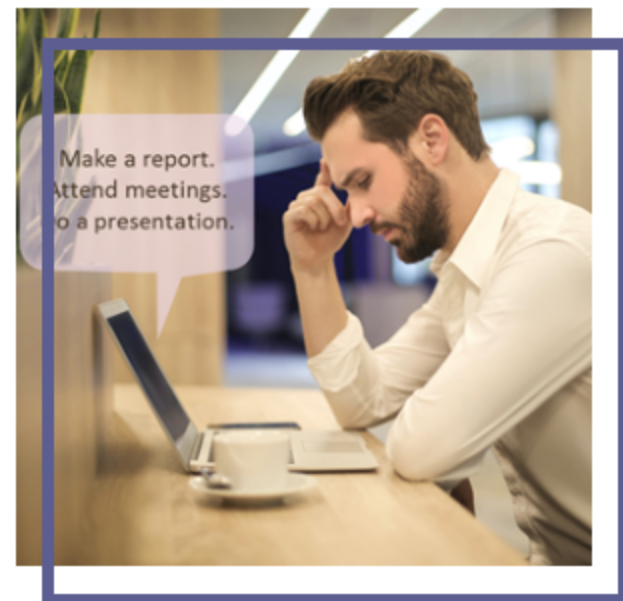
## I Key Sentences

Read and share your opinions.

2. Brad has been doing the same job for thirty years. He's tired of the **daily grind**.

Q1. What is your daily grind composed of?

Q2. How do you manage your daily grind?



## I Key Sentences

Read and share your opinions.

### 3. Carlos got promoted. Now he's a **top dog**!

Q1. Which top dog position in your company would you like to be promoted to? Why?

Q2. What should someone do to become a top dog?



## Key Sentences

Read and share your opinions.

4. We usually go to the pub during **happy hour** because the drinks are 10% cheaper.

Q1. How often do you go to happy hour after work?

Q2. How does your company celebrate after completing a big project?





## I Key Sentences

Read and share your opinions.

5. Before I got promoted, I was working for **chicken feed!**

Q1. Which would you rather have, a stress-free job but earns chickenfeed or a stressful job but earns big bucks?



## Vocabulary

Sum up and make sentences with the words.



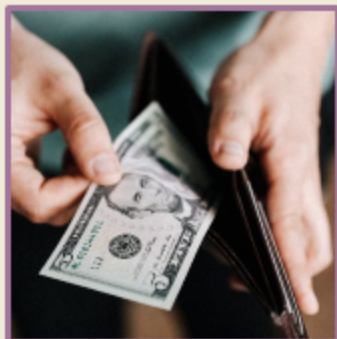
**big bucks**  
large amount of money

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**daily grind**  
one's daily responsibilities,  
especially in a job.

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**chicken feed**  
a small amount of money

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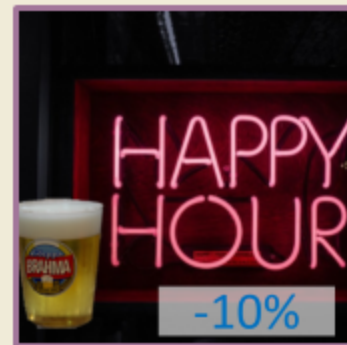
**top dog**  
a person who is considered  
to have the dominant  
position or highest authority.

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**happy hour**  
period of time, usually in late  
afternoon and early evening,  
when a bar features drinks  
at reduced prices.

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## Vocabulary Check

Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

happy hour

top dog

big bucks

daily grind

chicken feed

1. Her parents spent \_\_\_\_\_ on her studies.
2. I need a holiday as a relief from the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. I often go to \_\_\_\_\_ on weekends to release myself.
4. Before he became a \_\_\_\_\_, he was just a regular employee.
5. The cost of buying a new house isn't \_\_\_\_\_.

## I Review

Fill in the blanks with the given letter.

People these days work long hours that they often forget the importance of work-life balance. **T** 1 who earn **b** 2 often stay in the office at late hours because they have more responsibilities to do. Ordinary workers keep doing their **d** 3 even it is for **c** 4. They keep working because it is their only source of income. As a result, workers develop stress from this unhealthy working habits. So managing our time will help us attain a better work-life balance. After all, everyone wants to finish early and grab a drink at their favorite pubs during **h** 5.

## Free Talk

Give the definitions and provide examples.



### Blue-collar Job

Definition:  
relating to jobs that  
involve physical work

Example:

mining

\_\_\_\_\_



### White-collar Job

Definition: *(office)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Example:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



### Green-collar Job

Definition: *(environment)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Example:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Q1. Which job gets the highest pay in your country?

Q2. What is your dream job? Why?

## Free Talk

Read and share your opinions.



### Negative effects of overworking

1. can lead to burnout
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_



### Ways to achieve work-life balance

1. manage your time
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Q1. Do you think it is harder for men or women to achieve work-life balance? Why?