

# Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES  
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

[breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html](http://breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html)

**Thousands more free lessons  
from Sean's other websites**

[www.freematerials.com/sean\\_banville\\_lessons.html](http://www.freematerials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html)

**Level 3 – 3rd April 2025**

## Generation Z is facing a 'career apocalypse'

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse.html>

### Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	15
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	16
Vocabulary	4	Spelling	17
Before Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	18
Gap Fill	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	19
Match The Sentences And Listen	7	Circle The Correct Word	20
Listening Gap Fill	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	21
Comprehension Questions	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	22
Multiple Choice - Quiz	10	Put A Slash ( / ) Where The Spaces Are	23
Role Play	11	Free Writing	24
After Reading / Listening	12	Academic Writing	25
Student Survey	13	Homework	26
Discussion (20 Questions)	14	Answers	27

**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

**X (Twitter)**



[X.com/SeanBanville](https://x.com/SeanBanville)

**Facebook**



[www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176](https://www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176)

# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse.html>

Times are hard for young people looking for work. It is becoming more and more difficult for Generation Z (or Gen Zers) to find a job. A Gen Zer is someone born between the mid-to-late 1990s and early 2010s. Students who have just graduated from university cannot find employment. Aki Ito, chief correspondent for the "Business Insider" website, warned of a "career apocalypse". She said uncertainty in the world has "taught today's graduates to prepare for the worst". The British journalist and writer Peter Hitchens said one reason is that people are studying for "worthless degrees". He said young people would "be much better off" if they became plumbers or electricians.

There are over 4 million Gen Zers not in school or work in the USA. In the UK, there is a similar problem. There were 987,000 young people aged 16 to 24 not in education, employment, or training in December of last year. This has risen by over 100,000 in the past year. Many people cannot find jobs because of artificial intelligence (AI). An increasing number of jobs are now being done by AI. There are fears that teachers, accountants, lawyers, writers, and other jobs could completely disappear. However, some people say many graduates no longer want to do "entry-level" jobs. Instead, they want to enter a company at a management level and get well paid in their very first job.

Sources: <https://fortune.com/2025/03/25/gen-z-neet-not-in-education-employment-training-higher-ed-worthless-degrees-college/>  
<https://www.msn.com/en-za/news/other/peter-hitchens-hammers-worthless-gen-z-degrees-in-new-podcast/ar-AA1BkYkw>  
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/corporate-america-failing-gen-z-110037849.html>

# WARM-UPS

**1. CAREERS:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about careers. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

hard times / young people / Generation Z / university / career / apocalypse / degree / school / work / education / employment / artificial intelligence / fears / teachers / paid

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. AI:** Students A **strongly** believe that AI will create more jobs than it will take over; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. CAREERS:** What are the good and bad things about these careers? How will A.I. change them? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Good Things	Bad Things	A.I.
Teacher			
Lawyer			
Writer			
Doctor			
Farmer			
Astronaut			

**5. WORK:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "work". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

**6. DEGREE:** Rank these with your partner. Put the most useful degrees at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Medicine
- Philosophy
- Music
- Law
- Anime studies
- Engineering
- Computer coding
- Maths

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 1. graduated     | a. Having a job and working for money.                         |
| 2. employment    | b. Not knowing what will happen in the future.                 |
| 3. correspondent | c. A big disaster that causes a lot of problems.               |
| 4. apocalypse    | d. A person who writes news for a newspaper, TV, or website.   |
| 5. uncertainty   | e. Finished school or university after completing all studies. |
| 6. worthless     | f. A person who fixes pipes, sinks, and toilets.               |
| 7. plumber       | g. Not useful or not having value.                             |

## Paragraph 2

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 8. similar          | h. A person who has finished school or university.           |
| 9. risen            | i. Almost the same.  |
| 10. fears (noun)    | j. To go away and not be seen.                               |
| 11. accountant      | k. Got money for working.                                    |
| 12. disappear       | l. Feelings of being scared or worried.                      |
| 13. graduate (noun) | m. A person who works with money and numbers for a business. |
| 14. paid            | n. Gone up or become more.                                   |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse.html>

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

1. It is difficult for young people to find a job today. **T / F**
2. People in Generation Z were all born in the early part of this century. **T / F**
3. A journalist said an uncertain world is preparing graduates for the worst. **T / F**
4. Another journalist said being a plumber is better than getting a degree. **T / F**
5. More than 14 million Gen Zers in the US do not have a job. **T / F**
6. The article said AI is taking away people's jobs. **T / F**
7. The article said jobs like lawyers and teachers could disappear. **T / F**
8. Young people are happy to do any kind of job, even if it's poorly paid. **T / F**

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                         |               |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1. <b>hard</b>          | a. worries    |
| 2. <b>employment</b>    | b. get ready  |
| 3. <b>correspondent</b> | c. comparable |
| 4. <b>prepare</b>       | d. gone up    |
| 5. <b>worthless</b>     | e. difficult  |
| 6. <b>similar</b>       | f. vanish     |
| 7. <b>risen</b>         | g. useless    |
| 8. <b>fears</b>         | h. work       |
| 9. <b>disappear</b>     | i. join       |
| 10. <b>enter</b>        | j. reporter   |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. Times are hard for young people            | a. late 1990s            |
| 2. It is becoming more and more difficult for | b. disappear             |
| 3. the mid-to-                                | c. degrees               |
| 4. taught today's graduates to                | d. management level      |
| 5. people are studying for worthless          | e. for Generation Z      |
| 6. In the UK, there is a                      | f. by over 100,000       |
| 7. This has risen                             | g. number of jobs        |
| 8. An increasing                              | h. looking for work      |
| 9. other jobs could completely                | i. prepare for the worst |
| 10. enter a company at a                      | j. similar problem       |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse.html>

Times are (1) \_\_\_\_\_ for young people looking for work. It is becoming more and more difficult for Generation Z (or Gen Zers) to find a job. A Gen Zer is someone (2) \_\_\_\_\_ between the mid-to-late 1990s and early 2010s. Students who have just graduated from university cannot (3) \_\_\_\_\_ employment. Aki Ito, chief correspondent for the "Business Insider" website, warned of a "(4) \_\_\_\_\_ apocalypse". She said (5) \_\_\_\_\_ in the world has "taught today's graduates to prepare for the (6) \_\_\_\_\_". The British journalist and writer Peter Hitchens said one (7) \_\_\_\_\_ is that people are studying for "worthless degrees". He said young people would "be much (8) \_\_\_\_\_ off" if they became plumbers or electricians.

*career*  
*reason*  
*born*  
*better*  
*uncertainty*  
*hard*  
*find*  
*worst*

There are over 4 million Gen Zers not in school or (9) \_\_\_\_\_ in the USA. In the UK, there is a similar problem. There were 987,000 young people aged 16 to 24 not in (10) \_\_\_\_\_, employment, or training in December of last year. This has (11) \_\_\_\_\_ by over 100,000 in the past year. Many people cannot find jobs because of artificial intelligence (AI). An (13) \_\_\_\_\_ number of jobs are now being done by AI. There are (13) \_\_\_\_\_ that teachers, accountants, lawyers, writers, and other jobs could completely (14) \_\_\_\_\_. However, some people say many graduates no (15) \_\_\_\_\_ want to do "entry-level" jobs. Instead, they want to enter a company at a management level and get well (16) \_\_\_\_\_ in their very first job.

*risen*  
*longer*  
*fears*  
*education*  
*paid*  
*work*  
*increasing*  
*disappear*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse.html>

- 1) Times are hard for young people \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. looking for works
  - b. looking from work
  - c. look in for work
  - d. looking for work
- 2) A Gen Zer is someone born between the mid-to-late 1990s \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. and earthly 2010s
  - b. and early 2010
  - c. and early 2010s
  - d. end early 2010s
- 3) She said uncertainty in the world has taught today's graduates to prepare \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. for the worst
  - b. for the worse
  - c. for the waste
  - d. for the worsen
- 4) Hitchens said one reason is that people are studying \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. for worthless degree
  - b. for worthless decrees
  - c. for worthless degrees
  - d. for worthless decree
- 5) He said young people would "be much better off" if they became \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. plum merge electricians
  - b. plumbers or electricians
  - c. plumbers or electrician
  - d. plumber or electricals
- 6) There were 987,000 young people aged 16 to 24 \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. not on education
  - b. not in education
  - c. knotting education
  - d. not in educational
- 7) An increasing number of jobs are now being \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. done buy AI
  - b. done bye AI
  - c. done by AI
  - d. done buyer AI
- 8) accountants, lawyers, writers, and other jobs \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. could complete disappear
  - b. could completely disappears
  - c. could completion disappear
  - d. could completely disappear
- 9) However, some people say many graduates no longer want to do \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. entry-levels jobs
  - b. entry-level jobs
  - c. entry-level job
  - d. enter-level jobs
- 10) they want to enter a company at a management level and \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. gets well paid
  - b. get good paid
  - c. get well pay
  - d. get well paid

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse.html>

Times are (1) \_\_\_\_\_ people looking for work. It is becoming more and more difficult for Generation Z (or Gen Zers) to find a job. A Gen Zer (2) \_\_\_\_\_ between the mid-to-late 1990s and early 2010s. Students who have just graduated from university (3) \_\_\_\_\_. Aki Ito, chief correspondent for the "Business Insider" website, warned of a "career apocalypse". She said uncertainty in the world has "taught today's graduates to prepare (4) \_\_\_\_\_". The British journalist and writer Peter Hitchens said (5) \_\_\_\_\_ that people are studying for "worthless degrees". He said young people would "be much better off" if they (6) \_\_\_\_\_ electricians.

There are over 4 million Gen Zers not in school or work in the USA. In the UK, there is (7) \_\_\_\_\_. There were 987,000 young people aged 16 to 24 not in education, employment, or training in December of last year. This (8) \_\_\_\_\_ over 100,000 in the past year. Many people cannot find jobs because of artificial intelligence (AI). An (9) \_\_\_\_\_ jobs are now being done by AI. There are fears that teachers, accountants, lawyers, writers, (10) \_\_\_\_\_ could completely disappear. However, some people say many (11) \_\_\_\_\_ want to do "entry-level" jobs. Instead, they want to enter a company at a management level and get (12) \_\_\_\_\_ their very first job.



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse.html>

1. What is it difficult for young people to find?
2. Who is born between the mid-to-late 1990s and early 2010s?
3. What did a journalist say young people are being taught to prepare for?
4. What degrees did a journalist say some people were studying for?
5. What did a journalist say people could work as besides being a plumber?
6. How many Gen Zers in the USA are not in school or work?
7. What is an increasing number of jobs now being done by?
8. What do people worry might happen to jobs in law and accountancy?
9. What kinds of jobs do many graduates not want to do?
10. Where in a company do many young people want to start working?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse.html>

- 1) What is it difficult for young people to find?
  - a) pens
  - b) work
  - c) motivation
  - d) their résumé (CV)
- 2) Who is born between the mid-to-late 1990s and early 2010s?
  - a) Generation Y
  - b) pensioners
  - c) Millennials
  - d) Gen Zers
- 3) What did a journalist say young people are being taught to prepare for?
  - a) competition
  - b) exams
  - c) the worst
  - d) job interviews
- 4) What degrees did a journalist say some people were studying for?
  - a) worthless degrees
  - b) Master's degrees
  - c) Bachelor's degrees
  - d) arts degrees
- 5) What did a journalist say people could work as besides being a plumber?
  - a) a teacher
  - b) an electrician
  - c) an accountant
  - d) a pizza delivery driver
- 6) How many Gen Zers in the USA are not in school or work?
  - a) over 4 million
  - b) exactly 4 million
  - c) fewer than 4 million
  - d) around 4 million
- 7) What is an increasing number of jobs now being done by?
  - a) overseas workers
  - b) robots
  - c) AI
  - d) the aged
- 8) What do people worry might happen to jobs in law and accountancy?
  - a) they might completely disappear
  - b) they might merge
  - c) there might be enough of them
  - d) the pay might go down
- 9) What kinds of jobs do many graduates not want to do?
  - a) white-collar jobs
  - b) highly-skilled jobs
  - c) blue-collar jobs
  - d) entry-level jobs
- 10) Where in a company do many young people want to start working?
  - a) the bottom
  - b) in an office
  - c) at management level
  - d) on a factory floor

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse.html>

## **Role A – Medicine**

You think medicine is the best degree to study for. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their degrees. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): music, anime studies or computer coding.

## **Role B – Music**

You think music is the best degree to study for. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their degrees. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): medicine, anime studies or computer coding.

## **Role C – Anime Studies**

You think anime studies is the best degree to study for. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their degrees. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): music, medicine or computer coding.

## **Role D – Computer Coding**

You think computer coding is the best degree to study for. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their degrees. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): music, anime studies or medicine.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look online / in your dictionary to find collocates, information on, synonyms for... the words 'career' and 'apocalypse'.

<b>career</b>	<b>apocalypse</b>
---------------	-------------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• hard</li><li>• mid</li><li>• warned</li><li>• taught</li><li>• reason</li><li>• better</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• similar</li><li>• aged</li><li>• past</li><li>• fears</li><li>• longer</li><li>• paid</li></ul>
--	---

# CAREERS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse.html>

Write five GOOD questions about careers in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

# CAREERS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'career'?
3. What career do you want?
4. How many careers do you think you will have?
5. What jobs have you done?
6. Do you worry about finding work?
7. Why is it harder for young people to find work?
8. What degrees might be 'worthless'?
9. What advice do you have for people looking for a job?
10. Would you rather be a plumber or an electrician?

*Generation Z is facing a 'career apocalypse' – 3rd April 2025*  
Thousands more free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

---

# CAREERS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'apocalypse'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What is the perfect job for you?
15. What do you think of your education?
16. What do you think of artificial intelligence?
17. What do you think of AI taking over people's jobs?
18. What would you think if AI took over from teachers?
19. What do you think of a 'career apocalypse'?
20. What questions would you like to ask a young job hunter?

# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

Copyright © breakingnewsenglish.com 2025

---

# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse.html>

Times are (1) \_\_\_\_\_ for young people looking for work. It is becoming more and more difficult for Generation Z (or Gen Zers) to (2) \_\_\_\_\_ a job. A Gen Zer is someone born between the mid-to-late 1990s and early 2010s. Students who have (3) \_\_\_\_\_ graduated from university cannot find employment. Aki Ito, chief correspondent for the "Business Insider" website, warned of a "career apocalypse". She said uncertainty (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the world has "(5) \_\_\_\_\_ today's graduates to prepare for the worst". The British journalist and writer Peter Hitchens said one reason is that people are studying for "worthless degrees". He said young people would "be much better (6) \_\_\_\_\_" if they became plumbers or electricians.

There are over 4 million Gen Zers not in school or work in the USA. In the UK, there is a (7) \_\_\_\_\_ problem. There were 987,000 young people aged 16 to 24 not in education, employment, or training in December (8) \_\_\_\_\_ last year. This has risen by over 100,000 in the past year. Many people cannot find jobs because of artificial intelligence (AI). An (9) \_\_\_\_\_ number of jobs are now being (10) \_\_\_\_\_ by AI. There are fears that teachers, accountants, lawyers, writers, and other jobs could completely disappear. However, some people say many graduates (11) \_\_\_\_\_ longer want to do "entry-level" jobs. Instead, they want to enter a company at a management level and get (12) \_\_\_\_\_ paid in their very first job.

**Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.**

- |     |              |                |               |               |
|-----|--------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1.  | (a) harden   | (b) hardly     | (c) hardy     | (d) hard      |
| 2.  | (a) fond     | (b) fend       | (c) fund      | (d) find      |
| 3.  | (a) justly   | (b) just       | (c) adjust    | (d) justice   |
| 4.  | (a) at       | (b) of         | (c) in        | (d) to        |
| 5.  | (a) taught   | (b) teach      | (c) teaching  | (d) teacher   |
| 6.  | (a) off      | (b) up         | (c) on        | (d) in        |
| 7.  | (a) simile   | (b) similarity | (c) same      | (d) similar   |
| 8.  | (a) of       | (b) in         | (c) at        | (d) to        |
| 9.  | (a) increase | (b) increasing | (c) increases | (d) creasing  |
| 10. | (a) did      | (b) do         | (c) done      | (d) doing     |
| 11. | (a) not      | (b) non        | (c) no        | (d) none      |
| 12. | (a) good     | (b) well       | (c) nice      | (d) expensive |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. nieertango Z (or Gen Zers)
2. aegrtadud from university
3. cannot find nlyoptmeme
4. The British jtsaulrnio and writer
5. studying for worthless dgreese
6. plumbers or ectcraelisni

## Paragraph 2

7. there is a mairisl problem
8. This has iensr by over 100,000
9. ifiraatcli intelligence
10. sawyelr, writers, and other jobs
11. other jobs could completely seaapprdi
12. at a maanengtem level

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) "be much better off" if they became plumbers or electricians.
- ( ) a job. A Gen Zer is someone born between the mid-to-late 1990s and early 2010s. Students who have just
- ( ) artificial intelligence (AI). An increasing number of jobs are now being done by AI. There are fears
- ( ) enter a company at a management level and get well paid in their very first job.
- ( ) graduated from university cannot find employment. Aki Ito, chief correspondent for the "Business Insider" website,
- ( ) in December of last year. This has risen by over 100,000 in the past year. Many people cannot find jobs because of
- ( ) people say many graduates no longer want to do "entry-level" jobs. Instead, they want to
- ( ) prepare for the worst". The British journalist and writer Peter Hitchens said one
- ( ) problem. There were 987,000 young people aged 16 to 24 not in education, employment, or training
- ( ) reason is that people are studying for "worthless degrees". He said young people would
- ( ) that teachers, accountants, lawyers, writers, and other jobs could completely disappear. However, some
- ( ) There are over 4 million Gen Zers not in school or work in the USA. In the UK, there is a similar
- ( **1** ) Times are hard for young people looking for work. It is becoming more and more difficult for Generation Z (or Gen Zers) to find
- ( ) warned of a "career apocalypse". She said uncertainty in the world has "taught today's graduates to

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse.html>

1. hard for are Times looking work . youngsters for
2. who have Students graduated university . from just
3. correspondent warned of a apocalypse . career A
4. prepare today's worst . to the graduates Taught for
5. plumbers . off better much Be if became they
6. the similar there is a In UK problem .
7. a by in This risen year . 100,000 has
8. entry-level want to Graduates do longer jobs . no
9. Enter company a a management level . at
10. paid first in their well job . Get very

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse.html>

Times are hard for *young / youngster* people looking for work. It is *become / becoming* more and more *difficult / difficulty* for Generation Z (or Gen Zers) to find a job. A Gen Zer is someone born *between / among* the mid-to-late 1990s and early 2010s. Students who have *adjust / just* graduated from university cannot find employment. Aki Ito, *chef / chief* correspondent for the "Business Insider" website, warned *of / for* a "career apocalypse". She said uncertainty *on / in* the world has "taught today's graduates to prepare for the worst". The British journalist and writer Peter Hitchens said one reason is *what / that* people are studying for "worthless degrees". He said young people would "be much better off" if they became plumbers *or / nor* electricians.

There are *over / higher* 4 million Gen Zers not in school or work *in / at* the USA. In the UK, there is a *similar / similarity* problem. There were 987,000 young people aged 16 to 24 not *on / in* education, employment, or training in December of last year. This has *raised / risen* by over 100,000 in the past year. Many people cannot find jobs because *of / for* artificial intelligence (AI). An increasing number of jobs are now being *done / doing* by AI. There are fears that teachers, accountants, lawyers, writers, and *another / other* jobs could completely disappear. However, some people say many graduates no *lengthen / longer* want to do "entry-level" jobs. Instead, they want to enter a company at a management level and get well *pay / paid* in their very first job.

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse.html>

T\_m\_s \_r\_ h\_r\_d f\_r y\_\_ng p\_\_pl\_ l\_\_k\_ng f\_r w\_rk. \_t  
\_s b\_c\_m\_ng m\_r\_ \_nd m\_r\_ d\_ff\_c\_lt f\_r G\_n\_r\_t\_\_n  
Z (\_r G\_n Z\_rs) t\_ f\_nd \_ j\_b. \_ G\_n Z\_r \_s  
s\_m\_\_n\_ b\_rn b\_tw\_\_n th\_ m\_d-t\_-l\_t\_ 1990s \_nd \_\_rly  
2010s. St\_d\_nts wh\_ h\_v\_ j\_st gr\_d\_\_t\_d fr\_m  
\_n\_v\_rs\_ty c\_nn\_t f\_nd \_mpl\_ym\_nt. \_k\_ \_t\_, ch\_\_f  
c\_rr\_sp\_nd\_nt f\_r th\_ "B\_s\_n\_ss \_ns\_d\_r" w\_bs\_t\_,  
w\_rn\_d \_f \_ "c\_r\_\_r \_p\_c\_lyps\_". Sh\_ s\_\_d \_nc\_r\_t\_\_nty  
\_n th\_ w\_rld h\_s "t\_\_ght t\_d\_y's gr\_d\_\_t\_s t\_ pr\_p\_r\_  
f\_r th\_ w\_rst". Th\_ Br\_t\_sh j\_\_rn\_l\_st \_nd wr\_t\_r  
P\_t\_r H\_tch\_ns s\_\_d \_n\_ r\_\_s\_n \_s th\_t p\_\_pl\_ \_r\_  
st\_dy\_ng f\_r "w\_rthl\_ss d\_gr\_\_s". H\_ s\_\_d y\_\_ng  
p\_\_pl\_ w\_\_ld "b\_ m\_ch b\_tt\_r \_ff" \_f th\_y b\_c\_m\_  
pl\_mb\_rs \_r \_l\_ctr\_c\_\_ns.

Th\_r\_ \_r\_ \_v\_r 4 m\_ll\_\_n G\_n Z\_rs n\_t \_n sch\_\_l \_r  
w\_rk \_n th\_ \_S\_. \_n th\_ \_K, th\_r\_ \_s \_ s\_m\_l\_r  
pr\_bl\_m. Th\_r\_ w\_r\_ 987,000 y\_\_ng p\_\_pl\_ \_g\_d 16 t\_  
24 n\_t \_n \_d\_c\_t\_\_n, \_mpl\_ym\_nt, \_r tr\_\_n\_ng \_n  
D\_c\_mb\_r \_f l\_st y\_\_r. Th\_s h\_s r\_s\_n by \_v\_r  
100,000 \_n th\_ p\_st y\_\_r. M\_ny p\_\_pl\_ c\_nn\_t f\_nd  
j\_bs b\_c\_\_s\_ \_f \_rt\_f\_c\_\_l \_nt\_ll\_g\_nc\_ (\_\_). \_n  
\_ncr\_\_s\_ng n\_mb\_r \_f j\_bs \_r\_ n\_w b\_\_ng d\_n\_ by \_\_.  
Th\_r\_ \_r\_ f\_\_rs th\_t t\_\_ch\_rs, \_cc\_\_nt\_nts, l\_wy\_rs,  
wr\_t\_rs, \_nd \_th\_r j\_bs c\_\_ld c\_mpl\_t\_ly d\_s\_pp\_\_r.  
H\_w\_v\_r, s\_m\_ p\_\_pl\_ s\_y m\_ny gr\_d\_\_t\_s n\_ l\_ngr  
w\_nt t\_ d\_ "\_ntry-l\_v\_l" j\_bs. \_nst\_\_d, th\_y w\_nt t\_  
\_nt\_r \_ c\_m\_p\_ny \_t \_ m\_n\_g\_m\_nt l\_v\_l \_nd g\_t w\_ll  
p\_\_d \_n th\_\_r v\_ry f\_rst j\_b.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse.html>

times are hard for young people looking for work it is becoming more and more difficult for generation z or gen zers to find a job a gen zer is someone born between the midtolate 1990s and early 2010s students who have just graduated from university cannot find employment aki ito chief correspondent for the business insider website warned of a career apocalypse she said uncertainty in the world has taught todays graduates to prepare for the worst the british journalist and writer peter hitchens said one reason is that people are studying for worthless degrees he said young people would be much better off if they became plumbers or electricians

there are over 4 million gen zers not in school or work in the usa in the uk there is a similar problem there were 987000 young people aged 16 to 24 not in education employment or training in december of last year this has risen by over 100000 in the past year many people cannot find jobs because of artificial intelligence ai an increasing number of jobs are now being done by ai there are fears that teachers accountants lawyers writers and other jobs could completely disappear however some people say many graduates no longer want to do entrylevel jobs instead they want to enter a company at a management level and get well paid in their very first job

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse.html>

Times are hard for young people looking for work. It is becoming more and more difficult for Generation Z (or Gen Zers) to find a job. A Gen Zer is someone born between the mid-to-late 1990s and early 2010s. Students who have just graduated from university cannot find employment. Aki Ito, chief correspondent for the "Business Insider" website, warned of a "career apocalypse". She said uncertainty in the world has "taught today's graduates to prepare for the worst". The British journalist and writer Peter Hitchens said one reason is that people are studying for "worthless degrees". He said young people would "be much better off" if they became plumbers or electricians. There are over 4 million Gen Zers not in school or work in the USA. In the UK, there is a similar problem. There were 987,000 young people aged 16 to 24 not in education, employment, or training in December of last year. This has risen by over 100,000 in the past year. Many people cannot find jobs because of artificial intelligence (AI). An increasing number of jobs are now being done by AI. There are fears that teachers, accountants, lawyers, writers, and other jobs could completely disappear. However, some people say many graduates no longer want to do "entry-level" jobs. Instead, they want to enter a company at a management level and get well paid in their very first job.





# ACADEMIC WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse.html>

Artificial intelligence is a good thing for jobs and careers. Discuss.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# HOMework

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. CAREERS:** Make a poster about careers. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. AI:** Write a magazine article about artificial intelligence helping with more jobs. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on careers. Ask him/her three questions about careers. Give him/her three of your ideas. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. e    2. a    3. d    4. c    5. b    6. g    7. f  
8. i    9. n    10. l    11. m    12. j    13. h    14. k

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 T    2 F    3 T    4 T    5 F    6 T    7 T    8 F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. e	2. h	3. j	4. b	5. g
6. c	7. d	8. a	9. f	10. i

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Work
2. Gen Zers
3. The worst
4. Worthless degrees
5. An electrician
6. Over 4 million
7. AI
8. They might disappear
9. Entry-level jobs
10. At management level

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. Times are hard for youngsters looking for work.
2. Students who have just graduated from university.
3. A correspondent warned of a career apocalypse.
4. Taught today's graduates to prepare for the worst.
5. Be much better off if they became plumbers.
6. In the UK there is a similar problem.
7. This has risen by 100,000 in a year.
8. Graduates no longer want to do entry-level jobs.
9. Enter a company at a management level.
10. Get well paid in their very first job.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. b    2. d    3. c    4. a    5. b    6. a    7. c    8. a    9. d    10. c

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)