

SKILLS TEST 9 & 10

READING

1 Read the article. Match the information (1–8) with the numbers (a–h).

The best jobs

If you want to be healthy, one thing you need to do is choose a job that you love. After all, people spend a lot of their time working. But who are the happiest workers? Over 2,000 workers were interviewed, and here are the results.

If you work with plants, you will be happy – 87% of people who work in gardens or with flowers love their careers. Florists – people who sell flowers – are at the top. Florists don't earn a lot of money, but they see beautiful things every day and meet a lot of people. Also, they can quickly see if they are successful. It's easy. If they have healthy flowers around them and happy

customers, then they will know they have done a good job.

This might be the most important thing of all, and might explain why 79% of hairdressers also feel happy with their lives. They know if they've done a good job or not as soon as they have finished cutting someone's hair. However, only 62% of nurses, and 59% of teachers say that they are happy. Although they work hard to make other people better, the results of this work are not seen so quickly. Or, they may never be seen.

Another important thing is who you work for. Many florists or hairdressers are self-employed – meaning that they have their own company. Because of this,

they don't have to worry about making their boss happy, or being promoted. Research shows that over 90% of self-employed people are happy because they are able to control their own day, but only 54% of people who work for someone else are happy.

Money doesn't always make you happy, of course. Research shows that people with a pay of more than £60,000 a year are the unhappiest. Near the bottom of the list are IT workers. Despite their large salaries, only 48% love their jobs. Then, we have bankers – only 44% enjoy what they do. It seems that choosing a job because of what you might earn isn't always a good idea.

- 1 happy teachers
 - 2 happy hairdressers
 - 3 happy bankers
 - 4 happy florists
 - 5 happy IT workers
 - 6 the number of people who were questioned
 - 7 happy nurses
 - 8 people who work for someone else and are happy
- a 44%
 - b 48%
 - c 54%
 - d 59%
 - e 62%
 - f 79%
 - g 87%
 - h 2,000

2 Read the article again. Mark these sentences T (true) or F (false), or DS (the article doesn't say).

1 Florists are happy, but it's not a job for people who want to be rich.

2 People are happier when they can see if they have been successful or not.

3 Nurses and teachers always know if they have done a good job.

4 People who have their own company usually work long hours.

5 People who work for someone else are happier than self-employed workers.

6 People who have low pay are often happy.

7 The unhappiest people are IT workers.

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LISTENING

3  Listen to a talk by a girl called Kate. Tick [✓] the seven things she talks about.

She talks about:

- 1 The best way to sit at a desk.
- 2 Many people don't like what they do.
- 3 What people eat when they're unhappy.
- 4 How to make healthy food.
- 5 Why people don't do exercise.
- 6 How to stop working long hours.
- 7 Why it's bad when people don't think what you do is important.
- 8 Problems with sleep.
- 9 Unhappy people often get sick.
- 10 How to become a doctor.
- 11 Money isn't everything.
- 12 What the best job in the world is.

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4  Listen again to Kate's talk. Complete the notes with one word or number in each gap.

- 1 Kate says that between _____ and 40% of people don't enjoy the work they do.
- 2 People who are unhappy might eat bad food, like _____.
- 3 People who don't have energy don't _____.
- 4 Kate thinks it's a problem when you work hard, and other people don't say _____.
- 5 People with problems at work often take them _____.
- 6 Kate says that if you want to be healthy, you need to _____.
- 7 She also says that unhappy people need to go to a _____ more often than happy people.
- 8 She thinks that a job with lots of _____ isn't the most important thing.

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WRITING

- 5 Write a paragraph (100–125 words) about the job you wanted when you were a child. Continue the sentences below. Use some of the phrases below, and use the past perfect if possible.

When I was a child, I wanted to be a ...

This was because ...

- when
- as soon as
- then
- until
- while

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SPEAKING

- 6 Work in pairs. Talk about your photo for one minute.



- 7 Work in pairs. Discuss the question below for three minutes.

The photographs show people who were ill. Talk together about a time when you got sick (for example, with a cold). Talk about why you got sick, what happened, who helped you, and how you got better.

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TOTAL SCORE

70