

Lesson
1

On the Job

New Expressions

bump on a log	fingers furiously flying	oomph!
busy as a bee	machine	pull your own weight
fake it 'til you make it	mountain of work	the sky's the limit
	old hand	

Activating Knowledge

Ask your students these questions about careers and the world of work before reading the passages:

- What kind of work do your parents or other adults in your family do? How do they feel about their jobs? What one thing—besides being paid more money—do you think they would like to change about their jobs if they could?
- What are the differences between a job and a career? (Lead students to conclusions about satisfaction, training required, responsibilities, long-term expectations, etc.)
- Imagine everyone is paid the same for the job they do. Excluding professional athletes and entertainers, what are five jobs you'd choose to do and why? What are five jobs you would not choose to do and why?
- Have you thought about what job or career you would be best suited for? What training or education would you need to have?

After reading the passages, ask your students if they have any further questions about careers and training for a job. Lead your students in an Internet search for information that would answer their questions.

Materials

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Dear Congressman Ryan,

I'm asking for your support of the SafeTeen law. There are too many accidents and deaths among teens 16-19 years old in our state. The SafeTeen law will help **put the brakes on** some sad statistics.

We were all young once. We loved our cars and cruised a **million miles a minute** down the street with the radio blaring. I had an old hot rod that **purred like a kitten**, and all I wanted to do was drive and hang out with my friends. But those weren't all good memories. Many teens then were injured or killed in accidents. The truth is that teen drivers are the most unsafe drivers on the road. That hasn't changed.

The SafeTeen law would raise the driving age from 16 to 17 and restrict the number of after-dark hours a teen can legally drive. 75% of teen accidents happen after the sun goes down. Also, the younger a driver is, the more likely he is to be injured or killed.

I realize Congress isn't exactly **firing on all cylinders** these days, but this is an issue that should bring us all together. The lives and safety of our teens and all citizens on the road can be improved with this law. I look forward to your vote on the SafeTeen law.

Sincerely,
Dominique Wellington

Finish the Thought _____

1. Our gym teacher said, "Please don't **badger** me about _____

2. Grace said, "The state capitals test was such a **bear**, I don't know if _____

3. People **go ape** over my mom's _____ because she _____

4. Amanda thinks she should get the **lion's share** of the _____ because _____

5. Aunt Monica said, "I don't want any **monkey business** while you kids _____

6. When you come over, just ignore my dad. He likes to **roar** at the TV about _____

7. That kid is such a **snake in the grass**. Last week _____

8. The new kid is as **tall as a giraffe**, and he can _____

9. Ms. DeVane will **throw me to the wolves** if I don't _____

10. We had to **wolf down** our breakfasts because _____

Yes or No?

Circle Yes or No to answer each question. Be ready to give reasons for your answer.

- | | | |
|--|-----|----|
| 1. If someone is ahead of the game are they on the ball? | Yes | No |
| 2. If someone has a checkered past are they squeaky clean? | Yes | No |
| 3. Would you jump for joy if you got creamed ? | Yes | No |
| 4. When you hold all the cards can you call all the shots? | Yes | No |
| 5. If something gets lost in the shuffle , do you have all your ducks in a row? | Yes | No |
| 6. Is a lucky dog a born loser? | Yes | No |
| 7. Is it difficult to stay as cool as a cucumber in a no-win situation ? | Yes | No |
| 8. Can you make a fresh start after you pick up the pieces ? | Yes | No |
| 9. Is a sore loser a good sport? | Yes | No |
| 10. Is it time to pay the piper when the game is up ? | Yes | No |

In Your Own Words

- Why is it important to get **ahead of the game** when you have a big assignment?
- What things do you think someone with a **checkered past** might have done?
- When was a time you **got creamed** at something? What happened? How did you feel?
- Who's someone in your life you think **holds all the cards**? Why did you choose that person?
- Have you forgotten to do something because it got **lost in the shuffle**? What was the situation?
- Would you consider yourself a **lucky dog**? Why? Would you consider someone you know a lucky dog? Why?
- Tell me about a **no-win situation** you've been in or describe a no-win situation that might happen at home or at school.
- Who's someone you know who had to **pick up the pieces** after an event? What happened and how is he doing now?
- Do you know someone who is a **sore loser**? Who is it and why did you choose that person? Are there people who won't play with that person?
- Tell me about a time when you tried to get away with something but knew **the game was up**.