

Before you start

- 1 What sort of person are you? First, answer the questions below. Then compare your answers with the rest of the class. Do you all like the same things?

In your spare time, do you prefer:

- being alone or with other people?
- being inside or outside?
- being busy or relaxing?
- playing sport or watching television?
- wearing smart or casual clothes?

Reading

- 2 Read the text *A job in Engineering*. Put the main ideas (A–D) in the same order as they are in the text.

- A You need to think carefully about your personality.
 B There are lots of different jobs in engineering.
 C Think carefully about what you are interested in.
 D Engineering is a big subject.

A job in Engineering

- 1 There are lots of different types of engineering. The one thing they have in common is that they all use Maths and Science to improve industry and manufacturing. The whole science of engineering can be broadly divided into three main areas:
- civil engineering (buildings, roads, etc.)
 - mechanical engineering (machines, including tool-making)
 - electrical engineering (electricity, lighting, etc.)
- 2 Each of these three main area can be divided again into specialist subjects: civil engineering covers mining and bridge building, mechanical engineering covers aeronautical and automobile engineering, electrical engineering covers electricity generation and wiring.
- 3 Clearly there is a big difference between building a road and designing a computer system so the best advice for students is:
- think carefully about which area of engineering interests you most. It is difficult to study if you are not interested – and you may do the job until you are 60 years old.
 - think about what sort of person you are. Will you be happiest working in an office, in a factory, or outdoors? Do you mind getting dirty? Do you want to work with other people or alone? If you like wearing high heels and beautiful clothes, you may not be happy on a building site.
- 4 When you have decided which area you are interested in and thought realistically about what sort of person you are, then you can decide what sort of engineer you want to be.

- 3 Read the text again. Choose the correct words to complete the sentences (1–4) below.

- 1 Engineering *is/isn't* a small area.
 2 Engineering *is/isn't* about Science and Maths.
 3 Office buildings and bridges *are/aren't* examples of civil engineering.
 4 Tool- and machine-making *are/aren't* examples of electrical engineering.

Vocabulary

- 4 Look at the types of engineers (1–5) below. First, underline any new words and check the meaning in the glossary or your dictionary. Then write whether the jobs are *indoor* or *outdoor*, and *dirty* or *clean*.

- 1 petroleum

- 2 sanitation

- 3 textile

- 4 computer

- 5 chemical

Writing and Speaking

- 5 Write your name and the type of engineer you want to be on a small piece of paper. Put your paper in a box and take out another student's paper. Write three questions to check if that person is choosing the right type of engineering.

For example:

Mining engineer

- Do you like working indoors or outdoors?
- Do you mind getting dirty?
- Do you like going underground?

- 6 Find the student and ask them the questions. Have they chosen the right type of engineering?

Get real

Find examples of job advertisements for engineers in your town. What type of engineers are employers looking for? Find out the English words.