

Real life, your life?

Activity 10

Employ me – It's a jungle out there!



The final activity. Let's go back to where we started: focusing on your future life, study and employment. To become the person you want to be you'll need new skills. That must mean it's time to play *Employ me – It's a jungle out there!*

Lesson time guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This activity is a series of six mini tasks which lead to the completion of a final quiz on life and career choices.• Completing this activity will take about 80 minutes including the completion or revision of a curriculum vitae.
QCDA PLTS Framework links	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• assess themselves and others, identifying opportunities and achievements• set goals with success criteria for their development and work• review progress, acting on the outcomes• evaluate experiences and learning to inform future progress
Subject applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• English, PSHE and careers.

The QCDA framework outlines the personal, learning and thinking skills (PLTS) that young people will need as they enter the world of work and adult life.

The skills are grouped into:

- **independent enquirers**
- **creative thinker**
- **reflective learners**
- **team workers**
- **self managers**
- **effective participators.**

We think that success in all of these would look like an employer's dream come true.

see over >>>>

Let's test this in a final activity.

The aim of the game is to get the job you want. To do this, you'll need to work through those personal, learning and thinking skills listed above. For each of the six PLTS there's a situation with questions which you will need to answer. Write down all your answers.

Round 1

Independent enquirers

You evaluate information; you plan what to do and how to go about it; you take well-informed decisions and recognise that others have different beliefs and attitudes.

Have a look at the Careers section of the [Step into the NHS](#) website.

Check out any career you know nothing about (how about the maxillofacial prosthetist?) and find out three key facts about that career. Write down your responses. Now decide why this is or isn't your kind of career and write down your thoughts.

Round 2

Creative thinkers

You generate and explore ideas and you make original connections; you try different ways to tackle a problem and you work with others to find imaginative solutions and outcomes that work.

For this activity you need to work with your partner and another pair. You'll be playing against another group of four.

This is all about creativity and using imaginative ideas – so anything goes! You will be making up the questions to answers set by another group of four – and that means that you need to provide some answers first. They can be simple (for example: green, 24, banana), they can be more difficult (German, Celtic, February) or they can be just bizarre (42, nail clippings, Chocolate Labrador). It's best to provide a mix of answers.

There are no right questions to the answers so as soon as you've got your answers from the other group you can go work on thinking creatively. You must come up with as many questions as you can in five minutes. Think out of the box! Write down your questions and the answers.

After five minutes share your questions with the group that gave you the answers you had to use.

Now, circle the three best questions and answers – they might be the funniest, most bizarre or just the most complicated.

Round 3

Reflective learners

You evaluate your strengths and weaknesses; you set yourself realistic goals and you monitor your progress; you invite feedback from others and you make changes to improve your learning.

Have a look at the '[Map your career](#)' section of the Step into the NHS web site.

Take the test and see how well you do. If you tried this activity earlier, see if you get a different result this time. Write down the answer. Talk to your partner about the outcome and link this to the quiz in Activity 1. Write down your thoughts. Now each decide on one thing you could do to make a difference in the way you learn things. That's it – you're done.

Round 4

Team workers

You work confidently with others; you listen to and take account of different views; you make collaborative relationships and you resolve issues to reach agreed outcomes.

Think about any of the activities you have done in *Real life; your life*. Check what you did against the criteria above.

- Did you work confidently?
- Did you listen to others and take account of their different views?
- Did you collaborate with your partner when planning the show to reach agreed outcomes?

Fill in the grid with your thoughts and comments on how you met these criteria. Be honest, but give yourself a pat on the back where you deserve it!

Round 5

Self managers

You organise yourself and show responsibility and initiative; you are committed to learning and self-improvement; you embrace change and respond positively to new priorities and cope well with new challenges and opportunities.

You've got this far – that's an achievement! This group of skills are ones we all continue to develop in the worlds of work and adult life. Everything that you have done as part of these activities moves you further along in your personal, learning and thinking skills.

Score this one by being confident in your learning, forward looking in your self development and positive that life is an adventure with opportunities round every corner. There's no grid for you to complete but have a look at this section in the grid for a memorable quote.

Round 6

Effective partners

You actively engage with issues that affect you; you play a full part in the life of your school, college, workplace or wider community and you take action to bring improvements for others as well as yourself.

This is the last activity in the *Real Life, Your Life* pack and the focus is right back on you. To help secure the career you really want, you need to tell the story of who you are, what you have achieved and where you would like to go through a curriculum vitae (or CV).

This document must tell the world of work what kind of person you are. Look again at the group of skills listed above. They are all about how you interact with others where you study or work – an important part of your CV. Now, put all of the six PLTS categories together and you have some great section titles for a really good CV. Can you show that you are an independent enquirer, a creative thinker, a reflective learner, a team worker, a self-manager and an effective partner?

We've scoured the world for information about what makes a good CV and here are our top five tips:

- **Keep it real**

Tell the truth about what you have achieved. Don't risk someone finding out that small untruth when you *really* have something to lose.

- **Sell yourself**

We're not very good at blowing our own trumpets. But in a CV you should. Find ways of being positive about who you are and what you've achieved – think back to the PLTS for guidance.

- **It's not about how good you were at school**

According to a recent survey, only 8% of employers think that academic qualifications reliably indicate future performance in the job. Much more important are the qualities you have.

- **Sweat the small stuff**

Take care over the smallest details in your CV. That same survey showed that incompletely or inaccurately-addressed CVs and CV cover letters were immediately rejected.

- **Match the job**

Check out what the employer wants in the job specification and think about how you tell them that you are just the person they are looking for. Always customise your CV to match the job.

Now it's over to you – good luck!



Employ me -

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Round 1: Independent enquirer

You evaluate information; you plan what to do and how to go about it; you take well-informed decisions and recognise that others have different beliefs and attitudes.

Tasks	Your response(s)	Comments and thoughts
Your three key facts	1	
	2	
	3	

Round 2: Creative thinker

You generate and explore ideas and you make original connections; you try different ways to tackle a problem and you work with others to find imaginative solutions and outcomes that work.

	Answer	Question
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		

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Round 3: Reflective learners

You evaluate your strengths and weaknesses; you set yourself realistic goals and you monitor your progress; you invite feedback from others and you make changes to improve your learning.

Task	Your response(s)	Comments and thoughts
Map your career test		
Activity 1 quiz		
Making a difference in learning		

Round 4: Team worker

You work confidently with others; you listen to and take account of different views; you make collaborative relationships and you resolve issues to reach agreed outcomes.

Tasks	Your response(s)	Comments and thoughts
Working confidently?		
Listening to others and taking account of views?		
Collaborating and reaching agreed outcomes?		

Round 5: Self-manager

You organise yourself and show responsibility and initiative; you are committed to learning and self-improvement; you embrace change and respond positively to new priorities and cope well with new challenges and opportunities.

Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people do that, but the really great make you feel that you, too, can somehow become great.

Mark Twain

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Round 6: Effective participator

You actively engage with issues that affect you; you play a full part in the life of your school, college, workplace or wider community and you take action to bring improvements for others as well as yourself.

The best CVs:	So:	What will you do?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• keep it real	Tell the truth about what you have achieved. Don't risk someone finding out that small untruth when you really have something to lose.	<i>I'll make sure that all the details about what I've written are completely accurate.</i> <i>Anything else?</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• sell yourself	We're not very good at blowing our own trumpets. But in a CV you should. Find ways of being positive about who you are and what you've achieved – think back to the PLTS for guidance.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• are not about how good you were at school	According to a recent survey, only 8% of employers think that academic qualifications reliably indicate future performance in the job. What's much more important are the qualities you have.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• sweat the small stuff	Take care over the smallest details in your CV. That same survey showed that incompletely or inaccurately addressed CVs and CV cover letters were immediately rejected	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• match the job	Check out what the employer wants in the job specification and think about how you tell them that you are just the person they are looking for. Always customise your CV to match the job.	