



JA Career Speakers Series

After watching the *JA Career Speakers* volunteer video, reflect on what the speaker said, and then complete the following activities.

Think About It

- What about the speaker's occupation intrigued you?
- What, if anything, did the speaker tell about his or her job that you could not see yourself doing?
- Had you ever heard of this company or occupation? What did you know about it before watching the video?

Try It: Online Research

Research the company or organization. Make notes in a separate document. You will need them for your writing assignment. Cite your sources.

- Start with the company website. Most company websites have an “about” section that provides an overview of the company.
 - Investigate the company's products or services.
 - Discover other occupations at the company and make a list of the types of jobs people do there. You can explore the “about us” or “careers” section of the company's website.
- Research the speaker's occupation on the O*Net My Next Move website at <https://www.mynextmove.org/>.
 - Type the speaker's job title in the search field under “I want to be a...” Select the result that most closely matches the speaker's job.
 - Read through the job information, taking notes about the skills, knowledge, and abilities that interest you or match your own. You might also want to note the education required, wages and job outlook, and any other interesting facts or features.
- Visit the U.S. Department of Labor site, O*NET, at <https://www.onetonline.org/>.
 - In the top navigation bar, locate the “Find Occupations” drop-down menu, select Career Cluster, and use the arrow button to find the career cluster most closely associated with the speaker's career. Select “Go” to investigate and identify the career most closely related to the speaker's job.
 - Find two other careers within that cluster that might interest you, again taking notes about the details.



Try It: Explore and Explain

Using the information you gained from your research, choose one of the following four activities. Your teacher may assign a specific activity to you. You may be required to turn in your work. Follow the instructions your teacher provides.

Interview an Adult

- Create a set of interview questions appropriate for the speaker's occupation, and conduct an interview with an adult you know who works in a similar field. Come up with at least six questions to try to determine what the interviewee's typical day looks like, what skills are required for the position, and what the right kind of education and training are for this field. Consider these examples:
 - Did you go to school to learn your job?
 - How many days a week do you work? How many hours per day?
 - Are you able to do your job in a virtual or digital environment?
 - Do you work indoors or out? With a team or solo? In an office or cubicle?
 - How do listening skills help you perform your job?
 - What is your favorite or the easiest thing to do at work? What is your least favorite?
 - Why is your job important to you? Why is your job important to your company or organization?
 - What subject do you wish you had studied more in school? Why?
 - What kinds of problems do you need to solve? How do you make your decisions?
- When you have finished your interview, write a paragraph explaining whether you believe the job is a good fit for your interests and skills.

Recruitment Brochure

- Create a recruitment brochure that the company you researched might use when recruiting for job candidates.
 - Include information about the company and what it does, the work environment, and the various job opportunities and career fields available. If possible, include information about benefits. Be sure to include aspects of the job and the company that would appeal to a potential employee.
- When you have finished your brochure, write a paragraph explaining whether you believe the job is a good fit for your interests and skills.



Venn Diagram

- Create a Venn diagram comparing two of the occupations you researched.
 - Examine the job outlook, education, work environment, salary, technology, and other key features.
- When you have finished your diagram, write a paragraph explaining which of the two jobs you believe is a better fit for your interests and skills and why.

Imagine this Job

- Imagine yourself in the speaker's occupation or similar career:
 - What would your day look like?
 - What tasks would you perform?
 - What kind of communication would you encounter?
 - With whom would you work?
- Write a "Day in the Life of..." story about your imagined job.
 - Use relevant descriptive details from your research and the speaker's talk. Describe your job, what you accomplish, and how you spend your time.
 - Write your story using chronological sequence and a variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses to signal or show shifts from one time frame or event to another.
 - Use showing language to help the reader imagine the setting and your feelings about your job.