

work	du travail
a job	un travail, un emploi
an occupation [ˌɒkjuˈpeɪʃən]	une profession, une activité professionnelle
the professions	les professions libérales
a career [kəˈrɪə]	une carrière
the world of work	le monde du travail
to be at work	être au travail
the workplace	le lieu de travail
to work from home	travailler chez soi
to work part time	travailler à temps partiel OU à mi-temps
to work full time	travailler à plein temps
the working class	la classe ouvrière
the working population	la population active
the working life	la vie active
working conditions	les conditions de travail
a workshop	un atelier
a factory, a plant	une usine
a sweatshop [ˈswetʃɒp]	un atelier clandestin (où la main d'œuvre est exploitée)
to work hard	travailler beaucoup
to be hard-working	être travailleur
a hard worker, a workaholic [ˌwɜːkəˈhɒlɪk]	un travailleur acharné, un bourreau de travail
a work permit	un permis de travail
to be on duty / off duty	être / ne pas être de service OU de garde

The **working poor** are people who remain poor although they have jobs. Some may hold several part-time jobs in order to make ends meet (*joindre les deux bouts*) but are employed only part of the year so that they live near or below the poverty line (*seuil de pauvreté*). According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, of the 43.6 million Americans living below the poverty line in 2009, 10.4 million were among the working poor. Experts disagree on the extent and causes of the trend (*phénomène*), as well as on the appropriate responses. Some on the right of the political spectrum (*éventail politique*) argue in favour of tax cuts, holding that this will eventually create job opportunities—this is called the trickle-down effect (*effet de ruissellement*). Progressives, on the other hand, maintain that increased taxes are needed to fund (*financer*) welfare programmes (to subsidize housing, for instance) or job training programmes that will help the working poor become more competitive on the job market.

unemployment, joblessness	le chômage
to be unemployed, jobless, out of work	être au chômage

unemployment rate, jobless rate
 the unemployed, the jobless
 long-term unemployment
 youth unemployment
 unemployment benefit
 to be on the dole (GB),
 to be on welfare (US)
 job market, labour market
 a fixed-term contract
 an open-ended contract
 job flexibility
 work flexitime (GB) flexitime (US)
 job security / insecurity
 an internship, a work placement
 an intern, a trainee
 a casual ['kæʒjʊl] worker
 an odd job, a casual job
 a summer job
 a temporary worker
 to temp, to work as a temp

taux de chômage
 les chômeurs
 le chômage de longue durée
 le chômage des jeunes
 allocation chômage
 toucher le chômage

le marché du travail, de l'emploi
 un contrat à durée déterminée, CDD
 un contrat à durée indéterminée, CDI
 la flexibilité de l'emploi
 avoir des horaires flexibles
 la sécurité / la précarité de l'emploi
 un stage
 un stagiaire
 un travailleur précaire
 un petit boulot
 un boulot d'été
 un intérimaire
 faire de l'intérim

Uber is the name of a company which created an app to allow its customers to request a trip that is then routed (*expédié*) to its drivers using their own cars. **Uberization** is the term used to describe how Uber's business model, which consists in reducing costs by optimizing the use of its assets (drivers and their cars) thanks to computing platforms, has been spreading to other parts of the economy such as the hotel industry (Airbnb), food delivery (Deliveroo)... The notion of uberization is closely linked to the emergence of the **gig economy**, in which companies hire independent workers (freelancers) instead of full-time employees. The gig economy can benefit workers, businesses, and consumers by making work more adaptable to the needs of the moment and workers' demand for flexible lifestyles but has often been accused of undermining workers' rights.

to employ
 an employer
 an employee
 to change jobs
 to hire ['haɪə], to take on a worker
 to recruit [rɪ'krʊ:t]
 a trial period
 a post, a position
 to appoint sb to a post
 to transfer sb
 a responsible job
 a menial ['mi:niəl] job
 a job-seeker
 a Jobcenter (GB)
 a curriculum vitae, a CV, a résumé (US)
 work experience
 skills

employer
 un employeur
 un employé
 changer de travail
 embaucher un travailleur
 recruter
 une période d'essai
 un poste
 nommer qn à un poste
 muter qn
 un poste à responsabilité(s)
 un emploi subalterne
 un demandeur d'emploi
 une agence Pôle emploi
 un CV, un curriculum vitae
 expérience professionnelle
 des compétences

to apply for a job	être candidat à un emploi, faire une demande d'emploi
an applicant	un candidat à un poste
a job interview	un entretien d'embauche
a job offer, a job vacancy, a job opportunity	une offre d'emploi
labour ['leɪbə']	travail OU main d'œuvre
female labour / child labour	la main d'œuvre féminine / le travail des enfants
labour standards	les normes en matière d'emploi
manpower, workforce	la main d'œuvre
staff, personnel	le personnel
a colleague, a co-worker, a workmate	un collègue, un camarade de travail
human resources [ˈhʌmənˈrɪsɪz]	les ressources humaines

Labour means the same as "work" (hence "manual labour" (*travail manuel*) or "labourer", another word for "manual worker" (*travailleur manuel, manœuvre*). The British labour movement gave birth to the **Labour Party** (*parti travailliste*) in 1906. After its new leader, Tony Blair, moved it to the centre of the political stage, it became New Labour in the early 1990s. T. Blair went on to win three successive general elections and remained in power from 1997 to 2007. Labor Day, a bank holiday in the US and Canada, is observed on the first Monday in September. In the US, it traditionally marks the beginning of the official campaign for the presidential election which takes place approximately two months later, in early November.

a skilled / low-skilled / an unskilled job	un travail qualifié / peu qualifié / non qualifié
an unskilled worker	un ouvrier spécialisé, OS
a blue-collar worker	un ouvrier
a white-collar worker	un employé de bureau
a state employee, a civil servant	un fonctionnaire
a public-sector employee	un salarié du secteur public
a high-ranking civil servant	un haut fonctionnaire
to be self-employed	être indépendant, travailler à son compte
the self-employed	les travailleurs indépendants
fees [fiːz]	des honoraires

George W Bush, the former US president, once made a fool of himself (*se ridiculiser*) in a speech he made in defence of America's free-market ideology. To highlight (*souligner*) the merits of America's entrepreneurial culture, he attacked French state interventionism and went on to say that "the French don't even have a word for '**entrepreneur**'" [*ɒntɹəprəʊ'nɜː(r)*], thus exhibiting his ignorance of the fact that English actually borrowed the word "entrepreneur" from the French. But it is probably true that, given the way American people revere individual freedom and the notion of the "self-made man", they attach more importance than the French to free enterprise (*libre entreprise*) and entrepreneurship (*l'esprit d'entreprise*), and that being entrepreneurial (*entreprenant*) is a more highly valued quality in the US than in France.

pay
 salary
 wages [weɪdʒɪz]
 to earn money, to make money
 to earn a living, to earn one's living,
 to make a living
 What does he do for a living?
 a badly-paid job, a low-paid job
 a well-paid job, a highly-paid job
 a wage-earner
 a bonus (pl: bonuses)
 ['bəʊnəs, 'bəʊnəsɪz]
 a perk [pɜ:k], a fringe benefit
 a company car
 performance-related pay
 to be on a company's payroll
 holiday, vacation (US) [və'keɪʃən]
 paid holiday
 to be on holiday
 a bank holiday
 to be on sick leave
 to take two days off
 reduction of working hours
 the 35-hour working week

paie, paye
 salaire
 salaire (d'ouvrier)
 gagner de l'argent
 gagner sa vie

Que fait-il dans la vie ?
 un travail mal payé
 un travail bien payé
 un salarié
 une prime

un avantage (en nature), avantage annexe
 une voiture de fonction
 salaire au rendement
 être employé par une entreprise
 des vacances
 les congés payés
 être en vacances
 un jour férié
 être en congé maladie
 prendre deux jours de congé
 réduction du temps de travail, RTT
 les 35 heures, la semaine de 35 heures

They lived in desperate straits (*dans une situation désespérée*) in Poland, often homeless and suffering from addictions. So when the call came to get free housing and well-paid jobs in Britain, hundreds decided to make the move. But instead of a better life, the British authorities said on Friday, the immigrants found themselves in the clutches (*entre les griffes*) of a human trafficking ring that lured (*attirer*) workers to England, starved them, crowded them into squalid (*sordide*) housing, forced them to work long hours at menial jobs, stole their wages and paid them as little as £10, or about \$12, a week. Eight of the group's members have been found guilty of trafficking and forced labor in the "largest ever modern slavery prosecution" in Britain.

The New York Times, July 5, 2019

to cut jobs
 to slash, to axe jobs

supprimer des emplois
 faire des coupes sombres, claires
 dans la main d'œuvre

job losses
 to streamline
 to downsize
 to lay off workers, to make workers
 redundant

des pertes d'emploi, suppressions d'emploi
 rationaliser
 dégraisser ses effectifs
 licencier des salariés

a redundancy [rɪ'dʌndənsɪ]
 a voluntary redundancy
 a redundancy plan
 redundancy payment, severance pay,
 severance package
 a golden parachute, a golden handshake

un licenciement (économique)
 un départ volontaire
 un plan social
 indemnité de licenciement,
 prime de départ
 un parachute doré

to dismiss sb
to fire, to sack, to give sb the sack
to get the sack

renvoyer, licencier, congédier qn
mettre à la porte, renvoyer, virer
être renvoyé

Unemployment levels will be an important test of the economic impact of COVID-19. Some sectors have seen employees furloughed *en masse*, and the longer-term effect on businesses could mean that many lose their jobs permanently. Aside from causing financial difficulties, unemployment can take its toll (*faire des ravages*) emotionally and psychologically... [Our research shows that] unemployment hurts less when you are surrounded by unemployed neighbours. One explanation for this is to do with strong social expectations surrounding work. People often internalise feelings of guilt and shame when not working as they perceive unemployment as violating traditional social norms. So while greater levels of unemployment make it harder to find a new job, it may also diminish the psychological cost of unemployment, as the social pressure to work may not be as strong when surrounded by unemployed neighbours. *The Conversation*, September 14, 2021

an industrial dispute [dis'pjut]
to go on strike / be on strike
a striker
management and workers
a shop steward ['stju:əd]
a (trade) union
a claim
wage claims, wage demands
a payrise (GB), a payraise (US)
to resume [ri'zju:m] work

un conflit social
se mettre / être en grève
un gréviste
la direction et les salariés
un délégué syndical
un syndicat
une revendication
des revendications salariales
une augmentation de salaire
reprendre le travail

Basic income—the proposal to give a flat, non-means-tested (*inconditionnel*) payment to every citizen—is an old idea. It has been around for centuries, and for centuries its proponents have largely been dismissed as utopian, or insane, or both. This year, however, that insanity is gradually becoming a political reality. Finland is considering giving its citizens an unconditional stipend (*traitement*) of €800 a month... "Basic income is about power, about letting it go", Michael Bohmeyer, a former entrepreneur, told me. "It's about trusting people. It gives them the freedom to say no and to ask the question: how do I really want to live? Basic income is not a left-wing idea, or a right-wing one. It's a humanistic idea. It strengthens human beings against the system and it gives them the freedom to rethink it."

Laurie Penny, *New Statesman*, April 15, 2016

to retire [ri'taɪə]
to resign [ri'zain], to step down
a pensioner, an old age pensioner,
a retiree (US)
retirement
to take early retirement
retirement age

prendre sa retraite
démissionner
un retraité
la retraite
partir en pré-retraite
l'âge de la retraite

Traduire en français

1. A sweatshop is a factory or workshop, especially in the clothing industry, where manual workers are employed at very low wages for long hours and under poor conditions.
2. Many of the employment opportunities for women are concentrated in low-skilled occupations with low pay, and only a few women are in high-level positions.
3. A century ago, Max Weber, a founder of sociology, observed that the Protestant work ethic was what had made northern Europe and America rich.
4. Peggy got into a minor business school but with the slump, her prospects weren't very good when she graduated.
5. She occupied a few menial jobs but then she went on a training course in Karlsruhe, and now she's just been promoted to Sales Manager in a German multinational.
6. An employment outlook survey found that 31% of employers worldwide were having difficulty filling positions because of a shortage of suitable candidates.
7. High youth unemployment was one big reason for the demonstrations in Cairo that brought down Mubarak's regime.
8. The Laffer curve shows that raising tax rates beyond a certain level, results in lower levels of tax revenue because it discourages people from working.
9. The introduction of a minimum wage was one of Labour's first major reforms after Tony Blair was elected in 1997.
10. A benefit of raising the minimum wage is that those workers are the most likely to cycle their money back into the economy, since they can't afford to save it.

Traduire en anglais

1. Mon fils m'a dit qu'il serait pompier quand il serait grand.
2. Les femmes représentent un pourcentage de plus en plus important de la population active dans la plupart des pays de nos jours.
3. En 2007, « Travailler plus pour gagner plus » était un des slogans de M. Sarkozy, qui voulait que les heures supplémentaires soient défiscalisées.
4. Les effets bénéfiques des 35 heures, qui ont été mises en place par le gouvernement Jospin, ont été très contestés par le patronat.
5. À l'époque, je gagnais tout juste de quoi nourrir ma famille.
6. Vincent travaille comme cuisinier depuis plusieurs années, mais il n'a toujours pas de CDI.
7. Le taux de chômage a augmenté rapidement dans les années 70 puis s'est stabilisé autour de 10% avant de repartir à la hausse début 2000.
8. En 2009, les Américains ont pris 13 jours de congé en moyenne, tandis que les Britanniques en avaient 26 et les Français, 38.
9. Deborah est intérimaire, ce qui veut dire qu'elle n'a pas besoin de donner de préavis si elle veut arrêter de travailler.
10. On emploie le terme argotique de « McJob » (d'après le nom d'une chaîne de restauration rapide) pour désigner un petit boulot mal payé et sans perspective d'avenir.

Questions

Why is it that Americans work so much harder than Europeans in general and French people in particular?

Should job-seekers be made to feel responsible for their plight?

Why is youth unemployment particularly worrying?

01. Quelle est la traduction correcte des faux-amis suivants?

1. Send us a **résumé** and we will see whether we might have a job for you. _____
2. The workers' wage **demands** are totally unrealistic. _____
3. My boss intends to **retire** by December, so I will take over. _____
4. Dave **resigned** from his job because he wanted to work less. _____
5. People working in the **professions** (lawyers, doctors...) need special training and have to pass special examinations. _____

02. Trouver un synonyme pour les mots suivants.

1. to be unemployed • 2. to fire sb • 3. a job offer • 4. a retiree • 5. severance payment

03. Compléter les phrases avec la préposition ou particule adéquate.

1. What do you do _____ a living?
2. The workers went _____ strike and claimed a 10% payrise.
3. I've been _____ the dole ever since I lost my job with Marks and Spencer.
4. A third of the company's workforce was laid _____ as a result of the recession.
5. You know your dad's not at home, he's _____ work.
6. I will have to take a day _____ in order to be able to go to the doctor's.
7. Now that the economy is thriving, more engineers are being taken _____.
8. Mortimer was away _____ sick leave for two days but he's back now.
9. Lynn was so discouraged that she didn't even apply _____ the job.
10. My wife is a nurse but fortunately she's often _____ duty at the weekend.

04. Trouver les mots correspondant à ces définitions.

1. A _____ is a place where things are made or repaired using tools or machines.
2. A _____ is an organization that represents the people who work in a particular industry and protects their rights.
3. A _____ is a sum of money that is given to you on top of your salary, especially as a reward for good work.
4. A _____ is something (such as free food, a company car...) that you get from your work in addition to your pay.
5. A _____ is someone who works so much that they find it difficult to stop working or do not have any time left to do anything else.

05. Associer les mots suivants pour former cinq noms composés et les traduire.

age - state - job - conditions - retirement - interview - work - working - permit - employee

17 — UNEMPLOYMENT

Translation from English into French

1. A sweatshop is a factory or workshop, especially in the clothing industry, where manual workers are employed at very low wages for long hours and under poor conditions. **Un atelier clandestin est une usine ou un atelier, surtout dans la confection, où les ouvriers sont très peu payés, font beaucoup d'heures et travaillent dans de mauvaises conditions.**
2. Many of the employment opportunities for women are concentrated in low-skilled occupations with low pay, and only a few women are in high-level positions. **Beaucoup des possibilités d'emploi pour les femmes sont concentrées dans les professions faiblement qualifiées et mal rémunérées, et rares sont celles qui occupent un poste élevé.**
3. A century ago, Max Weber, a founder of sociology, observed that the Protestant work ethic was what had made northern Europe and America rich. **Il y a un siècle, Max Weber, un des fondateurs de la sociologie, observa que c'est grâce à l'éthique du travail protestante que l'Europe du Nord et l'Amérique étaient devenues riches.**
4. Peggy got into a minor business school but with the slump, her prospects weren't very good when she graduated. **Peggy a intégré une petite école de commerce mais avec la récession, ses débouchés n'étaient pas très bons quand elle a obtenu son diplôme.**
5. She occupied a few menial jobs but then she went on a training course in Karlsruhe, and now she's just been promoted to Sales Manager in a German multinational. **Elle a occupé quelques postes subalternes mais ensuite elle a suivi une formation à Karlsruhe et maintenant elle vient d'être promue Directeur des Ventes dans une multinationale allemande.**
6. An employment outlook survey found that 31% of employers worldwide were having difficulty filling positions because of a shortage of suitable candidates. **Une enquête sur les perspectives de l'emploi a révélé qu'à l'échelle mondiale, 31 % des employeurs avaient du mal à pourvoir les postes vacants en raison d'une pénurie de candidats acceptables.**
7. High youth unemployment was one big reason for the demonstrations in Cairo that brought down Mubarak's regime. **Le taux élevé du chômage des jeunes a été l'une des grandes raisons des manifestations du Caire qui ont emporté le régime de Moubarak.**
8. The Laffer curve shows that raising tax rates beyond a certain level, results in lower levels of tax revenue because it discourages people from working. **La courbe de Laffer montre qu'une augmentation des taux d'imposition au-delà d'un certain seuil se solde par une baisse des recettes fiscales parce que cela dissuade les gens de travailler.**
9. The introduction of a minimum wage was one of Labour's first major reforms after Tony Blair was elected in 1997. **L'instauration d'un salaire minimum a été l'une des premières grandes réformes des Travaillistes après l'élection de Tony Blair en 1997.**

10. A benefit of raising the minimum wage is that those workers are the most likely to cycle their money back into the economy, since they can't afford to save it. **Un avantage de l'augmentation du salaire minimum, c'est que ces travailleurs sont les plus susceptibles de réinjecter leur argent dans l'économie étant donné qu'ils ne peuvent pas se permettre de l'économiser.**

Translation from French into English

1. Mon fils m'a dit qu'il serait pompier quand il serait grand. **My son told me he would be a firefighter when he was older.**
2. Les femmes représentent un pourcentage de plus en plus important de la population active dans la plupart des pays de nos jours. **Women make up a growing percentage of the working population in most countries nowadays.**
3. En 2007, « Travailler plus pour gagner plus » était un des slogans de M. Sarkozy, qui voulait que les heures supplémentaires soient défiscalisées. **In 2007 "working more so as to earn more" was one of the slogans of Mr Sarkozy, who wanted overtime to be exempted from taxation.**
4. Les effets bénéfiques des 35 heures, qui ont été mises en place par le gouvernement Jospin, ont été très contestés par le patronat. **The beneficial effects of the 35-hour working week, which was implemented by the Jospin government, have been hotly contested by employers.**
5. À l'époque, je gagnais tout juste de quoi nourrir ma famille. **At the time, I earned barely enough to support my family.**
6. Vincent travaille comme cuisinier depuis plusieurs années, mais il n'a toujours pas de CDI. **Vincent's been working as a cook for several years, but he still doesn't have a permanent contract.**
7. Le taux de chômage a augmenté rapidement dans les années 70 puis s'est stabilisé autour de 10% avant de repartir à la hausse début 2000. **The unemployment rate rose quickly in the seventies, then levelled off at about 10% before starting to rise again in early 2000.**
8. En 2009, les Américains ont pris 13 jours de congés en moyenne, tandis que les Britanniques en avaient 26 et les Français, 38. **In 2009, Americans took 13 days off on average, while Britons had 26 and the French, 38.**
9. Deborah est intérimaire, ce qui veut dire qu'elle n'a pas besoin de donner de préavis si elle veut arrêter de travailler. **Deborah works as a temp, which means she does not have to give notice if she wants to stop working.**
10. On emploie le terme argotique de « McJob » (d'après le nom d'une chaîne de restauration rapide) pour désigner un petit boulot mal payé et sans perspective d'avenir. **The slang term McJob (after the name of a fast food chain) is used to refer to a badly-paid, dead end job.**