

TEAMWORK.- Culture and People: A new career.

Ten steps to a successful career change.

Interested in a new career? If so, it is important to take the time to evaluate your present situation, to explore career options and to choose a career that will be satisfying for you.



1. Evaluate your current _____. Keep a journal of your daily reactions to your job situation. Which aspects of your current job do you like/dislike? Are your dissatisfactions related to the content of your work your company culture or the people with whom you work?
2. Assess _____, values and skills through _____ self help resources. Review past successful roles, volunteer work, projects and jobs to identify preferred activities and skills.
3. _____ ideas for career alternatives by discussing your core values/skills with friends, family, networking contacts and counselors.
4. Conduct a preliminary comparative _____ of several fields to identify a few targets for in depth research.
5. Read _____ about those fields and reach out to personal contacts in those arenas for informational interviews.
6. Shadow _____ in fields of primary interest to observe work first hand. Spend anywhere from a few hours to a few days _____ job shadowing people who have jobs that interest you.
7. Identify _____ related to your target field to test your interest e.g. if you're interested in working with animals, volunteer at your local shelter.
8. Investigate _____ that would bridge your background to your new field. Consider taking an evening course at a local college. Spend some time at one day or weekend seminars.
9. Look for ways _____ new skills in your current job which would pave the way for a change e.g. offer to write a grant proposal if grant writing is valued in your new field. If your company offers in-house training, sign up for as many classes as you can.
10. Consider alternative _____ within your current industry which would utilize the industry knowledge you already have e.g. if you are a programmer who doesn't want to program, consider technical sales or project management.

Adapted from: <http://jobsearch.about.com/cs/careerresources/a/10steps.htm>

Autoevaluación

Some words are missing in the text above. Can you complete the paragraphs?

Matching exercise

Missing words	Match	Paragraphs
Brainstorm.	<input type="checkbox"/>	1.
As much as you can.	<input type="checkbox"/>	2.
Volunteer and freelance activities.	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.
Educational opportunities.	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.
Professionals.	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.
Job satisfaction.	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.
Your interests.	<input type="checkbox"/>	7.
To develop.	<input type="checkbox"/>	8.
Roles.	<input type="checkbox"/>	9.
Evaluation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	10.

Enviar

If you had problems to complete this exercise, read the text again.

A step ahead

If you want to learn more about changing jobs, visit this website.

[Career change.](#)



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[Aviso Legal](#)

1.- Business idioms: A successful career.

As you already know **idioms** are fixed expressions whose meaning does not come from the meaning of the individual words which form these expressions. Idioms are informal expressions, so don't use them in formal situations.



We've already learned about **climbing the corporate ladder**. This idiom means to advance in one's career; the process of getting promoted and making it to senior management.

- ✓ *Do you want to climb the corporate ladder? It helps to be productive and to look good in front of your boss.*

Below you can find a list of idioms related to having a successful career.

- ✓ **Bang for the buck:** value for the money spent.
 - *We were able to get much bang for the buck when we advertised on the Internet.*
- ✓ **Big cheese/gun/wheel:** an important person, a leader.
 - *The new director was a big wheel in his previous company.*
- ✓ **Company man:** a person who always works hard for his company and supports the company policies.
 - *My father was a company man and he always put in an extra effort for his company.*
- ✓ **(To) cut a deal:** to make a business arrangement or contract with someone.
 - *I was able to cut a deal with the contractor and we paid very little for our new kitchen.*
- ✓ **(To) gain ground:** to go forward, to make progress.
 - *Our company is gaining ground in its attempt to be the best in the industry.*
- ✓ **(To) get a raise:** to get an increase in one's salary.
 - *My sister works hard and she recently got a raise in her new job.*
- ✓ **(To) get off the ground:** to make a successful beginning.
 - *We were unable to get the new product off the ground but we will try again next year.*
- ✓ **(To) give (someone) the green light:** to give someone permission to go ahead or proceed with something.
 - *Our boss gave us the green light to begin work on the new sales campaign.*
- ✓ **(To) have good contacts:** to know people who can help you get a job or do some kind of business.
 - *The salesman has good contacts and always sells many products.*
- ✓ **(To) mean business:** to be serious.

- *Our boss means business when he tells everyone to work harder.*
- ✓ (To) **put one's nose to the grindstone**: to work diligently or hard.
 - *I put my nose to the grindstone and finished the job before the weekend.*
- ✓ (To) **strike while the iron is hot**: to take advantage of an opportunity.
 - *I plan to strike while the iron is hot and apply for the job quickly.*

Adapted from: http://www.eslmania.com/students/idioms/Business_idioms.htm and <http://www.idiomconnection.com/business.html#A>

Ejercicio Resuelto

Click to read Spanish translation.

Mostrar retroalimentación

Como ya sabrás el término **idioms** se utiliza para referirse a todas aquellas expresiones cuyo significado no viene dado de la suma de las palabras individuales que las forman. Son expresiones informales y por lo tanto no debes usarlas en contextos formales.

En esta unidad ya hemos aprendido el significado de la expresión *climbing the corporate ladder*, que significa avanzar profesionalmente, llegar a los puestos de responsabilidad.

En esta página aparecen varias expresiones relacionadas con tener una carrera de éxito.

Autoevaluación

Complete the following sentences with the nouns from the table.

Matching exercise

Sentences	Match	Nouns
She's a big _____ in local politics.	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Buck
The project took a long time to get off the _____.	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Business

Sentences	Match	Nouns
They've just been given the green _____ to build two new supermarkets in the region.	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Cheese
If the other people in this office would get their _____ to the grindstone, more work would get done.	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Deal
When you have a customer on the phone, strike while the _____ is hot by offering special discounts on certain items.	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Ground
How much bang for the _____ did you really think you would get from a twelve-year-old car—at any price?	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Iron
I could tell from the look on her face that she meant _____.	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Light
The two lawyers cut a _____ that left me with my car, although she got the house.	<input type="checkbox"/>	8. Noses

Enviar

If you had problems to complete this exercise, revise the vocabulary above.

A step ahead

To know more about idioms related to business, take a look at the following website and click on the idioms you are interested in.

[List of idioms.](#)

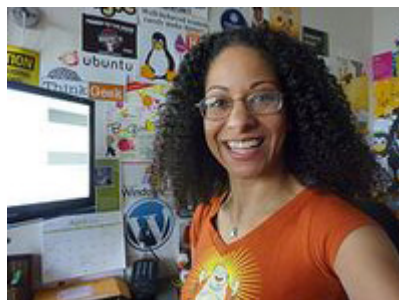
2.- 9 to 5.

Citas Para Pensar

"Because I am a woman, I must make unusual efforts to succeed. If I fail, no one will say, "She doesn't have what it takes." They will say, "Women don't have what it takes."

Clare Boothe Luce

"9 to 5" is a song written and originally performed by Dolly Parton for the 1980 comedy film of the same title, starring Jane Fonda, Lily Tomlin, and Parton in her film debut. The song and film owe their titles to an organization founded in 1973 with the aim of eliminating discrimination in the workplace and improving working conditions for women.



Think about it

Read part of the song "9 to 5" and give your opinion in the forum:

"Working nine to five

what a way to make living.

Barely getting by

it's all taking and no giving."

- What does the above verse mean?
- What do you think the song is about?

A step ahead

Now watch the video and read the lyrics.

9 to 5 - Dolly Parton with lyri...




[Text summary](#)

You may want to visit the 9 to 5 Organization website.

[9 to 5 National Association of Working Women.](#)

Appendix.- Licenses of Resources.

Licenses of Resources used in Culture and People

Resource (1)	Resource information (1)	Resource (2)	Resource information (2)
	<p>By: Phil Whitehouse. License: CC by 2.0.0. From: http://www.flickr.com/photos/philliecasablanca/2182162819/</p>		<p>By: Search Engine People Blog. License: CC BY 2.0. From: http://www.flickr.com/photos/sepblog/3941048713/</p>
	<p>By: Adria Richards. License: CC by-sa. From: http://www.flickr.com/photos/adriarichards/4484843843/</p>		