Business Partner B2+

Unit 2 Give and take Alternative video worksheet: Apprenticeships

Lesson outcome

Learners can use a range of vocabulary related to apprenticeships.

Lead-in

- 1 Discuss these questions.
- 1 What are some of the career or education options available for young people after they leave school in your country?
- 2 What happens during an apprenticeship? How is it different from regular employment?
- **3** What would your attitude to apprenticeships be if you were an employer?

Video

- 2 ALT 2.1.1 Watch the first part of the video about apprenticeships (from 0:00 to 2:02) and answer the questions.
- 1 How long do apprentices usually commit to work for a company?
- **2** What two things does the company BT get from apprentices in return for their training package?
- **3** According to Clive Selley, to what educational level does BT train apprentices?
- Watch the first part of video (from 0:00 to 3:42) and say if these sentences are true (T) or false (F). Correct the incorrect sentences.
- **1** Most apprentices are not paid a salary and earn professional qualifications.
- **2** Apprentices are often intelligent young people with a wide range of ambitions.
- **3** Intertech Plastics attempts to attract young people as soon as they have left education.
- **4** As well as getting a salary, Intertech Plastics apprentices can earn twenty to thirty college credits.
- **5** Intertech hopes to offer up to thirty different career paths within the next decade.
- 6 The career paths will cover a wide range of areas including finance.
- 4 Watch the rest of the video (from 3:43 to 4:33) and answer the questions.
- The video mentions that apprenticeships are good for the economy.
 - **a** What country is given as an example?
 - **b** What fraction of young people go on to apprenticeships in that country?
- 2 Some employers worry that apprentices may not have certain skills.
 - **a** What are these skills, and what examples of these skills are mentioned?
 - **b** Where does Noel Ginsburg think these skills can be learnt?
- 5 Work in pairs or small groups. Discuss these questions.
- 1 Do you think that soft skills are learnt more effectively in workplace settings or in academic settings? How can each setting nurture these skills?

2 If you were offering advice to a young person choosing between an apprenticeship and university, what would you list as the pros and cons of both options?

Vocabulary Apprenticeships

Match 1-8 with a-h to make phrases from the vi	ideo.
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1 college a practical skills **b** a professional qualification 2 labour part-time c credits 4 on-the-job **d** paid work skilled e training learning **f** shortages nurturing workforce earning h environment

7 Complete the sentences with phrases from Exercise 6.

Fo	orward-thinking companies are developing packages which
al	low apprentices to gain ¹ that
th	ey can use to attend university at a later date. This is in
ac	Idition to ² , meaning they
W	ill be given a certificate recognised in their chosen industry.
	/
	One of the greatest challenges that employers are likely to
	face in the future will be ³ ,
	as there will not be enough applicants for key roles. Despite

The position offers 5	,
with the salary being less than fifty percent of the	
equivalent full-time roles. However, our apprentice	es are
given excellent ⁶	in IT,
and more than seventy-five percent are offered	
permanent positions after two years.	

will still be required in areas such as engineering.

advances in robotics, a(n) 4

The inspection found that the apprentices were also given plenty of support in 7_____ which would help them progress in their chosen career. It was considered important that enough time was spent explaining the use of machinery on the factory floor. In addition, the classroom-based activities provided a(n) 8_____ to help them to gain confidence as the trainer always made a point of checking understanding and encouraging questions.

8 Work in pairs or small groups. Discuss these questions.

- 1 Do you think society views an apprenticeship as highly as an academic education? Why do you think so?
- **2** Compare the benefits mentioned by the employers in the video. Which do you think would be most useful to young people?
- Write an advertisement for an apprenticeship role and include any information that you think would attract applicants. Compare your advertisement with another pair or group.