

All in a day's work

1 Complete the sentences with the correct prepositions.

Even before starting university, some of my friends are already considering how they can break into the job market.

- I can't go out this weekend – I'm totally snowed _____ and must catch up on my studies.
- We were exhausted and hungry, but we pressed _____ until we finished the project.
- Have you heard? The local arts centre is taking _____ interns. Shall we apply?
- It's important to be able to stand _____ for yourself and not allow people to exploit you.
- I'm sick and tired of people ordering me _____. Even the most junior employee deserves some respect.

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2 Complete the sentences with the missing words. The first and the last letters of the words have been given.

Once you get your foot in the door, you can show them how good you are.

- This job is a terrific opportunity for me; I hope it may help me j_____p-start my career.
- When you work o_____e, you're entitled to higher pay than during your normal working hours.
- Will the company c_____r all our expenses on this trip?
- Working without a p_____t contract can make you feel insecure.
- The problem is, I don't have the g_____s to tell my boss he's treating me unfairly.

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3 Complete the sentences with the words from the box. There are more words than you need.

[indispensable menial ~~run~~ gain
placement commission tabs]

I'm just trying to get on the first rung of the ladder and hoping to progress from there.

- Would it annoy you if you had to do _____ tasks in your first job?
- My parents are keeping _____ on me – I have to text them to let them know I'm OK.
- The trick is to make yourself _____ – then they can't fire you.
- It's not a permanent job, just a short-term _____.
- Salespeople often work on _____: they get paid according to how much they sell.

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4 Choose the best option.

The base pay is not brilliant, but you get a lot of ____: a company car, private health insurance and really good lunches in the staff canteen.

A profits **B** perks C pensions

- I'd just like to earn enough to ___ ends meet – is that asking too much?
A do B get C make
- These days, employers look for candidates who can ___ the ground running and don't need a lot of training or explaining.
A hit B strike C stamp
- We're setting up our own business. We hope to start ___ a profit within one year.
A doing B making C getting
- After five years at university, do I really have to start in a job that barely pays the ___ wage?
A minimum B minimal C minimalist
- A silly move like that can scupper your _____.
A luck B chances C fortunes

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