

English in Science

Activity 1: A CAREER IN SCIENCE

Some of our students may possibly be thinking of going for a career in science.

A career in science is most probably not the “pinnacle of happiness”. Setbacks are bound to happen in science but although it is obviously very demanding, it is for sure very rewarding and enriching for the professional who is not only searching for financial reward but takes personal interest in the subject.

Activity: Brainstorm characteristics that may make the investment of time and effort in a career in science worthwhile. Then, give out copies of the Worksheet and project the box with the list of possible characteristics. Get students to compare the information in it to the one they provided.

Features	Requirements	Rewards
Challenging	forced to think about new fields	head off into independent thinking, new intellectual adventures
Freedom	pick projects that interest them	broad scope of funding agencies
Enjoyable	read papers and attend conferences	inspired by work being done by others
Bring the world together	part of a global community	international cooperation among individuals
Flexible schedules	manage own time	arrival times, lunch breaks, evenings or weekends are not fixed
Contribution to the common good	generate knowledge: build understanding of the world in which we live	education and mentoring are contributions to society
Self-improvement	social endeavour: produces not only results but also close relationships	continual challenges for learning; builds friendships

Taken from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2801704/>

Put students in groups of 3 to discuss about the information provided and see if they agree on the points mentioned. Then get them to think of the possible setbacks of choosing a career in science. See if they come up with the question of English as the language of science and present the next activity.

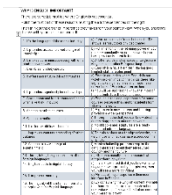
When they have finished discussing, ask them if a career in science is attractive for them and if they are thinking of following such a path or they will go for another. If this is so, what are the main characteristics of their possible choice as compared to the ones posed here.

Activity 2: WHY IS ENGLISH IMPORTANT

Students answer the questions and discuss in pairs. Then, they do the matching exercise.

Key:

- 1 – i 2 – j 3 – f 4 – k 5 – d 6 – l 7 – n 8 – g
 9 – p 10 – e 11 – h 12 – a 13 – c 14 – o 15 – b 16 – m



Activity 3: ENGLISH AS THE LANGUAGE OF SCIENCE



Get the students to read the different testimonies, discuss about them and answer the questions.

Get back to their choice of future studies. Ask them how necessary English may be in their future career.