



**VOCABULARY BANK**

# Future Plans and Ambitions

Future Plans and Ambitions | Bank 2: careers, skills and travel goals | Cambridge IGCSE ESL 0511

## 1. Quick confidence check

Before you study the topic, mark the column that best describes your confidence with each word or phrase.

Word or phrase	New to me	I recognise it	I can use it
career path	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
dream job	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
work experience	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
transferable skills	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
communication skills	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
problem-solving	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
leadership	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
travel plans	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
gap year	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
learn from experience	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
take an opportunity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
build confidence	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## 2. Vocabulary bank

Here are some useful words, adjectives, verbs and chunks that can be reused in exam answers. If you are not sure of their meaning, check online or ask your teacher.

Category	Useful vocabulary
Careers	career path, dream job, work experience, job application, workplace skills, future career
Skills	transferable skills, communication skills, problem-solving, leadership, teamwork, build confidence
Experience	travel plans, gap year, volunteer abroad, learn from experience, take an opportunity, develop independence
Opinion chunks	My dream job would involve..., Work experience can help because..., Transferable skills are useful when..., A gap year might..., Taking opportunities can...

### 3. Match the meaning

Match each word or phrase with the correct meaning. Then choose four and write your own examples.

No.	Word or phrase	Meaning
1	career path	a. skills that are useful in many different jobs or situations
2	work experience	b. a year taken before or after study to travel, work or volunteer
3	transferable skills	c. the series of jobs or choices someone follows in working life
4	leadership	d. accept a chance to do something useful or interesting
5	gap year	e. time spent learning about a job by doing or observing it
6	take an opportunity	f. the ability to guide or organise other people

### 4. Build useful chunks

Choose useful chunks from the grid. Then write three natural sentences you could use in a speaking or writing answer.

Useful chunk	Useful chunk	Useful chunk
career path	dream job	work experience
transferable skills	communication skills	problem-solving
gap year	travel plans	learn from experience

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

### 5. Read in context

Read the text. The bold words are from the vocabulary bank.

#### Skills for the Future

Choosing a **career path** can feel difficult because many jobs are changing. Instead of focusing only on one dream job, students can build useful skills.

For example, **communication skills**, teamwork and **problem-solving** are transferable skills. They can help in many workplaces and study situations.

Work experience is also valuable because students can learn what a job is really like. It may help them decide whether a career suits their interests.

Some young people make **travel plans** or take a **gap year** before further study. If they use the time well, they can develop independence and build confidence.

## 6. Check your understanding

Answer the questions in your own words. Use the vocabulary bank where it fits naturally.

### READING CHECK

1. Why can choosing a career path feel difficult?

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2. Give two transferable skills mentioned in the text.

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3. Why is work experience valuable?

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4. How can a gap year help young people?

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### VOCABULARY IN CONTEXT

#### What does 'transferable skills' mean?

- A. Skills useful in many different jobs or situations
- B. Skills used only to travel by bus
- C. A list of school rules
- D. A type of exam timetable

#### What is the writer's main point?

- A. Building skills and gaining experience can help future plans.
- B. Students should ignore work experience.
- C. A dream job is always easy to choose.
- D. Travel never builds confidence.

## 7. Use the vocabulary

Task	What to do
Speaking 1	Describe a skill that could help you in the future.
Speaking 2	Discuss this question: Is work experience more useful than classroom learning?
Writing	Write a short paragraph about a career or travel goal.
Review	Return to the confidence table. Choose one item you want to improve and write a clear example sentence.

## 8. Topic discussion questions

Use these for pair work, small-group discussion, or speaking-test warm-up practice.

- What is your dream job?
- Which transferable skills are most useful?
- Should students do work experience before university?
- Would you take a gap year?
- How can travel help people learn from experience?

**ANSWER KEY**

# Future Plans and Ambitions

## 3. Match the meaning

1. c = the series of jobs or choices someone follows in working life
2. e = time spent learning about a job by doing or observing it
3. a = skills that are useful in many different jobs or situations
4. f = the ability to guide or organise other people
5. b = a year taken before or after study to travel, work or volunteer
6. d = accept a chance to do something useful or interesting

## 6. Check your understanding

1. Many jobs are changing.
  2. Any two from: communication skills, teamwork, problem-solving.
  3. Students can learn what a job is really like and whether it suits them.
  4. It can help them develop independence and build confidence.
- MCQ 1: A. Skills useful in many different jobs or situations.
- MCQ 2: A. Building skills and gaining experience can help future plans.