

TEACHER ACTIVITY GUIDE

Please use this activity sheet to encourage your students to think about apprenticeships. The task has been designed to be adaptable to students at all levels, and also to support Gatsby Benchmark 4 : Linking curriculum learning to careers.

Aims and Objectives

The aims of the session are for students to:

- Consider the benefits and misconceptions of undertaking an apprenticeship.
- Develop their debating skills and use of connectives.

Students will be better able to:

- Dispel some of the myths around apprenticeships as a future option.

How it works



Download the accompanying activity resources from amazingapprenticeships.com



Read through the activity and home learning idea.



Make a plan for when you will deliver your lesson.

Activity

60 MINS

THE GREAT APPRENTICESHIP DEBATE

Main activity

- Using the accompanying PowerPoint, explain to the students they will be debating this statement 'Apprenticeships are a better way into a career than a full-time degree'.
- Show the short film <https://vimeo.com/173753735> about apprenticeships and ask the students to make notes on the accompanying worksheet.
- Give them some time to plan their arguments (this may vary depending on your class).
- Show the slide with the debate rules (you can adapt this) and start the debate.

NB - You can decide if you want to tell the students which side to debate / let them choose their sides.

NB - You may need to be ready to dispel some myths about apprenticeships - please see the next page.

Reflection task

- Ask students to consider; Which side had the more compelling arguments? What did you learn from the debate? Are you still on the same side you chose at the start?

Home Learning

Using the ideas from the debate lesson, be ready to give a short speech (1-2 minutes) on the benefits of apprenticeships.

APPRENTICESHIPS ACTIVITY ENGLISH: TEACHER GUIDE

DISPELLING APPRENTICESHIP MYTHS

There are many perceptions around apprenticeships that are outdated and often incorrect. This sheet of common myths will be useful when supporting your students in this activity

Myths and truths

Myth 1: An apprenticeship isn't a real job.

All apprentices are employed, doing real jobs with a contract of employment. Apprentices are also entitled to paid time to complete off-the-job learning, equivalent to 6 hours per week.

Myth 2: Apprenticeships aren't a popular option for young people.

In the 2022/23 academic year, more than 68,000* young people aged 16-19 started an apprenticeship. (*Gov.uk)

Myth 3: The range of apprenticeships is really limited.

There are nearly 700 different apprenticeship standards available, with more in development every day. This includes exciting roles like Zoo keeper, Solicitor and even Doctor!

Myth 4: Apprenticeships are all low paid.

Although there is a National Minimum Wage for apprentices set annually, this is the minimum an employer can pay, and many employers will pay significantly more than this.

Myth 5: Employers don't value apprentices as much as graduates

Apprenticeships are valued just as highly as graduates, as the apprentice has qualifications and experience.

Myth 6: You can't get a degree through an apprenticeship.

Degree Apprenticeships include qualifications at Bachelor's and master's level.

Myth 7: You will have to pay for your training.

The employer and/or Government pay for all apprenticeship training costs, meaning that the apprentice can gain qualifications and training (including degree level) without gaining the debt.

Myth 8: Apprenticeships are only for those that aren't academic

There are apprenticeship pathways that are suitable for just about everyone. The level that you start at will depend on the job role, your prior experience and qualifications.

Myth 9: Apprentices are often 'let go' by their employer after their apprenticeship

Approximately 94%* of apprentices remain in employment on completing their apprenticeship. (*Gov.uk)

Myth 10: You can't apply for apprenticeships and university

You can apply for as many apprenticeships as you wish, as well as applying for other options including full-time university and anything else you are interested in.