

# Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES  
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

[breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html](http://breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html)

**Thousands more free lessons  
from Sean's other websites**

[www.freematerials.com/sean\\_banville\\_lessons.html](http://www.freematerials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html)

**Level 1** – 3rd April 2025

## Generation Z is facing a 'career apocalypse'

**FREE** online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse-1.html>

### Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

X (Twitter)



[X.com/SeanBanville](https://x.com/SeanBanville)

Facebook



[www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176](https://www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176)

# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse-1.html>

It is difficult for university graduates and Generation Z (or Gen Zers) to find a job. A Gen Zer is born between the mid-to-late 1990s and early 2010s. Journalist Aki Ito warned of a "career apocalypse". She said an uncertain world means graduates must "prepare for the worst". A British journalist said many people are studying for "worthless degrees". He said young people would "be much better off" if they became electricians.

There are over 4 million Gen Zers not in school or work in the USA. In the UK, there were almost a million. Many people cannot find jobs because of AI, which is replacing an increasing number of jobs. There are fears that teachers, accountants, writers, etc. could disappear. Some people say graduates do not want to do "entry-level" jobs. Instead, they want to join a company at a management level. They want to be well paid in their very first job.

Sources: <https://fortune.com/2025/03/25/gen-z-neet-not-in-education-employment-training-higher-ed-worthless-degrees-college/>  
<https://www.msn.com/en-za/news/other/peter-hitchens-hammers-worthless-gen-z-degrees-in-new-podcast/ar-AA1BkYkw>  
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/corporate-america-failing-gen-z-110037849.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse-1.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. find a                 | a. degrees                |
| 2. the mid-to-            | b. journalist             |
| 3. warned                 | c. electricians           |
| 4. graduates must prepare | d. late 1990s             |
| 5. a British              | e. for the worst          |
| 6. studying for worthless | f. be much better off     |
| 7. young people would     | g. job                    |
| 8. if they became         | h. of a career apocalypse |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                             |                         |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. 4 million Gen Zers not   | a. etc. could disappear |
| 2. Many people cannot find  | b. do entry-level jobs  |
| 3. replacing an increasing  | c. jobs                 |
| 4. accountants, writers,    | d. paid                 |
| 5. graduates do not want to | e. number of jobs       |
| 6. join a company at a      | f. first job            |
| 7. They want to be well     | g. in school or work    |
| 8. in their very            | h. management level     |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse-1.html>

It (1) \_\_\_\_\_ university graduates and Generation Z (or Gen Zers) to (2) \_\_\_\_\_. A Gen Zer is born between (3) \_\_\_\_\_ 1990s and early 2010s. Journalist Aki Ito warned of a "career apocalypse". She said (4) \_\_\_\_\_ means graduates must "prepare for the worst". A British journalist said many people are studying (5) \_\_\_\_\_. He said young people would "be (6) \_\_\_\_\_" if they became electricians.

(7) \_\_\_\_\_ 4 million Gen Zers not in school or work in the USA. In the UK, there (8) \_\_\_\_\_ million. Many people cannot find jobs because of AI, which is replacing (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of jobs. There are fears that teachers, accountants, (10) \_\_\_\_\_ disappear. Some people say graduates do not want to do "entry-level" jobs. Instead, they (11) \_\_\_\_\_ a company at a management level. They want to (12) \_\_\_\_\_ in their very first job.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse-1.html>

It is difficult for university graduates and Generation Z (or Gen Zers) to find a job. A Gen Zer is born between the mid-to-late 1990s and early 2010s. Journalist Aki Ito warned of a "career apocalypse". She said an uncertain world means graduates must "prepare for the worst". A British journalist said many people are studying for "worthless degrees". He said young people would "be much better off" if they became electricians. There are over 4 million Gen Zers not in school or work in the USA. In the UK, there were almost a million. Many people cannot find jobs because of AI, which is replacing an increasing number of jobs. There are fears that teachers, accountants, writers, etc. could disappear. Some people say graduates do not want to do "entry-level" jobs. Instead, they want to join a company at a management level. They want to be well paid in their very first job.

# CAREERS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250403-career-apocalypse-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about careers in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

*Generation Z is facing a 'career apocalypse' – 3rd April 2025*  
More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](https://breakingnewsenglish.com)

---

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

