

Employers Look for Self-Starters

A. Discuss

1. What do you think are the most important qualities that employers look for when they are hiring young people? Make a list of three or four.
2. What do you think are the least important qualities? Why are they the least important?

B. Match the definitions with the key words in the article

(Part 1) seeking / self-starter / trait / sought after / pour into / vying for / top spots / respondents / competitive edge / potential recruits

.....	enter in large numbers
.....	best jobs
.....	looking for
.....	advantage
.....	personal quality
.....	people who might be given a job
.....	competing for
.....	people who answer questions in a survey
.....	someone who is able to work on their own without needing a lot of instructions or help
.....	desired; wanted; looked for

(2) armed with / credentials / top-ranked / ambitious / field / extracurricular activities / earn points with / recession / prompted / pursue / initiative / know-how

.....	relevant education, qualifications and experience
.....	things done at school or university besides studies
.....	determined to be successful
.....	keep doing
.....	the ability to make decisions without being told what to do
.....	made people
.....	having; possessing
.....	caused; made (sb) decide (to do sth)
.....	knowledge, practical ability and skill
.....	a difficult time when business is bad in a country
.....	area
.....	impress
.....	high level

C. Comprehension Questions

1. What are the two qualities most looked for by businesses who wish to hire new graduates?
2. Name the two things that potential employers are least impressed by.
3. Why did more young people decide to continue with higher education last year?
4. What kind of young people need to show potential employers that they have initiative and know-how?

D. Post-Reading Discussion

1. Do you think you are a self-starter? Why or why not?
2. Do you think you are a fast learner? Give reasons to support your answer.