



This is not a word for word transcript.

Rob: Hello and welcome to 6 Minute English. I'm Rob and with me today is Natalie.

Natalie: Hi Rob.

Rob: Today we are going to talk about a big challenge that young people are facing. This is the lack of jobs. This week the International Labour Organisation (or ILO, as it's known) has said that youth unemployment around the world remains at a crisis level!

Natalie: Crisis is a strong word!

Rob: It is and it's not used lightly. The report looked at young people between the ages of 15 and 24 and found out that around 75 million of them are out of work!

Natalie: That's really sad news. But the economy hasn't been helping much.

Rob: That's right and we are going to talk about in just a moment but let's start with our usual quiz question. So are you ready Natalie? Which one of these unusual jobs is NOT a real one?

- a) A vibration consultant.
- b) A trifle analyst.
- c) A raven master.

Natalie: It must be a) a vibration consultant. What would this person do, check if a party had a good "vibe", a good atmosphere?

Rob: Maybe but then again maybe not.

Natalie: Well I'm keen to know but I'll have to wait until the end of the programme.

Rob: You will. Right. Now, let's get back to the hard realities of being young and looking for a job. In the report by BBC's Imogen Foulkes, the reporter uses a phrase that describes a depressing situation.

BBC correspondent Imogen Foulkes:

The ILO's report paints a bleak picture of young people losing hope and becoming increasingly detached from the world of work. Almost 75 million people between the ages of 15 and 24 are unemployed worldwide, and the ILO's new report predicts no improvement before 2016 at the earliest.

Natalie: She said that the report paints a bleak picture – bleak often describes an area that is cold, empty and miserable.

Rob: The economic crisis is really causing a lot of long-term problems. Young people simply aren't seeing any new job opportunities and the forecast is not good.

Natalie: The forecast, the things experts predict about trends in the future.

Rob: Let's hear what the International Labour Organisation chief economist thinks about the situation. What do you think the word entrenched might mean?

BBC correspondent Imogen Foulkes:

For young people in particular, says the ILO's chief economist Ekkehard Ernst, these years without work will be damaging: "We have lost the jobs and they are not coming back. Our forecast shows that we are not getting these jobs over the next four or five years. So this means that this crisis really becomes entrenched on the labour market, and that means that we also see these young people losing their skills."

Rob: So the forecast is that there will be not enough jobs over the next four or five years...

Natalie: And the crisis is becoming entrenched on the labour market that means that it is to be fixed or rooted in the same position – the position of lack of work for young people.

Rob: In the next part of the report, listen to the word used to describe being left to one side – a position that many people might find themselves in:

BBC correspondent Imogen Foulkes:

The ILO already has evidence that many young people are simply dropping out. Neither in work, nor in education, they've no skills and are becoming increasingly marginalised. Others are growing bitter that the years spent in higher education have brought no career. Instead, the ILO says, many young graduates are being forced to take part time unskilled jobs.

Rob: So they are dropping out. They are not doing anything. They are excluded from the jobs market or from education. They are not learning new things and that's how they end up more and more marginalised.

Natalie: To be marginalised is to be left to one side and forgotten about.

Rob: Well, faced with no choice, many young people have to accept part-time jobs, or jobs that are low-skilled. Some people call these temporary jobs – to work on a temporary job is sometimes called temping. The ILO is urging governments to make job creation a priority. They also suggest offering tax breaks to companies who employ young people and programmes of work that encourage training and learning – these are sometimes called apprenticeships.

Natalie: Young people can learn English to help them build their skills!

Rob: What a good idea! And let's end on a more positive note, shall we, with our quiz question.

Natalie: Yes! You asked me: Which of these unusual jobs is NOT a real one? I don't remember all the options...

Rob: I've got to remind you. They were:
a) A vibration consultant.
b) A trifle analyst.
c) A raven master.

Natalie: And I said a) a vibration consultant, I think.

Rob: Why did you say that? You were wrong! You didn't pay attention to the options presented to you, you just had ears for the first one, didn't you! Actually, a vibration consultant is someone who advises on vibration and noise problems for construction companies or manufacturers. A raven master is England's one and only custodian of the Tower of London's ravens. So what doesn't quite exist is a trifle analyst! A trifle is a dessert of course, which I love, and you're not supposed to analyse it. You should just really eat it!

Natalie: Yes, of course! But I'm on a diet, Rob. I've been avoiding even thinking about trifles!

Rob: Really, I'll have some more then, thanks. To those of you keen on learning English, here are today's words and expressions again.

Natalie: **a bleak picture**
a forecast
entrenched
to drop out
marginalised
temping, a temporary job
an apprenticeship

Rob: Thanks, Natalie. Hopefully you've enjoyed today's programme. Please do join us again for more 6 Minute English from BBC Learning English very soon! Bye!

Natalie: Bye!

Vocabulary and definitions

a bleak picture	a situation described as pessimistic
a forecast	a prediction by experts
entrenched	fixed, rooted
to drop out	to exclude yourself from activities
marginalised	to be left to one side
temping, a temporary job	employment done for a fixed period of time
an apprenticeship	jobs designed to have the employee working while getting training on the tasks required

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