



The Gig Economy and Freelance Work

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Many people today do not have a regular job at one company. Instead, they do small jobs for different people or businesses. These small jobs are called **gig** work. The person who does gig work is often called a **freelance** worker, or a freelancer. Gig work is very common in big cities.

Freelancers choose their own hours. This means they have a **flexible** schedule. For example, they can work in the morning or at night. They can work from home, a café, or anywhere they like. Many people enjoy this freedom to choose.

A freelancer can do many types of work. Some people drive cars for riders. Others deliver food to homes. Some write stories, take photos, or help businesses online. Each job is usually short — maybe a few hours or a few days.

To find work, freelancers often use a **platform**. A platform is a website or app where workers and customers can meet online. Popular platforms connect drivers with riders, or writers with companies that need help. The platform makes it easy to find a **client** and start a new job quickly.

Gig work is growing fast around the world. Many young people like it because they can try different jobs and learn new skills. But gig work can also be difficult. Freelancers do not always get a steady income. They must keep looking for new jobs every week to earn enough money.

A. Vocabulary

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 1. gig ____ | a. money earned from doing work |
| 2. freelance ____ | b. working alone, without being controlled by one company |
| 3. flexible ____ | c. able to change easily; not fixed to one time or place |
| 4. platform ____ | d. piece of work that needs to be completed |
| 5. client ____ | e. to bring something to a person or place |
| 6. income ____ | f. short job done for money, usually for different people or businesses |
| 7. schedule ____ | g. working for different people or companies, not one fixed employer |
| 8. task ____ | h. website or app that connects workers with customers |
| 9. deliver ____ | i. person or company that pays someone for a service |
| 10. independent ____ | j. plan that shows when things will happen |

B. True or False

- | | |
|--|---|
| ___ 1. Gig work means doing small jobs for different people. | ___ 2. Freelancers always work at one company. |
| ___ 3. Freelancers can choose their own working hours. | ___ 4. Gig workers must work from 9 to 5 every day. |

___ 5. Some freelancers deliver food to people's homes.

___ 7. Freelancers use platforms to find clients online.

___ 9. Freelancers do not always earn a steady income.

___ 6. A platform is a type of food that freelancers eat.

___ 8. Gig work is becoming less popular around the world.

___ 10. Freelancers can only work from home.

C. Fill in the Blanks

Word Bank: gig, freelance, flexible, platform, client, income, schedule, task

1. Many people do _____ work to earn extra money.
2. A _____ worker does not have one fixed employer.
3. Freelancers have a _____ schedule and can work at any time.
4. Freelancers use a _____ to find new jobs online.
5. The person who pays a freelancer for work is called a _____.



D. Comprehension Questions

1. What is gig work?
2. Why do many people like freelance work?
3. What is one problem with gig work?

E. Discussion Questions

1. Would you like to be a freelancer? Why or why not?
2. What kind of gig work do you think is most popular in your city or country?



Answer Key

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A. Vocabulary: 1-f, 2-g, 3-c, 4-h, 5-i, 6-a, 7-j, 8-d, 9-e, 10-b

B. True/False: 1-T, 2-F, 3-T, 4-F, 5-T, 6-F, 7-T, 8-F, 9-T, 10-F

C. Fill Blanks: 1-gig, 2-freelance, 3-flexible, 4-platform, 5-client

D. Comprehension:

1. Gig work is doing small, short jobs for different people or businesses instead of working at one fixed company.
2. Many people like freelance work because they can choose their own hours and work from anywhere they like.
3. One problem with gig work is that freelancers do not always get a steady income and must keep looking for new jobs every week.

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