

# English and maths

What are employers looking for?





# Why is it so important to study English and maths?

GCSE grades 4/5 in English and maths are gateway qualifications that will allow you to study at a higher level after year 11, such as:

- A levels;
- Many level 3 college courses;
- Advanced level apprenticeships

If you don't have GCSEs colleges and training providers may accept level 2 Functional Skills qualifications instead.

If you have passed level 1 you can apply for an intermediate level apprenticeship or a college foundation course, where you will be supported to achieve level 2 English and maths alongside your vocational choices.

So what are the English and maths skills that employers are looking for?...





**Speaking and Listening**  
for excellent customer service



## Speaking to communicate

If you are using speech to give information, speak clearly and check that your listeners understand. This is essential for all jobs, and could even save lives.

# Read and understand

Critical for safety instructions at work...

...and a means of gathering all sorts new knowledge for your personal development.



## 6 critical questions

things to think about when someone has something to say

- who** Who said it?  
Someone you know? Someone famous? Someone in authority? Should it matter who said it?
- what** What did they say?  
Did they give facts or opinions? Did they give all the facts? Did they leave something out?
- where** Where did they say it?  
Was it in public or in private? Did other people have a chance to talk about the other side?
- when** When did they say it?  
Before, after, or during an important event?
- why** Why did they say it?  
Did they explain their opinions? Were they trying to make someone look good or bad?
- how** How did they say it?  
Were they happy, sad, angry, or didn't care? Did they write it or speak it? Could you understand it?

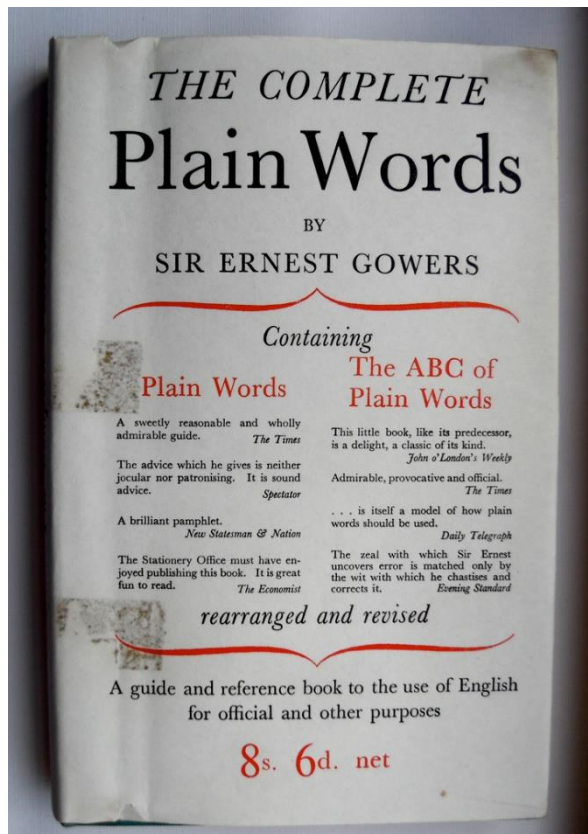
- **Questioning** deeper and deeper
- **Facts** (not post-truth)
- **Narratives** (faith-based ideologies or evidence-based framings) based on IMAGES + CAUSES + SOLUTIONS
- **Balance of power** (winners & losers)
- Structural **causes**, visible effects
- **Transforming** or reforming policies
- **Values** shape policies/legal frameworks



# Write to communicate

**Do** write clearly, using correct grammar and spelling, and choose a clear font.

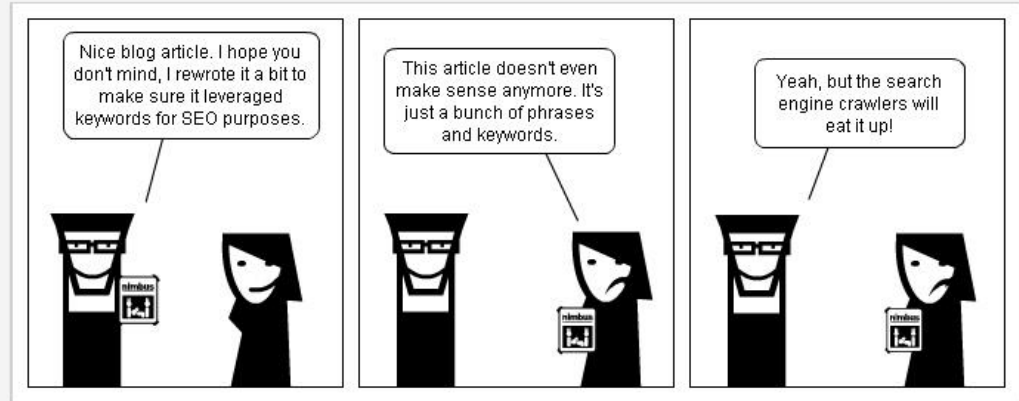
Use the IT checking tools, and proofread your work. **Don't** use 'social media' habits of written English if you want to make a good impression :



## Writing Blog Content For SEO

seanricholson

View more social media cartoons at [www.socmedsean.com](http://www.socmedsean.com)



Solve problems, using your knowledge,  
skills and initiative.



 **CAUTION**

when it comes to  
problem-solving... 

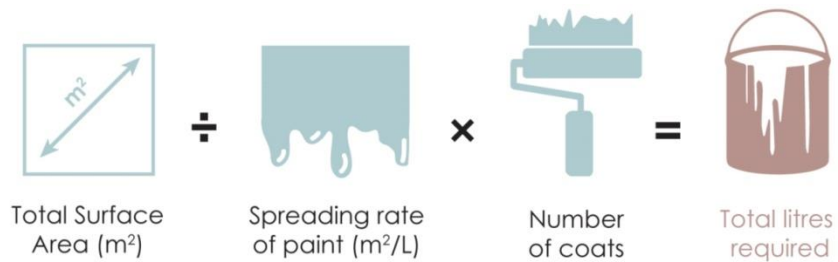
**engineers are fearless.**



# Estimating

**Estimate the cost of your materials...**

**...to reduce business costs and keep your customers happy.**



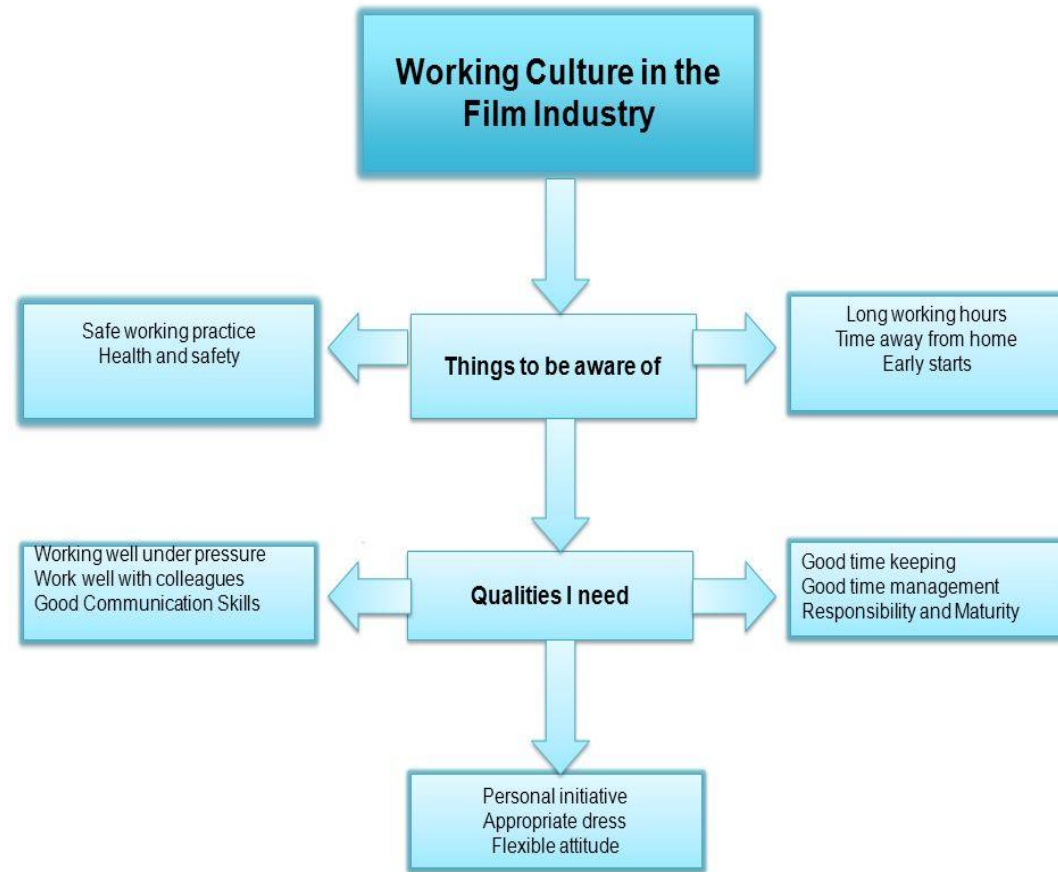
# Time-management



**Plan your journey time to work...**

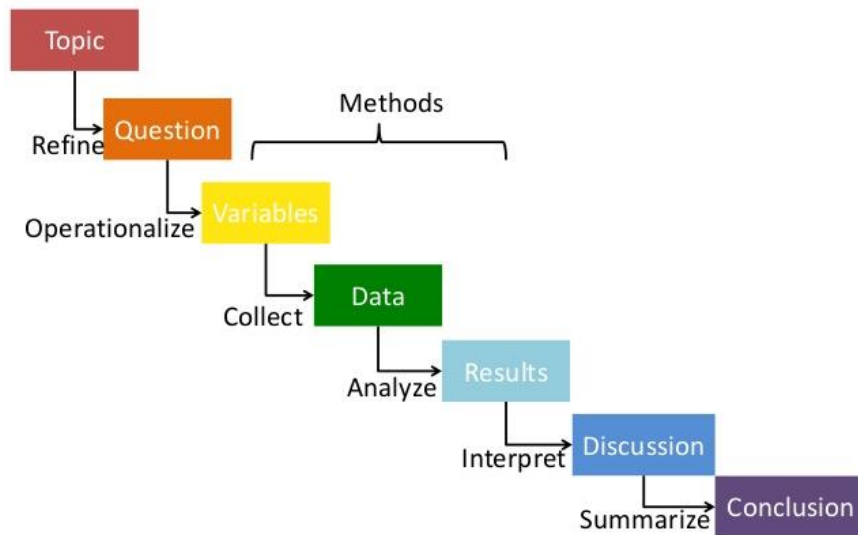


**...and be a good time-keeper.**



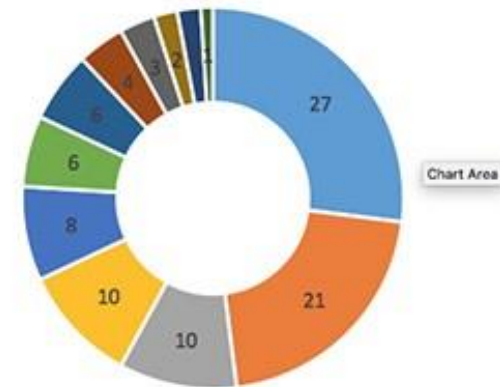
# Handle and interpret data

## Research Design



Employees in video games sector by region (%)

- London
- South East
- East England
- West Midlands
- North West
- Scotland
- East Midlands
- Yorkshire
- South West
- Northern Ireland
- North East
- Wales



# Measuring



**Essential for Construction,  
Science, Technology...**

**...Creatives, Designers and more...**





## What next?

- If you are still at school aim to get those GCSEs grade 4/5 in English and maths – then you'll never have to study them again, unless you want to.
- If you are home-educated, and studying an accredited Functional Skills curriculum we can offer additional learning support – contact us on 01865 341944.
- If you are an adult aged 19+, and would like to brush up on your English and maths and gain a qualification, contact Abingdon & Witney College on 01235 555585.