



Teachers' notes

Year level
Year 7, 8, 9, 10

VELS
Level 5 & 6



Time One hour

Purpose

Explore skill shortage areas and job prospects.



Rationale

To develop an understanding of the skills shortage area. This includes the different types of shortages that currently exist and how to develop the understandings needed to interpret the skills shortage information.



Activities

1. Discuss the area of skills shortages with the students, including:
 - Skills shortages occur when the demand for a particular type of worker exceeds supply of those workers.
 - Occupations may be in shortage in some geographical areas and not others.
 - Skills shortages usually involve skills that require a significant amount of training, education and/or experience.
 - Changes in technology that require workers to have different skills can result in skills shortage.
 - Changes in the labour market because of economic change can result in skills shortage.
2. Discuss how skills in demand can benefit job seekers
 - If a skill is in demand there will be more vacancies for people with that skill.
 - Wages and conditions may be better if your skills are in demand.
 - There may be better training opportunities for jobs with skills shortages.
3. Students complete the *Skills shortages* handout and discuss
4. Students complete the *Careers* handout using web based resources, newspaper classifieds and other information sources.

Note: Teachers may want to use their own list of careers instead of the handout or students could select careers they want to explore.



Resources

- One copy of each of the *Skills shortages* handouts for each student
- One copy of each of the *Careers* handouts for each student (or a modified version developed by the teacher)
- Skills in demand article in the How to find a job section of *Youth Central* at <http://www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au/>
- *Job Guide* – Skills shortages section - in print or online at <http://jobguide.dest.gov.au/>
- Skills in demand at <http://www.liveinvictoria.vic.gov.au> - a list of skills shortage areas prepared by the Victorian government for Visa applicants, but suitable for others to access
- Victorian priority VET areas at <http://www.otte.vic.gov.au/vetoutputs.asp> - reports about priority areas for VET in Victoria including Study Area and Industry Priorities for different regions
- Trade skill shortages (<http://www.getatrade.gov.au>) - National and state/territory trade skills shortages
- Professional, trade and ICT skill shortages at <http://www.workplace.gov.au/workplace/Category/ResearchStats/LabourMarketAnalysis/SkillsDemand/>
- Skills for the Future (<http://www.skillsforthefuture.gov.au/>) - national initiatives focussing on the need for continuous upgrading of skills over the course of an individual's working life
- Skills Initiative information about jobs for which Australia doesn't have enough trained people (<http://www.skillsinitiative.gov.au>)
- Job prospects (<http://jobsearch.gov.au/joboutlook/Search> for Information on Occupations and Careers) - job prospects, weekly earnings, type of work and other occupational information

Victorian Essential Learnings (VELS)

Level 5 and 6

Strand	Domain	Dimension
Discipline-based Learning	The Humanities – Economics	Economic knowledge and understanding
Interdisciplinary Learning	Information and Communications Technology	ICT for communicating
	Thinking Processes	Reasoning, processing and inquiry Reflection, evaluation and metacognition