**Task 2B**

# A future in technology

In this text I will write about and discuss an occupation. This is a job in which I’m currently aiming for, and I have chosen my subjects carefully to match the studies needed for the job, although I’m only seventeen years old, and there’s still 2 more years to go before university.

The job I’ve chosen is senior engineer in petroleum. It’s a very high quality job, and to become a senior engineer you need a bachelor degree and a master degree. Both of those combined turns out to be 5 years in university. The main aspect of the job is to help the company you work for to produce more oil, make it more environmental friendly and to find new oil and gas reservoirs.

When working as a senior engineer in petroleum, you’re working either in an office at shore, or you’re working offshore. Working offshore would be either on an oil rig or on a ship related to the oil business. What I like about this job on the other hand, is that you can work in whatever country you want. Personally, I’d like to work in an office in Australia, with a few trips now and then out to different oil rigs and different ships.

One cannot just become a senior engineer in petroleum, as it requires both a bachelor degree and a master degree. To enter the studies which will give you these degrees, you need quite high grades in scientific subjects like the hardest math, physics, chemistry and so on. The first year of the bachelor, is also rumoured to be quite hard and frustrating, as it contains a lot of theory and reading, resulting in late nights and very little social life. It really tests each individual, and only those who are willing, will pass the final exams.

It is also important to take a look at one’s personal skills and qualities. Every engineer needs to be creative and be able to think new, but also take notes of how people before you solved a similar problem. Just because the solution already has been used, doesn’t mean you too can’t use it. The ability to be mobile and enjoy travelling around the world or country may also come in very handy. The father of a friend of mine is an engineer, and he has to travel from Fitjar to Eigersund about one or two times every month. It can be quite tricky trying to establish a family and be new in the job as an engineer at the same time.

What skills and knowledge you need is heavily discussed, as it varies a lot, and depends where you want to work, what subjects you want to work with and what university you chose. I have chosen the University of Stavanger, which is a quite well known university just outside the city of Stavanger, south in Norway. This university is not as math based as the more well-known one in Trondheim, NTNU. What makes UiS such a good choice when it comes to studying petroleum engineering is that it is in Stavanger, and Stavanger is the oil capital of Norway. The university has a very close relationship to different oil brands, and it’s not uncommon to get hired before you’re done with your studies.

When we take a look at the skills needed and what you actually do as an engineer, you’ll see that you have to be quite pleasant to technology, and be able to understand and work with it. I believe it says “master in technology” on your degree when you have finished studying. Also, the job you do is making new technology and improving the existing one. You’re helping the world move forward, and getting paid at the same time.

Knowledge is important, but you do not need to be some kind of genius, and many people fail to realise this. The main factor is that you need to be interested and enthusiastic, and be willing to learn on the way. You will come a long way with a little perseverance.

It is important to keep in mind that you do not need to work as a senior engineer for the rest of your life. It’s possible to become a teacher, or maybe take a Ph.D. – degree and become a scientist or professor. Have an open mind, and make sure it is the right thing for you. Engineer is a very stable job in Norway, as Norway needs about 25 000 engineers in the coming years. You’re almost guaranteed a job, and it’s well paid. Creativity can be learned, just like English and math.