

What can you expect from a career in banking

If you join an investment bank as a graduate trainee, you can expect to work long hours. It's part of the culture.

My name is Helen Marshall and I'm an analyst at Morgan Straits. My typical day starts at about 8.00 when I check my email and voicemail to see who wants information immediately. It can continue until about 1.00 in the morning if we are working on a big merger. Fortunately, I live only twenty minutes away from the bank. I usually get my main tasks from my boss at the daily team meeting at 10 o'clock, which can be a comparative analysis of companies or completing a report on a loan application for a big company.

As an analyst, you need to be good at statistics because you spend a lot of the day working at the computer on tables and spreadsheets. It's also important to be well-organized and a good team player because you depend on your colleagues to meet deadlines.

It is a very exciting job because you learn very quickly and they give you a lot of training – I have already done courses on how to value companies and on accountancy. But there is not much chance of meeting with customers, so you can feel isolated at times. After a year, I still love the excitement of the job and the salary is great. But if you are thinking of joining an investment bank, make sure you are well-motivated and good at computer skills before you start.



Ex. 1 Match these words to their English equivalents:

1. stażysta	• accountancy
2. poczta głosowa	• application
3. fuzja	• merger
4. podanie	• skills
5. arkusz kalkulacyjny	• spreadsheet
6. księgowość	• trainee
7. umiejętności	• voicemail

Ex. 2 Match the expressions to form typical collocations:

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| 1. to join | a course |
| 2. to work | a workplace |
| 3. to check | deadlines |
| 4. to get | email |
| 5. to depend | long hours |
| 6. to meet | on colleagues |
| 7. to do | tasks from the boss |

Ex. 3 Tell the difference between these words:

1. analyst
2. analysis
3. analyses
4. analyse / analyze
5. analytical

I know English idioms!

The main character of our text says that as a investment banker she sometimes has to work a lot. In English we can express it by means of such idiomatic phrases:

- to have a lot on one's plate
- to be up to ears/eyes with work
- to be snowed under with work
- to burn the midnight oil (= to work late into the night)

Which of these idioms can you use to talk about yourself? 😊

Phrasals, phrasals...

In this lesson's reading text we talk about work. It's a good opportunity then to learn the phrasal verb "work out". Here's what it means:

- to calculate the cost, price, or amount of something (*wyliczyć*):

We worked out the cost of hiring two more developers.

- to find a solution to a problem or situation (*wymyśleć*):

We need to work out a way of improving our sales results.

Grammar corner

This lesson's reading text contains such a sentence:

As an analyst, you need to be good at statistics because you spend a lot of the day working at the computer on tables and spreadsheets.

*The underlined part ("need to") means that something is necessary to do something else and it's identical to the verb "have to" (*musieć*).*

When we want to say that something is NOT necessary we use the negative forms "needn't" or "don't/doesn't need to", for example:

You needn't go there. or You don't need to go there.

GLOSSARY	
expect	oczekiwać
career	kariera
to join	dołączyć
investment bank	bank inwestycyjny
graduate trainee	stażysta świeżo po studiach
analyst	analityk
voicemail	poczta głosowa
immediately	natychmiast, niezwłocznie
merger	fuzja
task	zadanie
daily	codzienne
team	zespół
comparative analysis	analiza porównawcza
to complete	wypełnić, uzupełnić
loan application	podanie o kredyt
table	tabela
spreadsheet	arkusz kalkulacyjny
to depend on	polegać na
colleague	kolega z pracy
to meet a deadline	zmieścić się w terminie
training	szkolenie
to do a course	odbyć kurs
to value	wyceniać
accountancy	księgowość
isolated	odizolowany
excitement	ekscytacja
salary	pensja
to make sure	upewnić się
skills	umiejętności

ANSWER KEY

Ex.1

1. trainee
2. voicemail
3. merger
4. application
5. spreadsheet
6. accountancy
7. skills

Ex. 2

1. to join a workplace
2. to work long hours
3. to check email
4. to get tasks from the boss
5. to depend on colleagues
6. to meet deadlines
7. to do a course

Ex.3

1. analityk
2. analiza
3. analizy
4. analizować
5. analityczny