



## Notes

N1 · B1 · Unitat 5  
"A què et dediques?"

**parla · CAT**

## Index

Presentation	1
Asking and saying one's job	2
Asking and talking about one's studies	7
Asking and saying one's study and work place	9

## Presentation

### Objectives

Next you will find the notes for all topics learnt in this unit. Once learnt, you will be able to reach the following goals:

- Asking and saying one's job.
  - Asking and talking about one's studies.
  - Asking and saying one's study and work place.
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## 1. Asking and saying one's job

### Contents

In order to achieve this objective you need to know:

- the present indicative of the first conjugation verbs: *treballar* and *dedicar-se*,
- the present indicative of the verb *fer*,
- vocabulary: shops,
- the structures to ask and say one's job,
- the pronunciation of the final *-r* and *-t*,
- the pronunciation of stressed and unstressed syllables,
- vocabulary.

### Present indicative of the first conjugation verbs: *treballar, dedicar-se*

Catalan verbs are divided into three groups, depending on the ending of their infinitives:

1st conjugation	2nd conjugation	3rd conjugation
-ar	-er, -re	-ir
treballar	fer, aprendre	dormir

The infinitive of the first conjugation verbs ends in *-ar*, like *treballar, dedicar-se, estudiar* and *ensenyar*. Most of these verbs are regular and they are conjugated like *treballar*.

jo	treballo
tu	treballes
ell / ella / vostè	treballa
nosaltres	treballem
vosaltres	treballeu
ells / elles / vostès	treballen

- Tu treballes d'administrativa?
- La Clara i jo treballem en un restaurant.

Some verbs can be conjugated with a pronoun. This is the case of *dedicar-se*:

jo	<b>em</b>	dedico
tu	<b>et</b>	dediques
ell / ella / vostè	<b>es</b>	dedica
nosaltres	<b>ens</b>	dediquem
vosaltres	<b>us</b>	dediqueu
ells / elles / vostès	<b>es</b>	dediquen

## 1. Asking and saying one's job

### Present indicative of the verb *fer*

The verb *fer* belongs to the second conjugation and it is irregular.

jo	faig
tu	fas
ell / ella / vostè	fa
nosaltres	fem
vosaltres	feu
ells / elles / vostès	fan

### Structures to ask and say one's job

In order to ask about a person's job we use the following structures:

a + què + *verb dedicar-se?*

de + què + *verbs fer / treballar?*

quina + feina + *verb fer?*

The difference between these ways of asking about a person's job is that the first one is more formal than the other two.

- Vostè a què es dedica?
- De què fas?
- De què treballem?
- Quina feina fa l'Enric?

In order to say a person's job we use the following structures:

*verb ser* + *job name*

*verbs treballar / fer* + de + *job name*

- Jo sóc professora.
- L'Àlex fa de periodista.
- Nosaltres treballem de cambrers.

## 1. Ask and say one's job

### Structures to ask and say one's job

To talk about a job we use the verbs *ser*, *fer de* or *treballar de*. When we want to state what job we have qualified for, we use the verb *ser*, although we can also use the other two:

· Sóc professor. / Treballo de professor. / Faig de professor.

In some cases, when we want to establish a contrast between the job we have qualified for and the job we do to earn a living, we use the following structure:

<i>verb</i> ser	+	<i>job one has qualified for</i>	+	però	+	<i>verb fer de</i> <i>verb</i> treballar de	+	<i>job one does</i>
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· Sóc periodista, **però** faig de cambrer.  
· La Marta és mestra, **però** treballa de dependenta.

### Gender and number of jobs

Generally, the masculine form does not show a gender mark, whereas the feminine form ends in *-a*:

masculine	feminine
el cuiner	la cuinera
el farmacèutic	la farmacèutica
el dependent	la dependenta

In some cases, there are the following agreements between masculine and feminine endings:

ending	masculine	feminine
<i>-iu</i>   <i>-iva</i>	l'administratiu	l'administrativa
<i>-at</i>   <i>-ada</i>	l'advocat	l'advocada
<i>-e</i>   <i>-a</i> o <i>-essa</i>	l'arquitecte	l'arquitecta
	el mestre	la mestra
	el metge	la metgessa
<i>-a</i>   <i>-a</i>	el policia	el policia
<i>-ista</i>   <i>-ista</i>	el periodista	el periodista
<i>-aire</i>   <i>-aire</i>	l'escombriaire	l'escombriaire
<i>-ant</i>   <i>-ant</i>	el cantant	la cantant
	l'estudiant	l'estudiant

## 1. Asking and saying one's job

### Gender and number of jobs

Sometimes, though, words with *-ant* can have the feminine form with *-anta*, for instance: *un estudiant* i *una estudiant* o *una estudianta*.

In order to form the plural of the nouns, we add an *-s* to the singular:

masculine singular	masculine plural
el camioner	els camioners
el fotògraf	els fotògrafs

If the noun ends with an unstressed *-a*, like most feminine words, we form the plural by changing this *-a* into *-es*:

feminine singular	feminine plural	masculine singular	masculine plural
la metgessa	les metgesses	el taxista	els taxistes
la fotògrafa	les fotògrafes	el policia	els policies

### Pronunciation of the final *-r* and *-t*

In words like *carter* or *professor* we do not pronounce the final *-r*. We do not pronounce the final *-r* in infinitives like *treballar* or *estudiar*, either. And the same thing happens with the final *-t* in *dependent* or *cantant*: it is not pronounced.

But in some Catalan-speaking areas, the final *-r* and *-t* is actually pronounced, though. Thus, the final *-t* is pronounced in the Valencian Community and the Balearic Isles. In the Valencian Community the final *-r* is also pronounced.

### Pronunciation of stressed and unstressed syllables

Most Catalan words have a syllable that has a higher pitch than the rest, which we call *síl·laba tònica*, and we call those which are pronounced without intensity *síl·labes àtones*. In general, a word with more than one syllable always has a *tònica* syllable, whereas the rest are *àtones*.

in	for	<b>mà</b>	tic
àtona	àtona	tònica	àtona

ca	mi	o	<b>ne</b>	ra
àtona	àtona	àtona	tònica	àtona

## 1. Ask and say one's job

### Vocabulary

#### Jobs:

l'administratiu, l'administrativa; l'advocat, l'advocada; l'arquitecte, l'arquitecta; el cambrer, la cambrera; el camioner, la camionera; el cantant, la cantant; el carter, la cartera; el cuiner, la cuinera; el dependent, la dependenta; l'escombriaire (m. / f.); l'escriptor, l'escriptora; l'estudiant (m. / f.); el farmacèutic, la farmacèutica; el fotògraf, la fotògrafa; l'informàtic, la informàtica; el mecànic, la mecànica; el mestre, la mestra; la mestressa de casa; el metge, la metgessa; el periodista, la periodista; el policia, la policia; el professor, la professora; el taxista, la taxista.

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## 2. Asking and talking about one's studies

### Contents

In order to achieve this objective you need to know:

- the present indicative of the verb *estudiar*,
- the structures to ask and talk about one's job,
- vocabulary.

### Present indicative of the verb estudiar

The verb *estudiar* is regular and it belongs to the first conjugation, that is, it is conjugated like the verb *treballar*:

jo	estudio
tu	estudies
ell / ella / vostè	estudia
nosaltres	estudiem
vosaltres	estudieu
ells / elles / vostès	estudien

### Structures to ask and talk about one's studies

In order to ask about one's studies we use the following structure:

**què** + **verb estudiar ?**

- Què estudies?
- Què estudia l'Eva?

To answer, we follow this other structure:

**verb estudiar** + **type of studies**

**verb ser** + **estudiant** + **de / d'** + **type of studies**

**verb fer** + **(un curs de / d')** + **type of studies**

- Estudio idiomes.
- L'Eva és estudiant de batxillerat.
- Faig un curs de mecànica.
- La Lali fa anglès.

## 2. Asking and talking about one's studies

### **Vocabulary**

#### **Studies:**

batxillerat; formació professional; idiomes; informàtica; primària; secundària.

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### 3. Asking and saying one's study and work place

#### Contents

In order to achieve this objective you need to know:

- structures to ask and say one's study and work place,
- vocabulary.

#### Structures to ask and say one's study and work place

In order to ask where someone studies or works we use the interrogative *on* and the corresponding verb.

on + verbs estudiar / treballar?

- On estudies?
- On estudieu?
- On treballa el teu germà?
- On treballa la Mercè?

We can answer with the following structure:

verbs estudiar / treballar + en + un  
una  
uns  
unes + place of work or study

- Estudio en un institut.
- Estudiem en una escola d'adults.
- El meu germà fa de dependent en uns grans magatzems.
- La Mercè treballa en unes galeries comercials.

### 3. Asking and saying one's study and work place

#### Present indicative of the verb *estar*

Although the verb *estar* belongs to the first conjugation, it is irregular. Note how the present is formed:

jo	estic
tu	estàs
ell / ella / vostè	està
nosaltres	estem
vosaltres	esteu
ells / elles / vostès	estan

We can use the verb *estar* to express other working conditions.

- Ara no treballo, **estic** a l'atur.
- El Jordi **està** de baixa.
- L'avi ja no treballa, **està** jubilat.

#### Vocabulary

##### Study or work places:

escola; escola d'adults; institut; universitat.

##### Work places:

botiga; despatx; escola; escola d'adults; fàbrica; institut; taller.

##### Other working conditions:

estar a l'atur; estar de baixa; estar jubilat, estar jubilada.