

Contractor's practice had modest beginnings in 1982 with a staff of two. Today the firm has over 350 employees including senior associates, architects, interior designers, draftsmen, a civil engineering team and architectural support staff. The firm has conceptualised, designed and executed a wide range of architectural projects like bungalows, residential developments, hospitals, hotels, corporate offices, banking and financial institutions, recreational and sports facilities, townships, airports, railway stations, urban planning and civic redevelopment projects.

**Follow the features of a compering given below.**

- Arrange the programme as required by the context.
- Present the background.
- Highlight the persons and events.
- Give reviews and reflection relevant to the context.
- Use polite and entertaining expressions.
- Follow the conventions of the stage.



## Listening

**Listen to the compering script prepared by a student on the occasion of the Teachers' Day celebrations and answer the following questions.**

1. How did the student begin compering?
2. How did she/he arrange the different events of the programme?
3. What were the highlights of the event?
4. How did he/she conclude the programme?

## C Reading

# They Literally Build the Nation

Civil engineering is one of the oldest disciplines of engineering. It involves the design, construction and management of infrastructure, highways, railways, airports, harbours, bridges, tunnels, ensuring supply of high quality water, among others, and hence the term is used in a very broad sense. It may not be an exaggeration to state that almost every major project has a contribution from a civil engineer. The role of the civil engineer has been continuously changing. Earlier, engineers would focus their efforts on production of site



plans, crank out drawings, turn them over to contractors and pretty much be done with it. But things are much more sophisticated these days.

Development of landscape today requires thoughtful planning, and an understanding of regulations. Permit requirements are more stringent and more numerous; schedules are constrained and owners are mindful of their expenditures.

Civil engineers today are expected to stay with the clients and guide them through the approval and construction process while offering strategy, advice and their experience.

Civil engineers are multifaceted, taking on roles and responsibilities that are varied. Environmental civil engineers focus on all round development of design and construction skill of working in harmony with nature. With the focus on environmental issues such as waste-water and sewerage disposal engineers operate as guardians of nature. Structural engineers are responsible for design of buildings, offshore oil platforms etc. Highway engineers are responsible for design of traffic flow planning, roadway geometry design etc.

Structural engineers are involved in the design of small residential buildings, multi-storeyed buildings, microwave towers, transmission lines for electricity and pipelines for water, oil and gas supply.

Construction engineers plan and coordinate construction projects. They may have a job title such as constructor, construction superintendent, general superintendent, project engineer etc.

Construction managers evaluate and determine appropriate construction methods and the most cost-effective plan and schedule. This may require sophisticated estimating and scheduling techniques. Construction managers regularly review engineering and architectural drawing and specifications to monitor progress and ensure compliance with plans and schedules.



And thus, it would be advisable for students to undergo practical industry experience through internships, cooperative education programmes or work experience in the industry.

Another key discipline is quantity surveying. Technical skills acquired in areas of estimating, costing and specification together with good knowledge of various procurement routes, tendering procedure and contracting essentials make quantity surveyors an inseparable part of the construction industry.

Job opportunities exist in design offices, consulting firms, government departments such as municipalities, environmental agencies as well as with contracting firms.

- S.S. Rao

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## Glossary

disciplines ( <i>n</i> )	:	the subjects of study
exaggeration ( <i>n</i> )	:	an overstatement
sophisticated ( <i>adj</i> )	:	advanced and complicated in the way they work
stringent ( <i>adj</i> )	:	strict
client ( <i>n</i> )	:	customer
multifaceted ( <i>adj</i> )	:	having many faces or branches
offshore ( <i>n</i> )	:	at a distance from the sea shore
compliance ( <i>n</i> )	:	conformity in fulfilling official requirements.
internship ( <i>n</i> )	:	training to gain practical experience.
procurement ( <i>n</i> )	:	obtaining the required material



## Comprehension

**Answer the following questions.**

1. What are the different constructions planned by civil engineers?
2. Draw a tree diagram to represent different branches of civil engineering and the features associated with each.
3. Is the title suitable to the essay? Justify your answer.
4. How do civil engineers guide the clients?
5. Do you think civil engineering is a challenging job? Why?



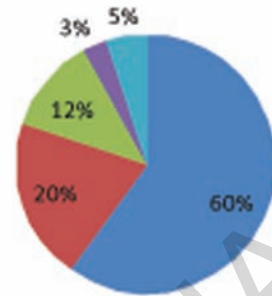
## Study Skills

Observe the following Pie diagram which shows a survey done on 1200 students who have completed class 10 and chosen different career options.

Write a paragraph on the trends in the choice of a career based on the pie diagram.

Percentage of Students

Intermediate Manual work Drop outs  
Vocational courses Polytechnic course



## Project Work

Interview any 5 - 10 intermediate students and get the following information.

Sl. No.	Name of the student	Name of the course	Subjects they study	Career options

Prepare a report on career options of the students and present it to the class.

## Self Assessment

How well have I understood this unit?

Read and tick (✓) in the appropriate box.



Indicators	Yes	Somewhat	No
I read and understood the text:			
A. The Treasure within - I			
B. The Treasure within - II			
C. They Literally Build the Nation			
I was able to identify the meanings of the words 'terrible and present' and their different shades of meanings with different combinations given under 'Vocabulary'.			
I was able to understand the usage of 'used to' and 'would' given under 'Grammar'.			
I was able to write a compering given under 'Writing'.			
I was able to write a paragraph with the help of a pie chart.			
I listened to and understood "Compering" and answered the questions given under 'Listening'.			
I was able to prepare a report on career options of the students given under 'Project Work'.			