Introduction

*Professionals Podcasts* from LearnEnglish help you to improve your English for your career in the workplace, and cover a large number of business and work themes. They are suitable for learners at intermediate to advanced level.

This support pack contains the following materials:

- a pre-reading vocabulary activity
- a general listening task
- a specific information listening task
- the article

Do the Preparation task first. Then listen to the audio. Next go to each Task and do the activity. If you need help, you can read the transcript at any time.

To listen to the recording, go to:

## Preparation: Pre-listening

Match the words and phrases in the table to their definitions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>retire</th>
<th>degree</th>
<th>postgraduate</th>
<th>clinical</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>consultant</td>
<td>paediatrician</td>
<td>paediatric nurse</td>
<td>a GP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A special nurse for children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Describes a course for people who already have a degree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A special doctor for children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To leave your job or stop working because of old age or ill health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A specialist, paid by a company to give advice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A general practitioner, a family doctor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A qualification from a college or university</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Describes medical work or teaching about examination and treatment of people who are ill</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Task 1: Comprehension 1

Listen to the interview and put the questions in the order they are asked.

1. Did you have any problems when you first started working in Britain?
2. Do you ever regret not returning to India?
3. What was the National Health Service like when you first came here?
4. When did you come to the UK?
5. Why did you come to the UK?
6. Why did you stay longer?

Task 2: Comprehension 2

Listen again and complete this postcard that Rajan wrote to a friend in India in 1967.

Dear Anoo,

I hope you're well. I'm fine and having an excellent time. I've just finished my postgraduate s_______ and I can't believe I've been here for f____ years already.

I've decided to stay here because the clinical t_______ is so good, and the National H____ Service is so impressive. And there's another reason. I've met a beautiful English woman. She's a paediatric n______, and she's agreed to marry me! I've got a job as a p_______ in ____________________________ the same hospital, so everything is going well.

Of course, I miss you all in Bombay, but I hope to visit you soon, and with my new wife.

All the best,

Rajan
Task 3: Grammar

Find and correct the error with verb form or tense in each of these sentences.

1. Experience of to work in the British National Health Service was highly valued in India.
2. I have just finished my medical degree and I thought this would be a good way to get experience.
3. I only intended stay for five years.
4. I thoroughly enjoyed to work for the NHS.
5. The clinical training I have received was fantastic.
6. My wife has been working as a paediatric nurse.
7. There was a lot more respect for the medical profession than there was now.
8. There wasn’t so many problems with long waiting lists.
Transcript

Interviewer: Today I’m talking to Rajan Mehta, a retired doctor. Good afternoon, Rajan.

Rajan: Good afternoon.

Interviewer: Now, you’re originally from Mumbai and you came to work as a doctor in the UK. When was this?

Rajan: In the early sixties, 1962 to be exact.

Interviewer: And why did you come to the UK?

Rajan: Well, it was quite common in those days. Experience of working in the British National Health Service was highly valued in India. I had just finished my medical degree, and I thought this would be a good way to get experience. I only intended to stay for five years, while I completed my postgraduate studies.

Interviewer: So why did you stay longer?

Rajan: Two reasons, really. The first is that I thoroughly enjoyed working for the NHS. The clinical training I received was fantastic, and I worked alongside some excellent consultants and learnt a lot. And the second reason is that I met my wife, who was working as a paediatric nurse.

Interviewer: And so you continued working in the NHS until you retired.

Rajan: That's correct. First as a paediatrician, and then later I retrained as a GP.

Interviewer: You must have seen a lot of changes in the National Health Service. What was it like when you first came here?

Rajan: It was excellent. I think that there was a lot of respect for the medical profession, maybe more than there is now, and patients had a lot of faith in their doctors. There weren't so many problems with long waiting lists, and new advances in areas such as organ transplants made it an exciting profession to be in.

Interviewer: Yes, it must have been. Did you have any problems when you first started working in Britain?

Rajan: Well, yes. My first placement was in a hospital in the north-east of England and I had real problems understanding what people were saying to me, which came as quite a shock as I thought I had rather good English. Eventually, I confessed to a colleague that I sometimes couldn't understand what my patients were saying. And she admitted that she had the same problem, as she came from a different part of the country.

Interviewer: Yes, some regional accents can be quite difficult to understand. One last question – do you ever regret not returning to India?

Rajan: No, not really. Of course, I missed my family, but my brother also came to England to live, and I returned quite regularly to visit my parents while they were alive. And I married an English woman and had children here, so England soon became home.

Interviewer: Rajan, thank you very much for coming in and talking to me.

Rajan: It's been a pleasure.
English for Medicine – a Doctor’s View

Key

Before you listen

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A special nurse for children</td>
<td>a paediatric nurse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Describes a course for people who already have a degree</td>
<td>post-graduate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A special doctor for children</td>
<td>a paediatrician</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To leave your job or stop working because of old age or ill health</td>
<td>retire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A specialist, paid by a company to give advice</td>
<td>a consultant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A general practitioner, a family doctor</td>
<td>a GP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A qualification from a college or university</td>
<td>degree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Describes medical work or teaching about examination and treatment</td>
<td>clinical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of people who are ill</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Task 1: Global English Comprehension 1

Did you have any problems when you first started working in Britain? 5
Do you ever regret not returning to India? 6
What was the National Health Service like when you first came here? 4
When did you come to the UK? 1
Why did you come to the UK? 2
Why did you stay longer? 3

Task 2: Global English Comprehension 2

1. studies                                                             3. training             5. nurse
2. five                                                                4. Health               6. paediatrician

Task 3: Grammar

1. Experience of work in the British National Health Service was highly valued in India.
2. I had just finished my medical degree and I thought this would be a good way to get experience.
3. I only intended to stay for five years.
4. I thoroughly enjoyed working for the NHS.
5. The clinical training I received was fantastic.
6. My wife was working as a paediatric nurse.
7. There was a lot more respect for the medical profession than there is now.
8. There weren't so many problems with long waiting lists.