

# Why YOU should be an English Major

## **You'll be able to communicate your ideas effectively.**

This is what employers want the most – people who can communicate clearly. Impress your employer with your ability to communicate, and you'll get promoted. You'll also sound smarter than everybody else.

## **You'll be able to learn new tasks and ideas.**

A liberal arts education teaches you how to learn, not how to do a specific job. Your employer will provide on-the-job training. Besides, the hot jobs of 20 years from now haven't even been thought of yet; major in English, learn how to learn new job skills, and stay employed.

## **You'll be prepared for med school, law school, business school...**

Being an English major teaches you how to think critically. Graduate schools in every field are more interested in your ability to analyze situations and make connections between concepts than in your ability to memorize lists.

## **You'll get a good job.**

Major scientific, technological, industrial, and financial companies like to hire English majors. They want employees who can analyze problems, think up creative answers, and communicate those answers to coworkers. And an English degree teaches you to do all these things.

## **You'll earn lots of money.**

Well, maybe not as much as science graduates, but the 2015-2016 Payscale College Salary Report listed salaries for popular careers for English majors that ranged from \$40,000 to \$76,000.

## **You'll move up the company ladder.**

Your English major taught you how to analyze problems, think creatively, synthesize intelligent solutions, and communicate those solutions to your bosses and coworkers. These skills will get you promoted. Once you get promoted, you'll supervise other people, which you will be prepared to do because of your strong communication skills.

## What can I do with an English major?

The following list contains a representative sample of job titles of students who graduated with an English major. Some of these jobs require education beyond a bachelor's degree.

Account Executive	Fashion Merchandiser	Probation and Parole Officer
Actor/Actress	Foreign Correspondent	Product Manager
Administrative Assistant	Freelance	Program Manager
Administrator	Writer/Consultant	Proofreader
Advertising Copywriter	Fundraiser	Property Manager
Analyst	Greeting Card Writer	Public Administrator
Artist	Hearing Officer	Public Relations Specialist
Attorney	Hotel & Motel Manager	Public Speaker
Author – Fiction/Non-fiction	Human Resource Specialist	Publicity Assistant
Assistant Scientific Writer	Human Service Practitioner	Publisher
Bank Officer	Humorist/Comedian	Publishing Assistant
Biographer	Information Abstractor	Radio and TV Commentator
Book Critic	Insurance Agent	Radio and TV Newscaster
Business Manager	Interior Designer	Reading Consultant
Circulation Assistant	Interpreter & Translator	Reporter
City Manager	Investment	Research Assistant
College Professor	Counselor/Manager	Researcher/Pollster
Columnist/Commentator	Journalist	Retail Sales
Comedy Writer	Labor Relations Specialist	Sales Representative
Communications Manager	Lawyer	Sales/Service Manager
Congressional Aide	Legal Assistant	Script Reader
Copywriter	Librarian	Singer/Voice
Corrective Therapist	Literary Agent	Social Welfare Examiner
Creative Writer	Loan Officer	Social Worker
Critic – Art/Book	Lobbyist	Special Events Coordinator
Crossword Puzzle Creator	Magazine Writer	Speech Writer
Curator	Management Trainee	Sports Writer
Customer Service	Manuscript Reader	Stockbroker
Desktop Publisher	Market Research	Talent Agent
Director	Marketing Specialist	Teacher (all levels)
Documentation Specialist	Marketing Writer	Teacher – ESL
Editor - Film/Video	Mass Media	Technical Consultant
Editor – Magazine	Media Planner	Technical Writer
Editor – News	Medical Records	Training Specialist
Editor – Newspaper	Minister	Translator
Editor – Publications	Narrator	Underwriter
Editor/Writer	Novelist	Video
Editorial Assistant	Paralegal	Scriptwriter/Producer
Education & Training	Paralegal Assistant	Writer
Educational Program Specialist	Personnel Manager	
Entertainment Agent	Playwright	
	Poet	
	Politician	

## Famous People Who Majored in English

Alan Alda	actor, writer
Americ	singer
Russell Baker	journalist
Dave Barry	humorist writer, actor
James Cameron	director, editor, producer, screenwriter (“Titanic”)
Chevy Chase	comedian, actor, writer
Mario Cuomo	former governor of New York
John Cuzack	actor
Matt Damon	actor, screenwriter
Vin Diesel	actor
David Duchovny	actor
Michael Eisner	former Walt Disney CEO
Harrison Ford	actor
Jodi Foster	actress, filmmaker
Kathryn Fuller	former World Wildlife Fund CEO
A. Bartlett Giamatti	former President, Yale University and former Commissioner of Baseball
Mary Hart	co-host “Entertainment Tonight”
Don Henley	singer, songwriter, musician (“The Eagles”), environmental activist
Chris Isaak	songwriter, singer
Tommy Lee Jones	actor
Stephen King	novelist
Kris Kristofferson	songwriter, actor
Michael Lynne	co-chairman and co-CEO of New Line Cinema
Paul Newman	actor, food entrepreneur
Conan O’Brien	talk show host, writer
Sally Ride	astronaut
Joan Rivers	comedienne
Christopher Reeve	late actor, journalist, activist for the disabled
Geoffrey Rush	actor
Diane Sawyer	broadcast journalist
Herb Scannell	president, Nickelodeon Networks, MTV Networks Group President
Paul Simon	songwriter, singer
Steven Spielberg	filmmaker
Marty Shottenheimer	Professional football coach
Sting	singer, songwriter, musician, actor, environmental activist
Brandon Tartikoff	television executive
Clarence Thomas	U.S. Supreme Court Justice
Emma Thompson	actress
Grant Tinker	TV executive and producer
James van der Beek	actor
Harold Varmus	Nobel laureate in medicine, Director of National Institutes of Health
Barbara Walters	broadcast journalist
Sigourney Weaver	actress
Pete Wilson	former governor of California
Reese Witherspoon	actress
Bob Woodward	journalist, writer (All the President’s Men)
Renee Zellweger	actress