

1. Study the text below (work in pairs). One reads the text, another supervises; then post-graduate students change their parts.

My research work

I'm an economist in one of the Orenburg auditing firms. My special subject is accounting. I combine practical work with scientific research, so I'm a doctoral candidate (соискатель).

I'm doing research in auditing which is now widely accepted in all fields of economy. This branch of knowledge has been rapidly developing in the last two decades. The obtained results have already found wide application in various spheres of national economy.

I'm interested in that part of auditing which includes its internal quality control. I have been working at the problem for two years. I got interested in it when a student.

The theme of the dissertation is "Internal quality control of audit services". The subject of my thesis is the development of an effective internal quality control system for audit firm services.

I think this problem is very important nowadays as a major portion of public accounting practice is involved with auditing. In making decisions it is necessary for the investors, creditors and other interested parties to know whether the financial statements may be relied on. Hence there should be an internal control of auditing operations for insuring the fairness of presentation.

My work is both of theoretical and practical importance. It is based on the theory developed by my research adviser, professor S. Petrov. He is head of the department at the Orenburg State University. I always consult him when I encounter difficulties in my research. We often discuss the collected data. These data enable me to define more precisely the theoretical model of the audit internal quality system. I have not completed the experimental part of my thesis yet, but I'm through with the theoretical part. For the moment I have 4 scientific papers published. One of them was published in the US journal.

I take part in various scientific conferences where I make reports on my subject

and participate in scientific discussions and debates. I'm planning to finish writing the dissertation by the end of the next year and prove it in the Scientific Council of the Orenburg State University. I hope to get a Ph. D. in Economics.

2. Read the text again to find the answer to the following questions:

1. What are you?
2. What is your special subject?
3. What field of knowledge are you doing research in?
4. Have you been working at the problem long?
5. Is your work of practical or theoretical importance?
6. Who do you collaborate with?
7. When do you consult your scientific adviser?
8. Have you completed the experimental part of your dissertation?
9. How many scientific papers have you published?
10. Do you take part in the work of scientific conferences?
11. Where and when are you going to get Ph.D. degree?

3. Make a list of the most important points for you in the text

3.1 Speak about your research work using the chosen points

3.2 Learn and dramatize the dialogue. Make up your own dialogue on the same subject

A: Next Monday there'll be an extra department meeting. Peter Smirnov has finished his doctoral thesis and we are going to discuss it.

B: I like him. He is a talented scientist. He has been working hard for his doctorate for 5 years and showed remarkable ability as a researcher.

A: He deserves a high academic degree.

3.3 Make up dialogues on the following situations. If possible use the terminology of your own field of research

The scientific adviser and his post-graduate are discussing the new idea that young researcher has put forward (выдвинул). The post-graduate is very talented and the prominent scientist is eager (очень хочет) to support and stimulate him.

Key phrases

To discuss one's idea; How very interesting; Let us see what we can do about it; there are gaps in (пробелы) your knowledge; I'll fill up my gap of knowledge in the library; I want to know everything possible in the field of my research; it is necessary to consider the facts.

3.4 Use the following situations to start a short talk:

Your scientific adviser has looked through your paper meant for the conference. He is making some critical remarks now.

You are upset about your research findings. You can't get any positive result. Your friend tries to cheer you up.

3.5 Think of situations where the following proverbs can be used:

- 1) Well begun is half done - Лиха беда - начало;
- 2) A big ship sails in deep waters - Большому кораблю – большое плавание.

4. Additional material for reading

4.1 Some Aspects of Research Work Organization

English - Speaking Countries

Science is not licensed profession, and to be counted as a scientist one need not be a Doctor of Philosophy... But a scientist without a Ph.D. (or a medical degree) is like a lay brother in a Cistercian monastery. Generally he has to labor in the fields while others sing in the choir. If he goes into academic life, he can hope to become a professor only at the kind of college or university where faculty members are given neither time nor facilities for research... A young scientist with

a bachelor's or a master's degree will probably have to spend his time working on problems, or pieces of problems, that are assigned to him by other people and that are of more practical than scientific interest. Wherever he works, the prospects are slight that he will be given much autonomy and freedom. Having a Ph. D. or its equivalent - a medical degree plus post-graduate training in research - has become in fact, if not in law, a requirement for full citizenship in the American scientific community.

4.2 Leading Research Centres

To be successful as a scientist, it is important not only to have a Ph. D., but to have earned it at the right place. From the standpoint of rightness, American universities may be divided into three groups. The first is made up of those institutions to which the term "leading" may appropriately be applied. They include Chicago, Cal Tech, the University of California at Berkeley, Columbia, Harvard, Illinois, M.I.T. (=Massachusetts Institute of Technology), Michigan, Princeton, Stanford, Wisconsin, Yale, and perhaps two or three others. These are the universities whose professors get the biggest research grants, publish most scientific papers, serve on the most important government committees, win most of the scientific prizes, and are most likely to be acknowledged as leaders in their fields ... Ranking just below these twelve are universities like Minnesota and Indiana and U.C.L.A. (University of California at Los Angeles), where scientists and scholars of international renown are also to be found, but in such dense clusters as at Harvard or Berkeley ... This is not to say that first-rate scientists are to be found only at first-rate universities - or that there are no second-rate people at Berkeley and M.I.T. But the brightest students, like the brightest professors, tend to be found at the leading universities.

4.3 Postdoctoral Study

Although possession of a Ph. D. is supposed to signify that a scientist has learned his trade as a researcher, it is now very common for young scientists to continue in a quasi-student status for a year or two after they get their doctorates ...

Older scientists as a rule are very happy to take on postdoctoral students. The

postdoc, as he is sometimes called, is like an advanced graduate student in that he does research under the general direction of an older man. But he usually needs much less direction of an older man and he can therefore be much more helpful to an experienced scientist who is eager to see his work pushed forward as rapidly as possible... Postdoctoral trainees can have the further advantage of serving a professor as a middleman in his dealing with his graduate students.

For young scientists themselves, a year or two of postdoctoral study and research has many attractions. For some it is a chance to make up for what they didn't learn in graduate school. For scientists whose graduate training has been good, the chief advantage of doing postdoctoral research is that it gives them a couple of years in which they can put all their effort into research. A postdoctoral fellowship can also be a relatively tranquil interlude between the pressures and intellectual restrictions of life as a graduate student, and the competition and distractions of life as an assistant professor. Many scientists go abroad, not because the training they get will necessarily be better than they would get in the United States, but because a postdoctoral fellowship gives them a chance to travel – often for the first time in their lives.

4.4 Read the following dialogue in parts

Q: What do you do after you receive your bachelor's degree?

A: With a bachelor's degree you can apply to a graduate school and start working towards a master's degree. If you have a bachelor's degree you can also go to a professional school.

Q: What is professional school?

A: Law and medical schools are considered professional schools. If you go to a medical school it's a four years program, basic program, and then you usually have internship. You usually have to be on intern for a year. But it depends on your speciality. If you're going into surgery you may have another year.