

What can I do with an English Major?

AREAS	EMPLOYERS	STRATEGIES AND PREPARATION
Writing		
Creative Writing Journalism Free-lance Technical Writing Creative Writing	Newspapers Magazines Broadcast media companies, including television and movie industry Trade, professional, or consumer publications Internet sites Advertising agencies Large corporations Government agencies Colleges and universities Technical industries Newspapers	Select elective coursework in a particular area of interest Write for campus publications, such as college newspapers, magazines or departmental/program newsletters Develop speaking and debate skills Volunteer to assist or tutor students in a writing center For technical writing positions, obtain a concentration in technical writing. Take science and/or computer courses to gain knowledge about technical areas and trends Become familiar with the proposal writing and submission process involved in freelance writing
Education		
	Public Schools Private schools Colleges and universities Libraries Private learning centers	Acquire computer skills Gain volunteer experience with Big Brother/Sister program, tutoring, sports, summer camps, teen counseling, child care centers, or with other special populations Participate in school activities such as debate, literary club, campus publications, student government, alumni relations, and admissions Obtain appropriate state certification for public school teaching A graduate degree is required for post-secondary teaching Earn certification to teach multiple subjects/age groups for increased job opportunities
Publishing		
Advertising Sales Circulation Production Publicity	Special interest magazines Trade magazines Associational and organizational magazines Sunday newspaper supplements Educational and professional books Religious books and magazines Other book publishers	Obtain summer internship in an area of the publishing industry Participate in summer publishing institute Develop word processing and editing skills Work on student publications Conduct an informational interview with or shadow a professional in the publishing industry

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Advertising

Creative
Media
Research

Advertising agencies
In-house agencies of large companies

Demonstrate talent, persistence, assertiveness, and enthusiasm
Be prepared to start in an entry-level position
Obtain strong statistics background for market research positions
Create portfolio of writing and ideas showing originality and imagination for creative or advertising positions
Gain knowledge of various media, contemporary tastes, and trends
Obtain campus newspaper, TV, or radio experience
Participate in sales and promotions in student organizations or private businesses
Complete an internship in a market research firm or advertising agency
Supplement curriculum with courses in business, art, or graphic design

Public Relations

Research
Writing
Editing
Media

Public relations firms
Advertising agencies
In-house public relations departments
Trade associations
Colleges and universities
Non-profit organizations
Government agencies

Obtain internship or other relevant work experience
Develop strong research skills, public speaking ability, enthusiasm, and interpersonal skills
Supplement curriculum with business courses
Become an effective team member by working on group projects for campus organizations

Law

Law firms
Corporate legal departments
Government agencies
Public service agencies

Develop strong organizational skills and attention to detail
Become skillful in debate and public speaking
Organize campus events, speakers, or political rallies
Obtain summer or part-time work in a law firm
Complete special training requirements for paralegal positions
Attend law school and earn a law degree to become an attorney

Business/Industry

Management
Sales
Marketing
Human Resources
Insurance claims and underwriting

Business organizations including banks, real estate agencies, insurance firms, and large and small corporations
Retailers including department, grocery, drug, specialty, variety, and book stores

Obtain a business minor
Gain work experience through part-time jobs, internships, or relevant volunteer work
Secure leadership roles in campus organizations
Join student professional associations
Develop strong analytical and computer skills
Gain experience as financial officer or treasurer of a campus organization

Politics

Speech writing