

Part 8

You are going to read an article in which five people talk about careers in archaeology. For questions **47–56**, choose from the books **(A–E)**.

Mark your answers **on the separate answer sheet**.

Which person

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|---|---|-----------|--|
| suggests that archaeology has a unique appeal? | <table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"><tr><td style="width: 30px; text-align: center;">47</td><td style="width: 40px;"></td></tr></table> | 47 | |
| 47 | | | |
| describes how mutually supportive archaeologists tend to be? | <table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"><tr><td style="width: 30px; text-align: center;">48</td><td style="width: 40px;"></td></tr></table> | 48 | |
| 48 | | | |
| criticises people who advise against studying archaeology? | <table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"><tr><td style="width: 30px; text-align: center;">49</td><td style="width: 40px;"></td></tr></table> | 49 | |
| 49 | | | |
| points out the economic contribution that archaeology can make? | <table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"><tr><td style="width: 30px; text-align: center;">50</td><td style="width: 40px;"></td></tr></table> | 50 | |
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| welcomes the media profile that archaeology now has? | <table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"><tr><td style="width: 30px; text-align: center;">51</td><td style="width: 40px;"></td></tr></table> | 51 | |
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| points out that jobs in archaeology can often be short-term? | <table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"><tr><td style="width: 30px; text-align: center;">52</td><td style="width: 40px;"></td></tr></table> | 52 | |
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| emphasises the commitment some archaeology students feel towards their subject? | <table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"><tr><td style="width: 30px; text-align: center;">53</td><td style="width: 40px;"></td></tr></table> | 53 | |
| 53 | | | |
| mentions the value of an archaeological perspective on wider issues? | <table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"><tr><td style="width: 30px; text-align: center;">54</td><td style="width: 40px;"></td></tr></table> | 54 | |
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| believes archaeologists often overlook job opportunities that exist for them? | <table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"><tr><td style="width: 30px; text-align: center;">55</td><td style="width: 40px;"></td></tr></table> | 55 | |
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| mentions the appeal of studying a subject with a practical side to it? | <table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"><tr><td style="width: 30px; text-align: center;">56</td><td style="width: 40px;"></td></tr></table> | 56 | |
| 56 | | | |

Careers in archaeology

A Jack Stone from The Archaeological Association

The visibility of archaeology on TV and in the press has increased enormously in recent years. Whether this makes it an attractive career, given an economic climate in which young people understandably favour jobs with good salaries – not common in archaeology – is debatable, but generally, it's had a positive impact. Many archaeologists are hired by small companies to work on excavations; these jobs are often interesting but don't tend to last more than a few months at a time. Then, there are those who work for government organisations, caring for the historical environment. These jobs are more stable, but there are fewer of them. Some people stay on at university doing research and teaching, and others do museum work. In my experience, most people go into archaeology with their feet firmly on the ground.

B Dr Paul Simpson, university lecturer

It's probably what they see on film and TV, but many people assume that archaeology equals digging big holes. While this is obviously an aspect of our work, the bulk of what we do nowadays is lab-based. Few university programmes cover the ground archaeology does. Spanning sciences and humanities, it requires all sorts of skills, and in my department at least, we teach everything from human evolution to the industrial revolution. The number of people wanting to study archaeology is regrettably small – tiny relative to history, for example. Potential salaries partly explain this, but it's also down to misguided school teachers saying, 'Why not choose a safe subject like business?' Perhaps they forget it's perfectly feasible to study archaeology and then succeed in an unrelated career. Having said this, half the final-year students in my department stay in archaeology, and tend to be obsessive about it. There's something about telling stories based on evidence you've discovered – and knowing that if you hadn't discovered it, no-one would have – that cannot be experienced in any other field.

C Victoria Walker, postgraduate student

I'm researching links between Roman civilisation and Ireland 2,000 years ago, which I realise non-archaeologists might think somewhat obscure. I have a fantastic bunch of academics and students

backing me up and there's a tremendous sense of being in it together. It's a challenging discipline, and one that because of the fieldwork particularly suits a hands-on person like me. Archaeology's wonderful even if you end up doing a completely different kind of job. With hindsight, I now see that the undergraduate course is as much about learning how to do things that can be used in other areas of life, like how to gather and interpret evidence, as it is about archaeology itself.

D Mark Anderson, field archaeologist

My company excavates sites before big construction projects like roads and shopping centres get started on them. Some remains date back many thousands of years, others a couple of centuries; they might be castles, temples, small houses or even just ancient farmland. Over the years, however, I've worked extensively on wetland sites like marshes and river estuaries. This means I have unusual expertise and am in demand for digs in such locations. Much of our work is practical, but we also use imagination to figure out what the tiny fragments we dig up might mean. This, I feel, is something historians, with their access to masses of evidence, tend to miss out on. People say archaeology is a luxury – today's world has far greater problems to solve than investigating how ancient people lived. It's hard to argue with this, but our troubled globe is run by people seeking quick, short-term solutions, and a deeper, longer-term understanding of humanity's history, derived from archaeology, would surely enhance their thinking.

E Tina Cray, museum manager

Even at university I was always more interested in the theoretical side of things than digging, but on graduating I assumed, like many others in my position, that excavation is what archaeology's all about. It took me a while to realise there were other paths to explore. I'm now part of a team that runs museums and heritage sites, and we provide a valuable, if underestimated, service to the community. There's the key role museums play in ensuring that knowledge of the past doesn't remain the preserve of a privileged minority. My team has also overseen an impressive rise in the number of tourists visiting museums and monuments, and this has stimulated local businesses and created jobs.