

WORK

Labor and Profession

1. ESSENCE

- 6298 Labor is life.
Carlyle (1795-1881)
- 6299 The essence of work is concentrated energy.
Walter Bagehot (1826-1877)

2. OPPOSITES

- 6300 If you pursue good with labor,
the labor passes away but the good remains;
if you pursue evil with pleasure,
the pleasure passes away and the evil remains.
Cicero (B.C. 106-43)
- 6301 Men of lofty genius when they are doing the least work are
most active.
Leonardo Da Vinci (1452-1519)
- 6302 A man is not idle because he is absorbed in thought.
There is a visible labor and there is an invisible labor.
Victor Hugo (1802-1885)
- 6303 Business despatched is business well done,
but business hurried is business ill done.
Bulwer-Lytton (1803-1873)
- 6304 The highest excellence is seldom attained in more than one
vocation. The roads leading to distinction in separate
pursuits diverge, and the nearer we approach the one, the
farther we recede from the other.
Bovee (1820-1904)
- 6305 Work consists of whatever a body is obliged to do,
and Play consists of whatever a body is not obliged to do.
Mark Twain (1835-1910)
- 6306 The finest eloquence is that which gets things done;
the worst is that which delays them.
Lloyd George (1863-1945)
- 6307 Work is work if you're paid to do it,
and it's pleasure if you pay to be allowed to do it.
Finley P. Dunne (1867-1936)

3. INSIGHT

- 6308 Better is a man of humble standing who works for himself than one who plays the great man but lacks bread.
Proverbs (B.C. 1000?-200?)
- 6309 He whose wisdom exceeds his works, to what may he be likened? To a tree whose branches are numerous but whose roots are few. The wind comes along and uproots it and sweeps it down.
The Talmud (B.C. 500?-400? A.D.)
- 6310 Work divided is in that manner shortened.
Martial (43-104 A.D.)
- 6311 Each natural agent works but to this end,
To render that it works on like itself.
George Chapman (1557-1634)
- 6312 Excellence, in any department,
can only be attained by the labor of a lifetime.
It is not purchased at a lesser price.
Johnson (1709-1784)
- 6313 Labour was the first price, the original purchase-money that was paid for all things. It was not by gold or by silver, but by labour, that all wealth of the world was originally purchased.
Adam Smith (1723-1790)
- 6314 It is the first of all problems for a man to find out what kind of work he is to do in this universe.
Carlyle (1795-1881)
- 6315 Without ambition one starts nothing. Without work one finishes nothing. The prize will not be sent to you. You have to win it. The man who knows how will always have a job. The man who also knows why will always be his boss. As to methods there may be a million and then some, but principles are few. The man who grasps principles can successfully select his own methods. The man who tries methods, ignoring principles, is sure to have trouble.
Emerson (1803-1882)
- 6316 Labor is prior to and independent of capital. Capital is only the fruit of labor, and could never have existed if labor had not first existed.
Lincoln (1809-1865)

- 6317 The moment a man can really do his work, he becomes speechless about it; all words are idle to him; all theories. Does a bird need to theorize about building its nest, or boast of it when built? All good work is essentially done that way; without hesitation; without difficulty; without boasting.
John Ruskin (1819-1900)
- 6318 A man who has no office to go to - I don't care who he is - confronts a trial of which you can have no conception.
G. B. Shaw (1856-1950)
- 6319 The effectiveness of work increases according to geometric progression if there are no interruptions.
Andre Maurois (1885-1967)
- 6320 Work and love - these are the basics.
Without them there is neurosis.
Theodor Reik (born 1888)
- 6321 Firewood alone will not start a fire.
Chinese Proverb

4. POSITIVE

- 6322 Nothing is impossible to industry.
Periander (fl. c. B.C. 570)
- 6323 One who works in devotion, who is a pure soul,
and who controls his mind and senses,
is dear to everyone, and everyone is dear to him.
Though always working, such a man is never entangled.
Bhagavad Gita (c. B.C. 400)
- 6324 As from a large heap of flowers many garlands and wreaths
can be made, so by a mortal in this life there is much good
work to be done.
The Dhammapada (c. B.C. 300)
- 6325 Any man who strives to do his best
Whether his work be great or small
Is considered to be doing the work of a lion.
Nagarjuna (c. 100-200 A.D.)
- 6326 The labor of the body relieves us from the fatigues of the
mind; and it is this which forms the happiness of the poor.
La Rochefoucauld (1613-1680)
- 6327 Work keeps at bay three great evils:
boredom, vice, and need.
Voltaire (1694-1778)

- 6328 No man ever was glorious, who was not laborious. 4 of 8
Franklin (1706-1790)
- 6329 Nothing is denied to well-directed labor,
and nothing is ever to be attained without it.
Joshua Reynolds (1723-1792)
- 6330 From labor, health; from health, contentment springs.
James Beattie (1735-1803)
- 6331 Labor is the great producer of wealth;
it moves all other causes.
Daniel Webster (1782-1852)
- 6332 The work an unknown good man has done is like a vein of
water flowing hidden underground, secretly making the
ground green.
Carlyle (1795-1881)
- 6333 Every man's task is his life-preserver.
Emerson (1803-1882)
- 6334 To work with the hands or brain, according to our require-
ments and our capacities, to do that which lies before us
to do, is more honorable than rank and title.
Albert Pike (1809-1891)
- 6335 Good for the body is the work of the body,
good for the soul is the work of the soul,
and good for either the work of the other.
Thoreau (1817-1862)
- 6336 For his heart was in his work, and the heart
Giveth grace unto every Art.
Longfellow (1807-1882)
- 6337 As a remedy against all ills - poverty, sickness, and
melancholy - only one thing is absolutely necessary:
a liking for work.
Baudelaire (1821-1867)
- 6338 Work is the inevitable condition of human life,
the true source of welfare.
Leo Tolstoy (1828-1910)
- 6339 We work to become, not to acquire.
Elbert Hubbard (1859-1915)
- 6340 Work is a high human function...the most dignified thing in
the life of man.
David Ben-Gurion (1886-1973)

5. NEGATIVE

- 6341 It is honour to thy nature when worthily employed;
when thou directeth it to wrong purposes,
it shameth and destroyeth thee.
Akhenaton? (c. B.C. 1375)
- 6342 Without labor nothing prospers.
Sophocles (B.C. 495-406)
- 6343 No labour bestowed upon a worthless thing can be productive
of fruit; even by a hundred efforts a crane cannot be made
to talk like a parrot.
The Hitopadesa (600?-1100? A.D.)
- 6344 All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.
James Howell (1595-1666)
- 6345 Hard labor is not whenever you are very actively employed,
but when you must be.
Richard Whately (1787-1863)
- 6346 In time a profession is like a marriage,
we cease to note anything but its inconveniences.
Balzac (1799-1850)
- 6347 Work is the curse of the world, and nobody can meddle with
it without becoming proportionately brutified.
Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804-1864)
- 6348 Men without duties to do, are like trees planted on
precipices; from the roots of which all the earth has
crumbled...and yet there are men who pride themselves that
they and theirs have done no work. So neither have the
swine.
Albert Pike (1809-1891)
- 6349 Work is the refuge of people who have nothing better to do.
Oscar Wilde (1854-1900)
- 6350 Folks who never do any more than they get paid for,
never get paid for any more than they do.
Elbert Hubbard (1859-1915)
- 6351 Work expands so as to fill the time available for its
completion (and) the thing to be done swells in importance
and complexity in a direct ratio with the time to be spent.
C. Northcote Parkinson (born 1909)

- 6352 That man who knows too many trades...
his family starves.

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Chinese Proverb

6. ADVICE

- 6353 All are not called to the guiding of the helm of state;
neither are there armies to be commanded by every one;
do well in that which is committed to thy charge,
and praise shall remain upon thee.
Akhenaton? (c. B.C. 1375)
- 6354 When you are laboring for others let it be with the same
zeal as if it were for yourself.
Confucius (B.C. 551-479)
- 6355 It is better to do one's own duty, however defective it may
be, than to follow the duty of another, however well one may
perform it. He who does his duty as his own nature reveals
it, never sins.
Bhagavad Gita (c. B.C. 400)
- 6356 Nothing can be done at once hastily and prudently.
Publilius Syrus (fl. B.C. 42)
- 6357 Begin; to begin is half the work. Let half still remain;
again begin this, and thou wilt have finished.
Ausonius (310-395 A.D.)
- 6358 When occupations come to us we must accept them; when things
come to us we must understand them from the ground up.
Lu Yen (fl. 800 A.D.)
- 6359 Apply yourself both now and in the next life.
Without effort, you cannot be prosperous.
Though the land be good,
You cannot have an abundant crop without cultivation.
Saskya Pandita (1182-1251)
- 6360 Whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well.
Chesterfield (1694-1773)
- 6361 Plough deep while sluggards sleep.
Franklin (1706-1790)
- 6362 If you intend to work, there is no better place than right
where you are; if you do not intend to go to work, you
cannot get along anywhere. Squirming and crawling from
place to place can do no good.
Lincoln (1809-1865)

- 6363 When your work speaks for itself, don't interrupt.
Henry J. Kaiser (1882-1967)

7. POTPOURRI

- 6364 The first creature of God, in the works of the days,
was the light of the sense: the last was the light of
reason: and his sabbath work ever since is the illumination
of his Spirit.
Bacon (1561-1626)
- 6365 Begin, be bold, and venture to be wise;
He who defers his work from day to day,
Does on a river's bank expecting stay;
Till the whole stream which stopped him should be gone,
That runs, and as it runs, for ever will run on.
Abraham Cowley (1618-1667)
- 6366 All work of man is as the swimmer's. A vast ocean threatens
to devour him; if he front it not bravely, it will keep its
word. By incessant wise defiance of it, lusty rebuke and
buffet of it, behold how it loyally supports him, bears him
as its conqueror along! It is so with all things that man
undertakes in this world.
Goethe (1749-1832)
- 6367 The Prime Material of the Great Work, in the Superior World,
is enthusiasm and activity; in the intermediate world,
intelligence and industry; in the lower world, labor...
The Great Work is, above all things, the creation of man by
himself; that is to say, the full and entire conquest which
he effects of his faculties and his future.
Albert Pike (1809-1891)
- 6368 Work for some good, be it ever so slowly;
Cherish some flower, be it ever so lowly;
Labour - all labour is noble and holy.
Frances Osgood (1811-1850)
- 6369 I never did anything worth doing by accident,
nor did any of my inventions come by accident;
they came by work.
Thomas A. Edison (1847-1931)
- 6370 Work thou for pleasure - paint or sing or carve
The thing thou lovest, though the body starve -
Who works for glory misses oft the goal;
Who works for money coins his very soul.
Work for the work's sake, then, and it may be
That these things shall be added unto thee.
Kenyon Cox (1856-1919)

- 6371 I like work; it fascinates me. I can sit and look at it for hours. I love to keep it by me: the idea of getting rid of it nearly breaks my heart.
Jerome K. Jerome (1859-1927)
- 6372 But till we are built like angels,
with hammer and chisel and pen,
We will work for ourself and a woman,
for ever and ever, Amen.
Kipling (1865-1936)
- 6373 By working faithfully eight hours a day, you may eventually get to be a boss and work twelve hours a day.
Robert Frost (1875-1963)
- 6374 Work is love made visible. And if you cannot work with love but only with distaste, it is better that you should leave your work and sit at the gate of the temple and take alms of those who work with joy.
Kahlil Gibran (1883-1931)
- 6375 Anyone can do any amount of work provided it isn't the work he is supposed to be doing at that moment.
Robert Benchley (1889-1945)