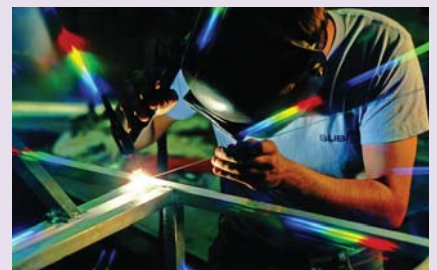# On... duty

1. Form groups and discuss:

✓ How will you choose your occupation/ career in the future?

— On the basis of money, social status, skills and talents needed or other?
— Which are the most important factors for your choice? Why?
  Look at the pictures to get some ideas.

✓ Would you choose a "dangerous" job? Name some of them.
✓ Why do you think some people choose to risk their lives for others?
✓ What are the characteristics/ personality traits of these people?

Each group's representative presents the results to the class.

2. Read the following headline. In groups, create very short imaginary stories based on it. Then, have a representative present each story to the rest of the class, through a poster, a written text or a drawing.

group work

France

French supermarket siege: gendarme dies after taking place of hostage

http://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/mar/23/french-police-called-to-trebes-supermarket-amid-hostage-reports-shootings

3. Now read the following text to find out what the gendarme actually did.

A gendarme who exchanged himself for a hostage during the French supermarket siege has died, bringing the number of victims to four. Police shot dead the attacker after a series of attacks claimed by Islamic State in Carcassonne, southern France, that culminated in the three-hour hostage-taking.

The attacker, named as Radouane Lakdim, 25, was born in Morocco and lived in Carcassonne. He was known to police for petty crimes and drug-dealing. The state prosecutor François Molins said he had been under surveillance in 2016 and 2017 for his "radicalism and proximity to Salafist movements" but had showed no signs he was going to carry out an attack.

Questions will be asked as to how Lakdim was able to obtain a weapon and carry out attacks when he had been monitored by security services.

The interior minister, Gérard Collomb, said: "We had monitored him and did not think he had

Photograph: AFP/Getty Images

been radicalised." He added: "He was already under surveillance when he suddenly decided to act."

Just after 10am on Friday, Lakdim, stopped a white Opel Corsa car on the outskirts of Carcassonne, before shooting and killing the passenger and seriously injuring the driver.

The prosecutor said Lakdim then drove off in the car and appeared to wait outside a military

barracks for soldiers. He then drove to a riot police squad barracks and shot at four officers 200 metres away who had been out jogging. He seriously wounded one of group, who suffered broken ribs and a punctured lung. A bullet struck near one officer's heart.

Lakdim then drove to a Super U supermarket 8km away in Trèbes, a sleepy town of 5,000 people near Carcassonne. At about 11am, he walked into the shop shouting Allahu Akbar and claiming he was a soldier from Islamic State. Around 50 people were inside the building. Lakdim opened fire, killing one supermarket worker and one customer.

Christian Guibbert, a former police officer, was shopping when he heard several shots. ...

Gendarmes attempting to evacuate the supermarket found Lakdim holding several hostages. A gendarme volunteered to take the hostages' place. The gunman agreed to the swap, so the gendarme stayed with him while others were evacuated. That gendarme left his mobile phone line open on a table so security forces outside could hear what was going on inside. When security forces outside the store heard via the telephone that a shot was fired, they immediately stormed the supermarket and shot Lakdim dead.

Lt Col Arnaud Beltrame, the gendarme who had swapped places with the hostages, was found seriously injured. Early on Saturday morning, the French interior ministry said Beltrame had died from his injuries.

Collomb praised the officer's heroism. Two other officers were injured by gunshots during the assault.

The situation at the supermarket lasted just over three hours, during which the gunman had asked for the release of Salah Abdeslam, the only surviving suspect from the group that carried out the November 2015 Paris attacks, French state TV reported. Abdeslam is in solitary confinement in a French prison as the investigation into the Paris attacks continues.

The interior ministry said Lakdim was acting alone in Friday's attack. The state prosecutor said he had been on an intelligence watchlist since 2014. Lakdim had been convicted twice in 2011 and 2015 for petty crime, including drug offences. He had served one month in prison in 2016. The prosecutor said that during surveillance, security services had not seen signs that suggested Lakdim would commit an attack.

4. Fill in the table "5-4-3-2-1" in relation to the text you read.

5	*Key words linked to the main idea of the story:* • • • • •
4	*Words expressing your feelings when reading about the incident:* • • • •
3	*Facts that impressed you:* • • •
2	*Questions you have / you would like to ask:* • •
1	*A connection you made when reading:* •

5. Read the following comment made by the President of France, E. Macron, on the incident. Then discuss in your groups:

a. whether you agree or disagree and why,

b. how you would react if you were in Lieutenant-Colonel Beltrame's place. The groups' representatives report to the class.

> *"In offering himself as a hostage to the terrorist hiding in the supermarket in Trébes, Lieutenant-Colonel Beltrame saved the life of a civilian hostage, and showed exceptional courage and self-sacrifice"*, Macron wrote.
>
> He said the officer had shown *"exceptional sang froid"* and demonstrated the finest *"military virtues"* that merited the *"respect and admiration of the entire nation"*.

6. You have a foreign friend and you want to write to him/her about the tragic incident in France. You want to tell him/her about the way Kavafis treats the issue of duty in his famous poem *Thermopile*. So, read the poem in Greek below and provide your foreign friend with the gist of what the great Greek poet says.

Τιμή σ' εκείνους όπου στην ζωή των
Όρισαν και φυλάγουν Θερμοπύλες.
Ποτέ από το χρέος μη κινούντες.
Δίκαιοι κ' ίσιοι σ' όλες των τες πράξεις,
Αλλά με λύπη κιόλας κ' ευσπλαχνία
Γενναίοι οσάκις είναι πλούσιοι, κι όταν
Είναι πτωχοί, πάλ' εις μικρόν γενναίοι,
Πάλι συντρέχοντες όσο μπορούνε.
Πάντοτε την αλήθεια ομιλούντες,
Πλην χωρίς μίσος για τους ψευδομένους.

Και περισσότερη τιμή τους πρέπει
Όταν προβλέπουν (και πολλοί προβλέπουν)
πως ο Εφιάλτης θα φανεί στο τέλος,
κ' οι Μήδοι επί τέλους θα διαβούνε.

Ποιήματα 1897-1933, εκδ. Ίκαρος, Αθήνα 1984

7. Look at the following definitions of the word *duty*.

Κύριες μεταφράσεις	
Αγγλικά	**Ελληνικά**
💬 **duty** *n* (moral obligation)	υποχρέωση *ουσ θηλ*
	καθήκον *ουσ ουδ*
It is your duty to vote.	
Είναι υποχρέωσή (*or:* καθήκον) σου να ψηφίσεις.	
duty *n* (job, function)	(*χρέος*) υποχρέωση *ουσ θηλ*
	(*επίσημο*) καθήκον *ουσ ουδ*
It is your duty to take out the trash.	
Είναι δική σου υποχρέωση να βγάλεις τα σκουπίδια.	
ⓘ Αυτό που μου ζήτησε δεν εμπίπτει στα καθήκοντά μου.	
duty *n* (tax)	δασμός *ουσ αρσ*
	φόρος *ουσ αρσ*
The country had an import duty on all electronics.	
Η χώρα είχε φόρο εισαγωγής για όλες τις ηλεκτρονικές συσκευές.	

http://www.wordreference.com (free online dictionary)

a. Visit the above link and find more on the word *duty*.
b. Select 5 words you don't know from the article you read and find what they mean in the above online dictionary. Write them down on a piece of paper so as to share with your classmates or on a post-it note in order to create a word wall.

8. **a.** Focus your attention on the use of past tenses in the following sentences:

✔ A gendarme who exchanged himself for a hostage during the French supermarket siege has died ...

✔ When they heard shots, they stormed the store, killed Lakdim, and evacuated the gravely injured gendarme to hospital by helicopter.

✔ Beltrame, ... , originated from Brittany, in western France, and had earned distinctions, commendations and military honours throughout his career.

✔ The state prosecutor Frannois Molins said he had been under surveillance in 2016 and 2017 for his "radicalism and proximity to Salafist movements".

✔ Beltrame left his mobile telephone line open, enabling police and special forces outside the supermarket to hear what was going on.

✔ He then drove to a riot police squad barracks and shot at four officers 200 metres away who had been out jogging.

✔ Christian Guibbert, a former police officer, was shopping when he heard several shots.

b. Can you note the events on the time line? What do you observe about the tenses used in each case?

✔ When they <u>heard</u> shots, they <u>stormed</u> the store, <u>killed</u> Lakdim, and <u>evacuated</u> the gravely injured gendarme to hospital by helicopter.

....

○   ○   ○   ○

....

✔ He then <u>drove</u> to a riot police squad barracks and <u>shot</u> at four officers 200 metres away who <u>had been</u> out jogging.

....

○   ○   ○

....

✓ Christian Guibbert, a former police officer, <u>was shopping</u> when he <u>heard</u> several shots.

....

○   ○

....

c. This is how another news website has presented the same incident. Put the verbs in brackets in the correct tense.

The Telegraph

HOME | NEWS | SPORT | BUSINESS | ALL SECTIONS ≡

News

UK | World | Politics | Science | Education | Health | Brexit | Royals | Investigations | Matt | More ∨

🏠 › News

Heroic French officer Arnaud Beltrame dies after switching himself for hostage in France supermarket

MORE STORIES

1 If Chequers is dead, what now?

http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/03/23/france-gunman-holding-hostages-supermarket-claims-allegiance/

Gérard Collomb, the interior minister, ... (*announce*) early on Saturday that Mr Beltrame .... (*pass away*) after he was reportedly hit by several bullets and one injury to the throat.

"Lieutenant Colonel Arnaud Beltrame .... (*leave*) us. France will never forget his heroism, his bravery, his sacrifice."

In an interview in December with the local Independent newspaper, Mr Beltrame .... (*say*) he .... (*take*) part in an attack simulation in Carcassonne that .... (*centre*) around a mass attack in a supermarket.

The gunman was identified as 26-year-old Redouane Lakdim, a petty criminal of Moroccan origin who .... (*claim*) allegiance to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (Isil).

He .... (*open*) fire on passengers in a car, killing one of them, then .... (*shoot*) dead another two people at the supermarket.

Eyewitnesses ………………………… (*tell*) French media that Lakdim ………………………… (*demand*) the release of Salah Abdeslam, the only surviving member of the 2015 Paris jihadist attacks that ………………………… (*kill*) 130 people, and ………………………… (*say*) he …………………………… …. (*take*) revenge for the international coalition bombing Isil targets in Syria.

"He was known by the police for petty crimes, we ………………………… (*monitor*) him and ………………………… (*not think*) he ………………………… (*be radicalized*)," Interior Minister Gerard Collomb told reporters at the scene in Trebes.

Lakdim was described by a neighbour as a "pleasant young man" who ………………………… (*live*) with his parents and sisters in a flat in Carcassonne, taking the youngest children to school every day.

Lakdim ………………………… (*begin*) his shooting spree in his home town, whose huge medieval castle makes it a tourist hotspot, around 10 am local time when he ……………… ……………… (*hijack*) a car, shooting dead a passenger and seriously injuring its driver. Then he ………………………… (*fire*) at a group of CRS riot policemen who ………………………… (*jog*) near the castle in Carcassonne and ………………………… (*wound*) one of them.

9. According to an article published on the internet, *"since the start of 2018, at least 37 law enforcement officers across the U.S. have died while on duty - with 24 of the deaths caused by gunfire. Roughly 135 cops died in 2016, making it the deadliest year for police officers in at least five years, Fox News has found. While there were fewer deaths in 2017, the numbers weren't much better: a total of 129 officers died last year. And 46 of those were caused by gunfire"*.

Officer Amy Caprio served with the police department for nearly four years before her death.
(Baltimore County Police Department)

http://www.foxnews.com/us/2018/05/22/officers-killed-in-line-duty-in-2018.html

✓ Have you ever heard or read stories about people who died in the line of duty? You can search for such stories on the internet (e.g. "Police Roll of Honour Trust", http://www.policememorial.org.uk/index.php?page=roll-of-honour, in the newspaper headlines etc.).

✓ Have you ever heard or read stories about ordinary people who sacrificed their lives to save others? You can search for such stories on the internet, in the newspaper headlines etc.

a. Share your stories and your thoughts in your group, and then report to the class.

b. Write one of the following:
   – an essay narrating one of the stories
   – a police report for one of them
   – a script for a film scene on the incident.

Here are some useful ideas on how to make your writing more interesting:

☑ **Narrative endings**

Circular ending	Your story circles back to the beginning. You can use the same idea or even the same sentence or exact words you used at the beginning of your writing.
Reflection ending	You step back and reflect on what has happened. You look back on the experience thinking about its importance, its meaning for the future etc.
Surprise ending	Something unexpected or exciting happened in the end – it can be a twist ending!
Moral ending	You show what we can learn from the story – how the main character has changed or grown at the end, as a result of the experience he had!
Capturing emotion ending	You make the reader feel emotional/touched at the end of your story! Talk to your readers' heart!
Question ending	You end your story with a question to keep your reader thinking.
Cliffhanger	You manage to make your readers "hanging" or wanting more! What happens next?
Dialogue ending	Your story ends with a conversation between your characters, captivating your readers, making the scene realistic and stirring the readers' emotions.
Funny ending	If you manage to make the readers laugh at the end your story will be memorable!