

# 5 good answers when someone asks “What are you going to do with an English major?”

(if you're not planning to teach)

**#1 I'm planning to apply for positions in \_\_\_\_\_.**

(fill in the blank with one or more: copy writing, editing, content creation, social media management, marketing writing, grant writing, legal advocacy, technical writing, technical editing, nonprofit agency coordination, web development, or something else you have in mind).

**#2 I'm considering graduate study in \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Sure, it's an investment, but would you worry if I was pre-med?**

(fill in the blank with your choice: library science, English, college student affairs, law school, some other graduate study relevant to your goals).

**#3 I haven't decided yet, but did you know that according to the [Federal Reserve Bank's numbers from 2023](#), the unemployment rate for English majors is a little *lower* than for aerospace engineering majors or marketing majors?**

**#4 I haven't decided yet, but the median salary in Illinois for people with degrees in the humanities is 82% higher than the median salary for people with just a high school diploma, so I think my education is a good investment. ([American Academy of Arts and Sciences](#))**

**#5 Look at any survey that asks employers what they want from college graduates, and you'll see excellent written and oral communication skills near the top of the list, along problem-solving, analysis, and cultural awareness. I'm developing all those things with my English major.**