

## 1.3 Progress into the industry

### Role 1: Sound Engineer

<b>The role</b>	A sound engineer is the person that mixes all of the instruments to make a sound that comes out of the speakers in a live venue. In addition to this they usually suggest what microphones or DI should be used and work hard to make sure the performer can hear themselves through stage foldbacks or an in-ear monitoring system. They also conduct the soundcheck before the audience has entered the venue and make changes to the performances while the show is happening to avoid unwanted noises like feedback.
<b>Current skills required for role</b>	You will need to be able to use digital mixers and analogue mixers along with different pieces of equipment quite well, understand how musical instruments work and react in a live environment, although if you were to take this on as a profession you will be able to get training so getting used to different equipment will be very easy as the people around you will be very handy. You will also need to be able to know when there is a problem with a piece of equipment, this means that you will be able to see the patterns and you will then be able to see if something blips or doesn't sound right. An understanding of microphones is vital and also a knowledge of leads and connector types. An A level or GCSE in music technology is good but also any music examinations too.
<b>Accepted routes into role</b>	There are many different ways of getting into this industry, there is Apprenticeships (Junior sound engineer), University and music in GCSE. This is very useful as people are able to get into this job from very young, this means at GCSE people can learn the skills early and then go straight into an apprenticeship to get used to the whole job side and professionalism. University is obviously amazing as well as you can even further your knowledge and get a degree.
<b>Availability of role</b>	There isn't an amazing amount of vacancies in the UK but obviously there are loads of jobs that get offered for live shows and theatre productions, but there isn't much in the way of finding jobs that are mainly sound engineer based. These jobs are normally spread all over the world because of different bands and artists that tour and go to festivals so there are a set number of crew members and these jobs are especially harder to get as you need to be able to have all the skills and very good at your job.
<b>Competition for the role</b>	There is a lot of competition based around just the music industry, but in terms of the role of a sound engineer there is a lot of competition that is important to be the best of the best. There aren't a high number of jobs for this side of the industry so many people try to show off their skills. This is very competitive. That just means that the better your skills are and your knowledge and even your experience is always taken into consideration first.

### Role 2: Podcast host

<b>The role</b>	There are many different roles in the job a podcaster. The main job is to create a short audio show (usually 1hr) that is largely discussion. The other job is to mix and create the podcast by setting and positioning microphones along with editing the podcast (cut and trim the audio). Then the job is to upload the show and advertise it.
<b>Current skills required for role</b>	There are many things that you will need to become a podcast host, the main one is communication skills and the ability to get the best out of your guest so it is interesting to the listener. This can be simple for some people as they might have confidence to speak to people and have a natural talent to host. Obviously, you will need other experience such as working with setups, like setting mics up and just ordinary pa systems and software for editing. For this role confidence is key so when a guest is on you are able to control and keep the conversation rolling. This can be a challenge sometimes as some guests can be very different because of different interests and different topics that the person is on for.

<b>Accepted routes into role</b>	Obviously with this role this could be a lot harder to get into as there isn't much of an opportunity for things like this. There aren't many university courses for things like this but there are online courses you can take to further your knowledge with podcasting. I would advise getting experience in radio and looking to a drama course to improve annunciation and. Also a part-time radio assistants can earn between 19 and 22 thousand pounds per year.
<b>Availability of role</b>	There aren't many jobs into this sort of career because it's mainly something that people get into on their own. However a radio assistant is a good route as well as any type of present like sports presenter or hospital radio. Having searched the web there are zero podcast presenter job advertised so this is definitely something that I will need to build from the ground. I will also look into Youtube presenting.
<b>Competition for the role</b>	.Not many people are interviewed or even offered jobs for things like this as it's not much of an industry as it's more of a self run thing. Sometimes you might get an interview for working on a set or something to do with the set up side of things but this is very rare. The competition is very weak for this as not many people want to take it on as a career as it's difficult to get into if there's no future for it. So this also means not many people get turned down as its a very rare occurrence to get an offer in the first place.