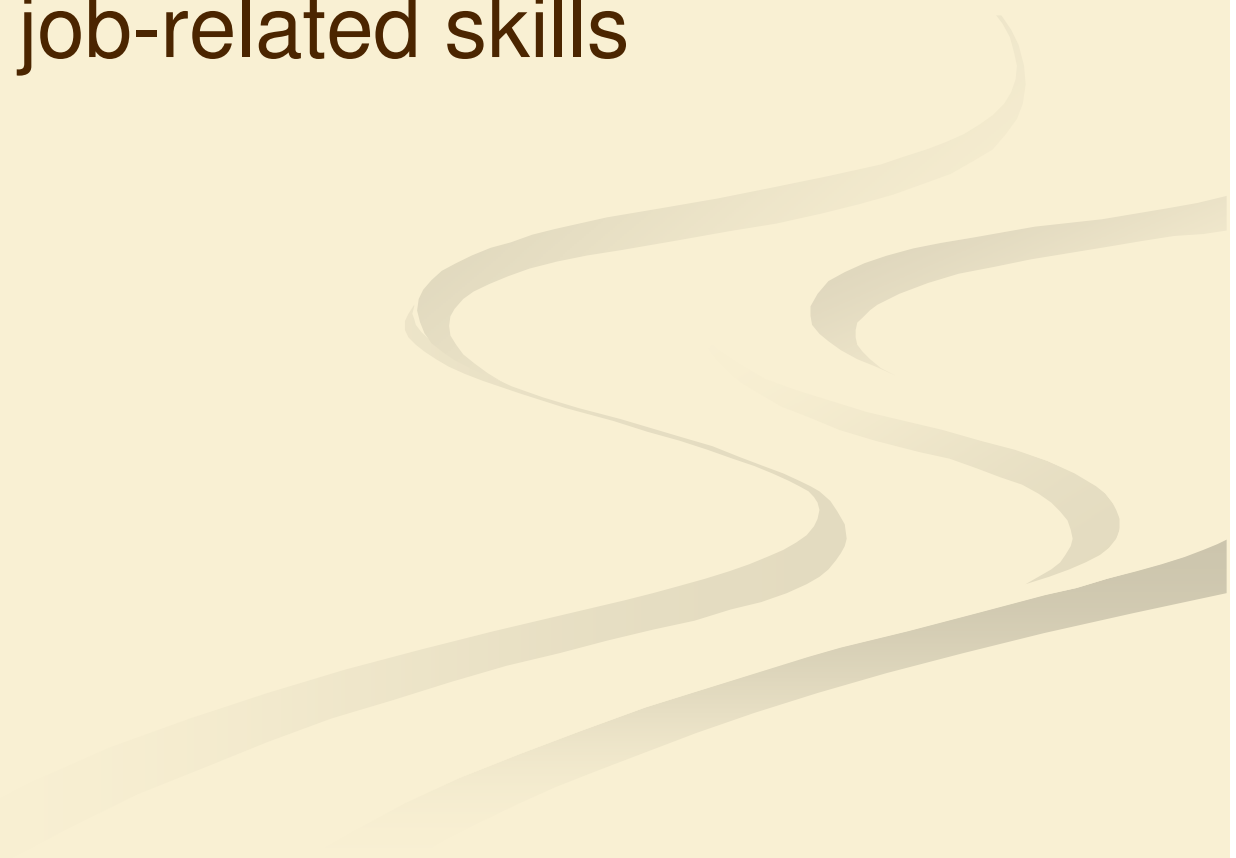


Vocational Education

The background of the slide is a solid light beige color. In the bottom right quadrant, there are several overlapping, wavy, light grey lines that create a sense of movement and depth, resembling a stylized landscape or abstract pattern.

What is it?

- Education designed to prepare students for particular career paths and to give them specific job-related skills
- 
- The background of the slide features several thick, light-colored wavy lines that flow from the bottom left towards the right side, creating a sense of movement and depth.

Why?

- Change in industries in UK
 - Need for new skills – need for new training
 - High youth unemployment
- 1970s – sense that education was not meeting needs of economy
- 1970s – present
 - Range of g/ment initiatives
 - Effort for equivalency with academic quals

1980s – The New Vocationalism

- Conservative government
- Meeting the needs of the economy was seen as a key function of education
- There was therefore direct g'ment involvement in vocational training

Schemes & Initiatives

- 1973 – Manpower Services Commission
- 1978 – Youth Opportunities Programme (YOP)
- 1980 – Technical & Vocational Education Initiative (TVEI)
- 1983 – YTS
- 1990 – YT & Training & Enterprise Councils (TECs)

- 1991 – GNVQs
- 1997 – New Deal
- 2000 – AVCE replaces Adv. GNVQ
- 2003 – Vocational GCSEs
- 2005 – AVCEs to become GCEs

Criticisms

- Maintain academic/vocational divide – Lee et al (1990)
 - Vocational qualifications are still seen as inferior to academic qualifications
- Cover up for unemployment? – Finn (1987)
 - Young people in training do not show up on unemployment figures
- Cheap labour rather than effective training? – Cohen (1984)
- Are the needs of employers met?
- Increasing no.s of certificates not skills?