

Results-oriented work environment

Level

Intermediate

Tasks

Talking about students' work-life balance
Guessing statistics about working in the US
Reading an article about a new way of flexible working
Using words and expressions from the article
Discussing points arising from the article

How to use the lesson

- 1 Find out if anyone in the class takes work home in the evenings or at the weekends, and if this is paid or unpaid. Hand out the worksheet and ask students to mark a cross on the line at the point which best reflects their own work-life balance. Allow students to compare and discuss their answers with a partner. Elicit some comments / explanations.
- 2 Ask students to guess the correct figures and then scan the last paragraph of the article to check their answer.

Answers

44% of US employees think they are overworked
14 days is the average national holiday in the US

- 3 Ask students to read the article. Would anyone like to work in this company? Deal with any problematic vocabulary such as: *fixed time / judged by / stands for / job satisfaction / sceptical*.
- 4 Ask students to look at the words and expressions and create sentences about themselves and their company.
- 5 Ask students to work in small groups to discuss their answers to the questions. Monitor the discussion. Ask the groups to report their ideas to the class. Provide language feedback.

Related websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://www.employersforwork-lifebalance.org.uk/>

<http://www.ivillage.co.uk/workcareer/worklife>

<http://www.mindtools.com/smpage.html>