

Outsourcing

Level

Upper intermediate

Tasks

Comparing the number of official and unofficial hours students work each week

Matching paragraphs in an article to their headings

Reading an article about outsourcing

Identifying words in the article from their definitions

Discussing questions arising from the article

How to use the lesson

- 1 Write the word 'outsourcing' on the board and ask students to give you a definition (e.g. 'arranging for work to be done by people from outside your organisation'). Hand out the worksheet and ask students to note their answers. After students have compared their answers, find out who works the longest hours. Ask further questions such as: Is overtime paid or unpaid? Compulsory or voluntary?
- 2 Ask students to study the paragraph headings. They should then skim the article and match the headings to the paragraphs.

Answers

(a) – 2 (b) – 1 (c) – 4 (d) – 3

- 3 Students read the whole article. Ask them to tell you about the findings of the investigation and what happened afterwards. If appropriate, deal with any useful vocabulary such as: 'code of conduct' / *anonymously* / *excessive* / *revenue*.
- 4 Ask students to find words in the article from the definitions.

Answers

(a) *alleging* (b) *shift* (c) *iconic* (d) *violated* (e) *bias* (f) *exploiting*

- 5 Ask students to discuss the questions in small groups. Ask one student from each group to report back the group's ideas to the class. Encourage discussion. Finish the lesson by providing language feedback.

Related websites

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

<http://www.apple.com/>

<http://www.verite.org/>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Outsourcing>

<http://www.noa.co.uk/>