

Work



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Some useful expressions

Positive or neutral

What do you do for a living?

To make a living (it's difficult to make a living as a freelance photographer)

The lowest legal amount of money which can be paid to workers is called minimum wage

To apply for a job

To Commute / a commuter: How long does it take you to commute to work?

Do some work/ have work to do/place of work

Do a job/ have a job/apply for a job/take/get a job/ to have a regular, steady job

White collar workers (office workers) / blue-collar workers (factory and manual)

To have a fixed income

To be the main breadwinner

To be self-employed

A trade union

To run a small business

To be promoted/ to get a promotion

Working hours

To work shifts ... to be on the night shift

To be on flexi-time

To work flexible hours

To work full time/part time

To work nine-to-five

To do/work overtime: Do you get paid extra for doing overtime?

To do casual work

To have a temporary job

Working conditions

Work-life balance

workforce

Negative

To go/be on strike

To get the sack/ to be sacked/to sack sb

To be fired (more formal than to be sacked)

To be dismissed (more formal than to be fired)

To be made redundant (no longer needed)

The company had to take cutbacks so you're made redundant
To resign
To be a workaholic
The downside of working....
To be underpaid
To be unemployed
Unemployment benefits

Giving up work

To retire
To give up work (in order to look after your children)
To quit your job



To quit your job
To be on / to take maternity leave
To be on/ to take sick leave
To take early retirement
To have/take/get a day off
To take unpaid leave

Positive

To be promoted
To ask for a raise
To enjoy (generous) fringe benefits (sth that you get from working which is not in the form of money (company car, free health insurance)
To get a job offer

Some more useful phrases to talk about work

- To develop professionally
- To gain work experience
- To show initiative
- To be stuck behind a desk
- To be highly motivated
- To work under pressure
- To be well qualified
- To have job satisfaction
- To be an expert in the field
- To be approachable
- To work tirelessly
- To be in charge of..
- To have to deal with (people, complaints...)
- To be inexperienced
- To be competent

Phrasal verbs :

Our company **closed down**. We were all made redundant (stop operating)
Then, one day, I woke up and thought: "I am going to **set up** my own business"
(start a business , organisation..)

Santander Bank is planning to **take over** Pravia Bank
(take control of..)

He was so brilliant that he could afford to **turn down** several offers of work (not accept an offer,a request)

Nokia is **bringing out** new products all the time (produce and start to sell a new product)

Collocations

Do business(with sb)/ go somewhere on business
Reach an agreement
Make/take a decision (about sth)
Have/make a complaint (about sth)
Have/gain/get experience in/of sth/doing