

NOTES



NETWORKING AT A BUSINESS EVENT

I think that....

Module 1 Unit 3



Working from home?

It's been about 2 years now, since COVID caused the first worldwide lockdown event



Did you have to transition to working from home?

What did you miss the most from working in the office?





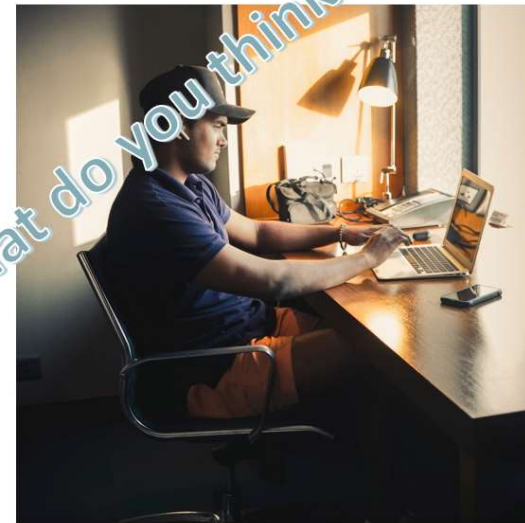
Employees that work from home are more productive

Imagine you are at a work function.

You run into someone from HR/senior management. They say: “Actually, I think working from home is making a lot of people miserable and unproductive. The company is looking into banning this option in the future.”

What would you reply?

What do you think?





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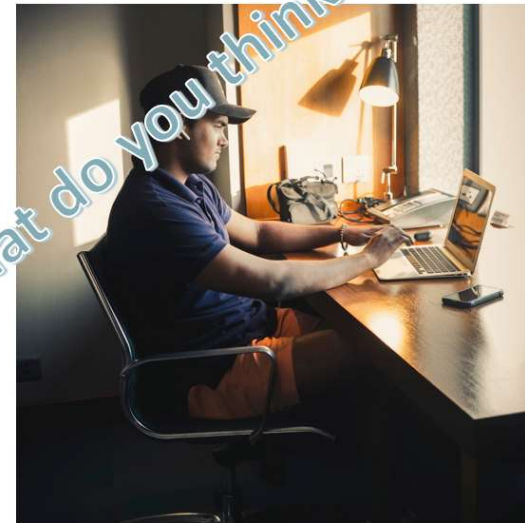
Write down 3 pro points and 3 con points for working from home.

Eg:

Pro – allows staff to be more flexible in work times

Con – more difficult to monitor that people are actually working consistently

What do you think?





Employees that work from home are more productive

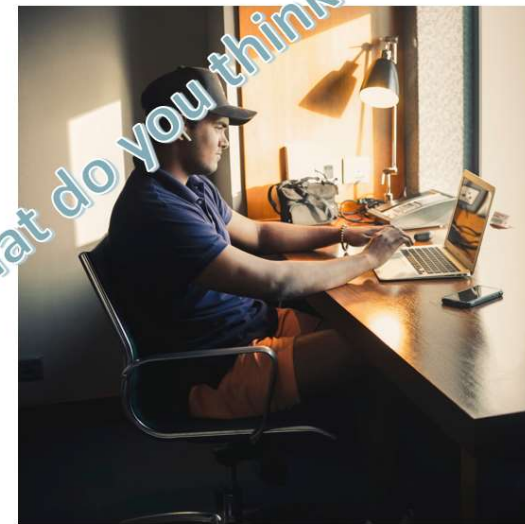
Imagine you are at a work function.

You run into someone from HR/senior management. They say: “Actually, I think working from home is making a lot of people miserable and unproductive. The company is looking into banning this option in the future.”

Now listen to one possible response to the above comment.

- Do you agree or disagree with the opinion expressed?

What do you think?



TRANSCRIPT

In my personal experience, I have found working from home to be more productive. Some people may disagree with me, but I find the office can have too many distractions throughout the day. There is always someone who wants a hand with something, or an extra meeting you get asked to attend in place of someone else who is too busy.

It seems to me that when I work from home, people don't think of me as the person who will instantly answer their questions or help them out. They need to do it for themselves. And so, I end up with more time to focus on completing my own tasks and my productivity goes up.

It is often argued that when you work from home, you miss out on important information, get excluded from the day-to-day business discussions and you don't get noticed as much.

While I think this is true on some level, I am inclined to believe that I am getting more recognition by the quality and consistency of my work output, which is equally as important to my career.

I am fairly confident that the feedback I have received from my boss about her satisfaction in my job performance is evidence that the work from home option is better for me at this time. And I strongly believe that on the whole, employees that work from home are more productive.

Complete the sentences by filling in the missing phrases from the audio

In my personal experience, I have found _____ to be more productive.

There's always someone who wants _____,...

They need to do it _____.

It is often argued that when you work from home, you miss out on _____, get excluded from the day-to-day business discussions and you don't _____ as much.

While I think this is true _____,

_____ that the feedback I have received from my boss about her satisfaction in my job performance is evidence that the work from home option is better for me at this time.



Complete the sentences by filling in the missing words/phrases from the audio

In my personal experience, I have found working from home to be more productive.

There's always someone who wants a hand with something,...

They need to do it for themselves.

It is often argued that when you work from home, you miss out on important information, get excluded from the day-to-day business discussions and you don't noticed as much.

While I think this is true on some level,

I am fairly confident that the feedback I have received from my boss about her satisfaction in my job performance is evidence that the work from home option is better for me at this time.



Employees that work from home are more productive

Record a 1-2 minute reply (audio or video) to my opinion.

You can agree or disagree with my opinion.

There are some helpful phrases here but you don't need to use them.

In my personal experience, I have found working from home to be more productive. Some people may disagree with me, but I find the office can have too many distractions throughout the day. There is always someone who wants a hand with something, or an extra meeting you get asked to attend in place of someone else who is too busy.

It seems to me that when I work from home, people don't think of me as the person who will instantly answer their questions or help them out. They need to do it for themselves. And so, I end up with more time to focus on completing my own tasks and my productivity goes up. It is often argued that when you work from home, you miss out on important information, get excluded from the day-to-day business discussions and you don't get noticed as much.

While I think this is true on some level, I am inclined to believe that I am getting more recognition by the quality and consistency of my work output, which is equally as important to my career.

I am fairly confident that the feedback I have received from my boss about her satisfaction in my job performance is evidence that the work from home option is better for me at this time. And I strongly believe that on the whole, employees that work from home are more productive.

Some helpful language

It's a complicated/difficult issue, but ...

I'm pretty sure that ...

I'd definitely say that ...

I agree with the opinion of ...

In my honest opinion, ...

Some people may disagree with me, but ...

My (point of) view (on this) is ...

I can see the point of....., however.....

It seems to me that ...

Obviously, ...

Further Practise:

If you would like to get more practise with speaking tasks, consider recording 1-2 minute opinion pieces for any of the following topics:

1. Social media sites should be blocked at work.
2. Happy employees do a better job.
3. Human Resources shouldn't be allowed to ask questions about an applicant's marital status, religion, age, medical history, or immigration status.
4. Casual dress codes are beneficial for the company.
5. The *lingua franca* for doing business should be English and more companies should demand English proficiency from their employees.
6. We need laws to ensure that women receive salaries comparable to their male counterparts.
7. Companies should be forced to provide health care to full-time employees.