

The perfect place to work

Lesson description

In this lesson you will plan and present changes that could be made to your workplace in order to make it the perfect place to work or study. You will read about a particular company's office in California, look at some multiword verbs and practise expressions for giving reasons.

Aim

Presenting the perfect place to work or study

Language

- multiword verbs
- expressions for giving reasons

Task

The task for this lesson is for learners to design the perfect place to study or work.

Materials

Handout

Photocopiable (cards for Optional extra activity)

Suggested running order

Lead in	Students discuss some features of a workplace and decide if they are positive features and why. Then talk about their own workplace.
Input	Students read about a major company's main office and guess the company.
Language focus	Students match phrasal verbs to meaning and identify expressions for giving reasons. Gap fill practice.
Task	Students design and present the perfect place to study or work.

Lead-in

- 1 Students work in pairs or groups and discuss advantages and disadvantages of the features of a workplace.
- 2 Still in pairs or groups, students personalise the activity by talking about their own workplace. Encourage groups to feed back their findings to the class.

Input

- 1 Students read the article and guess which company it refers to.

The answer is Google – it is talking about 'Googleplex', the headquarters of Google in Mountain View, California.

- 2 Students work in pairs or groups and discuss if they would like to work at Googleplex and to explain their reasons why.

Language focus

- 1 These verbs all appear in the article. Get students to underline them in the text and try to work out the meaning from context. Students do the matching activity.

1 c	4 e	7 h	10 d
2 g	5 j	8 i	
3 b	6 a	9 f	

- 2 Students work in pairs and read through the text again to find expressions for giving reasons. Pairs then brainstorm ideas for more expressions for giving reasons. Write the expression on the board for students' reference in 3.

Paragraph 1: as a result

Paragraph 2: in order to, so that, with the intention of

Paragraph 3: that's why

Paragraph 4: with a view to

Paragraph 5: so that

Paragraph 6: so as to

Suggested answers: the reason for this is, because (of), due to, this means that

- 3 Students complete the sentences with the expression from 2. Various answers are possible.

1 *so that*

2 *The reason for this is, This is because*

3 *with the intention of, with a view to*

4 *as a result, that's why, this meant that*

5 *in order to, so as to*

6 *as a result of, because of, due to*

Task

- 1 This task is probably best done in pairs. Explain to the students that money is no object.
- 2 Students present their ideas to the class.
- 3 At the feedback stage, ask each student to say what they liked about other people's ideas. You could even have a vote on the best work space.
Feed back to students on their language and review learning objectives.

Extra activities

- 1 It is interesting to see pictures of the Googleplex site. Just search for Googleplex images.
- 2 As a light-hearted activity at the end of the lesson, there is a game in the photocopiable materials. Each student receives a card and they must explain why they have the item on the card in their bag. The aim is to practise the giving reasons expressions from the Language focus.