1. Skim the text and answer:
What aspects of bitcoins are developed?

Forget cash. Pay me in bitcoin

By Jazmin Goodwin, CNN Business

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As cryptocurrency gains acceptance, more people are vying to get their paycheck and other benefits in bitcoin, Ethereum and other digital currencies.

Famous athletes, politicians and everyday employees are now getting all or part of their salary this way.

In the sports world, the Sacramento Kings are set to become the first major sports franchise to offer employees and players a bitcoin payment option. Since then, other top professional athletes have followed suit.

With major companies, like Paypal and Microsoft accepting payments in bitcoin, the cryptocurrency is also becoming an accepted means to pay wages and other fringe benefits like bonuses and retirement savings for rank-and-file employees.

"With the broadening support for use of cryptocurrencies in payments, it's natural you'd start to see more people saying, 'well, if I can buy the proverbial cup of coffee now with cryptocurrency, maybe I should get paid in it,'" said Garrick Hileman, head of research at Blockchain.com.

But if you have the option to get paid in bitcoin, should you do it? Here's a few things you should consider first.

Who's paying in bitcoin?

A number of companies are paying workers or making it easier to get paid in bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies.

"What we're seeing is a decentralization of artists and creators not relying on legacy systems anymore," said Steve Stoute, CEO of UnitedMasters. "As they move away from that center, it's going to be

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opportunities and scenarios like this where they want to have the tools and the options to do things at their fingertips."

Companies looking to pay their employees in cryptocurrency typically pay a 1% fee, but the option is usually free for employees, according to BitWage.

Workers using this service can opt in to receive all or a portion of their wages in digital assets and can choose which paychecks it applies to.

What are the perks? And the drawbacks?

Before making the decision to get paid in bitcoin, there are few upsides and downsides to consider.

For starters, most cryptocurrencies are extremely volatile. That means the value of your payments can fluctuate at any given moment and you could lose a good chunk of your pay. In May, for example, bitcoin dropped to $30,000, plunging roughly 50% below its previous all-time high.

On the upside, crypto payments are immediate and eliminate the need to deal with a bank. That means payments can clear within seconds, according to Hileman.

Crypto also enables people to instantly transfer funds to others no matter where they are in the world without having to pay for a wire transfer.

"[Bitcoin] allows us to live externally of any central body or authoritarian regime," said Hileman.

Source: https://edition.cnn.com/2021/11/13/business/money/cryptocurrency-bitcoin-salary-feseries/index.html

2. Read the text. Write true or false next to the following statements. Justify.

a. Companies looking to pay their employees in cryptocurrency do not pay a fee.

b. Crypto payments eliminate the need to deal with a bank.

c. Anyone is getting all or part of their salary in digital currencies.

d. Major companies are accepting payments in bitcoin.

e. Cryptocurrencies are not volatile.

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3. Explain the next extract from the article:

""[Bitcoin] allows us to live externally of any central body or authoritarian regime…"

4. Complete the sentences with the words in red.

a. _____ include a company car and free health insurance.

b. It's easy to go on expensive holidays when you have a _____ the size of hers

c. The check will take a few days to _____.

d. Food and fuel prices are very _____ in a war situation.

e. The doctor's usual _____ is $125.

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