

# MODERN TRENDS AT WORK



Fill the gaps with correct prepositions  
(in, on, from, of, as, by ...)

The world of work is going through a period of fast revolutionary changes \_\_\_\_ all aspects: space, work schedule, human resources, and communication. Whereas employers need their employees to keep \_\_\_\_ to date with the latest developments in their sphere in order \_\_\_\_ stay competitive, employees expect more freedom and control of their working lives.

## **Flexible workforce**

These days companies tend to hire freelancers and temporary workers instead \_\_\_\_ full-time employees, which saves employers money on administrative and healthcare costs. Employees, \_\_\_\_ the other hand, choose to work part-time or as self-employed workers, as it gives them flexibility to choose whom they work for, at what pay rates, as well \_\_\_\_ the ability to set their own schedule. This trend got the name "gig economy".

## **Collaboration**

With excessive use of modern communication technologies, effective communication and collaboration between staff can be a serious problem. Better technological competence can, ironically, result in poor soft skills in modern employees. This requires senior managers to hire the right people and organize their teamwork. They have to set aside time for team meetings to help employees build rapport, have brainstorming sessions and encourage collaborations.

## **Modern workplace**

Most employers have recognized the link between comfortable physical environment in the office and productivity of the personnel. Modern offices are characterized \_\_\_\_ a lot of open space, light, high-quality chairs, and plentiful bathrooms, spaces to hold meetings, eating, relaxing, and even sleeping. Current office design trends also include flexible layouts such \_\_\_\_ movable tables, dividers, sit-stand desks, and plenty of plants. Additional benefits for office staff include free fruit, healthy snacks, tea, and coffee. Despite all these efforts to create pleasant workspaces, most employees choose to work remotely \_\_\_\_ least one day per week.

## **Focus on human resources**

In recent years mental health issues, burnout, and stress have become some \_\_\_\_ the major problems among employees. This is caused \_\_\_\_ constant information overload, increased loneliness due \_\_\_\_ remote work, and the fast pace of technological changes. To prevent workers \_\_\_\_ leaving companies because of being overworked, employers have to focus \_\_\_\_ their well-being. Apart from that, improved healthcare and rise in retirement age means that more and more people continue working into old age. As a result, changing jobs and careers is becoming a norm. To keep \_\_\_\_ with the times and technological innovations, employers encourage continuous growth of their staff offering a variety of opportunities for training and professional development.