

Balancing work and family life	Reading
Theme: Employment	CLB Level: 4/5
Topic: Work location	Competency: Comprehending Information

Student Name _____ Date _____

READING

Read the paragraph. Then mark each sentence true (T), false (F), or no information (N), according to the article.

Studies show that the most common employee complaint is the difficulty of balancing work and family life. Over 75 percent of workers feel that they spend too much time at work and not enough time at home. Recognizing this, a growing number of companies are allowing their employees to work all or part of their work week from home. Known as *telecommuting*, this benefit has become especially popular with workers who have young children or who have long commutes to work. Mark Sapara telecommutes two days a week for his job at an insurance company. “Before I was allowed to telecommute, I spent three hours a day driving to work. When I got home, my kids were already asleep. Now I can meet the kids after they get home from school. It means a lot to me.”

However, it takes special skill to work effectively from a home environment. One of the advantages of working outside the home is that there are fewer interruptions. At home, it’s easy to become distracted with household chores like going to the store for a carton of milk or doing the laundry. Unless you are disciplined, you can easily find yourself not accomplishing as much as you need to. People who work in offices have to leave those tasks until they come home in the evening, and people who work from home have to learn to do that, too.

The paragraph is about the benefits and difficulties of working from home. _____

Most workers feel they don’t spend enough time with their families. _____

Telecommuting means traveling from home to a workplace. _____

There are more interruptions if you work from home. _____

Seventy-five percent of workers who telecommute do housework when they are supposed to be working. _____

