Replace the underlined phrases with a suitable synonym from the box in the correct form.

1. to close down
2. to cut back on
3. to get somebody on
4. get by
5. go in for something
6. get somebody down
7. take up (an amount of something)
8. pick up (learn bit by bit)
9. to turn somebody/something down
10. that was the last straw
11. The world is my oyster.

You know, there comes a point in everyone's job where they have that moment, the one where they just can't take it anymore. For me, that was **the final thing I could put up with** .....
The endless hours, the constant pressure, it all finally brought home to me how much I was sacrificing.

In the beginning, I used to think, **"I can do anything!"** .....I was so enthusiastic, eager to **learn** .....every bit of knowledge, every new skill, like a sponge. I remember the excitement of **employing new guy**s....., the thrill of seeing a project come to life. But somewhere down the road, that excitement started to fade.

Management decided to **reduce** .....resources, which meant more work for fewer people. They **shut** .....entire departments, and those of us, who were left, **were required to do** .....an enormous amount of slack. I tried to keep my spirits up, but it started to **disappoint me** .....

I remember the first time I had to **reject someone** .....for a promotion. They were so deserving, but the budget just wasn't there. It was then that I realized we were all just trying to **maintain a decent level of life** ....., surviving day to day in an increasingly stressful environment.

I used to **choose** .....all the extra projects, volunteering for everything, but eventually, I ran out of steam. The constant struggle was taking its toll. I knew I was on dangerous ground, risking burnout, and yet, I felt trapped.

One day, a mentor told me, "You have to look out for yourself. If this job is taking more than it's giving, it's time to reconsider." That was the moment it really hit home.

So, I started planning my exit strategy. I began learning new skills bit by bit, preparing for a different career path. It wasn't easy, but I knew I had to make a change before things got worse.

Eventually, I found a new opportunity. It wasn't perfect, but it was a start. Leaving wasn't just a career move; it was a life choice. I had to prioritize my well-being over a job that no longer fulfilled me.

Looking back, it was one of the hardest decisions I've ever made, but also the best one. Sometimes, you have to close down one chapter to open up a new one. And now, I'm finally starting to feel that sense of possibility again. The world, once more, feels like my oyster.

LIVEWORKSHEETS