LISTENING

Power up

1 Work in pairs and discuss the questions.

1 How far do these things influence how well you work or study?
- the kind of people you work with
- the environment where you work
- the kind of task you are asked to do

2 What do you think might be hard about working on your own? How easy is it to think of ideas on your own?

2 Work in pairs. Match the idioms (1–6) with their meanings (A–F). Which activity do you think you are best at? Give your partner an example.

1 be open to new ideas
2 float an idea
3 pool ideas
4 mull over an idea
5 hit upon an idea
6 put an idea into practice

A think about an idea for a while
B move from theory to action
C think of a new idea
D be willing to listen to the ideas of others
E share ideas with others
F suggest an idea

Listen up

3 9.5 You are going to hear five people talking about how they help themselves to work more effectively. Listen and make a note of what each speaker does. Do they work at home, in an office or somewhere else?

exam tip: multiple matching

You need to complete both tasks as you listen. Listen carefully for what each speaker talks about first so you know which task to focus on.

Listen to Speaker 1. Which aspect does she talk about first: the description of what led her to change her way of working or the benefit she noticed?

4 9.6 Listen again and complete the tasks.

Task 1

Choose from the list (A–H) what led each speaker to change their way of working.

A a recommendation
B a personal responsibility
C a commitment
D a habit
E a result of research
F a role model
G family habits
H a change of venue

Speaker 1 — 1 ☐
Speaker 2 — 2 ☐
Speaker 3 — 3 ☐
Speaker 4 — 4 ☐
Speaker 5 — 5 ☐

Task 2

Choose from the list (A–H) the unexpected benefit of their way of working that each speaker mentions.

A the number of creative thoughts it generates
B the speed at which they can work
C improved career opportunities
D the reduction in stress
E the ability to utilise time more effectively
F the independence it offers
G flexibility in the type of work they do
H their relationship with others

Speaker 1 — 6 ☐
Speaker 2 — 7 ☐
Speaker 3 — 8 ☐
Speaker 4 — 9 ☐
Speaker 5 — 10 ☐

5 9.7 Listen again and check your answers.

6 Look at the lists (A–H) in Ex 4 again. Match these phrases from the recording (1–6) with phrases in the options.

0 I got much more done
the speed at which they can work – Task 2, option B

1 I feel much less tense
2 I'd agreed to
3 so I started googling
4 I can hit upon way more ideas
5 I exploit any moments I get
6 I got bored working from home … I started writing in a café.

Speak up

7 Work in pairs and discuss the questions.

1 Have you ever tried a new way of working or working pattern? Why? Was it successful? Why/Why not? What's good about the way you work now?
2 Do you think people can be trained to be creative? Why/Why not?



LIVEWORKSHEETS