

Reading



1. Read the article. Which of these sentences summarises the ideas in the article?

- a. All managers are good at teamwork.
- b. Modern teams are always formal.
- c. There is more than one kind of team.

2. Write the number of the paragraph 1-4 that gives information about the following.

interesting places for teams to meet	paragraph ____
informal teams	paragraph ____
modern technology helps	paragraph ____
the importance of teamwork	paragraph ____

The Economist

Teamwork

Teams with bright ideas



Better ways of working together

Teams are important in modern business. Many companies want all their employees to be good at teamwork and they want the CEO, directors and managers to be good at organising teamwork.

In traditional teams, people usually work for the same company. Sometimes team members are from the same department and sometimes from different departments. Today, colleagues often work on international projects and modern technology helps members of the team to communicate. People use the internet and video conferences to talk to each other when they are in different countries.

Teams are not always formal. Employees often meet with people from other departments at work, for example over coffee. These groups are not organised teams, but they are important. They network and talk about work, and they help to communicate information between departments.

Some companies have teams that meet in unusual places. Companies build rooms for teamwork so that these special teams can meet outside their normal office. The rooms look different from normal offices, for example painted in bright colours. Some managers think this helps teams to be creative. It is also important to have regular contact with other departments in the main company – such as design, marketing, production and finance. This sometimes helps the team to decide if an idea is good or bad.

The Economist

Glossary

bright ideas (adj + n): good ideas

CEO (n): Chief Executive Officer, the top manager in an organisation

network (v): share information and help each other

creative (adj): able to think of new ideas

3. Read the article again. Are these statements true or false?

- a. Modern companies want bosses to organise teams.
- b. Team members are always from the same country.
- c. Teams are never informal.
- d. Colleagues meet to discuss work.
- e. Some teams meet away from the office.
- f. It isn't important for teams to communicate with other departments



4. What kinds of teams are there? Complete with one word.

_____ TEAMS
_____ TEAMS
_____ TEAMS
_____ TEAMS



5. Visit www.wordreference.com and translate the following verbs from the text:

want: _____
help: _____
talk : _____
build : _____

