

Unemployment

Benefit complex

issue economic implement issues manual maximum negative posi
tive shifts significant significantly somewhat
controversial summary theory

It is unquestionable that rising unemployment is one of the most pressing
1. _____ in the industrial world. One solution that has been put forward is
to cut the working week to a 2. _____ of 35 hours. However, this solution
is 3. _____ 4. _____ as it has both 5. _____ and 6. _____
effects.

It is fairly easy to understand the reason why this proposal has been made. The
reasoning is that if workers are not allowed to work for more than 35 hours
weekly, then employers will be forced to engage more staff. There would be at
least two advantages to this. Not only would unemployment be reduced, but the
working conditions of employees working very long 7. _____ would also
be 8. _____ improved. For example, a factory employing 300 9. _____
workers doing 10 hours a day might employ 450 workers.

There is also, however, a strong argument not to 10. _____. This argument
is based on 11. _____ competitiveness. If a company was forced to employ
more workers to produce the same amount of goods, then its wage bill would
rise and its product might become more expensive and less competitive
compared to companies with long working weeks. In this case, it is possible
that the company either might become insolvent or it would have to make some
employees redundant. As a result, the intended 12. _____ to the personnel
would not happen

In 13. _____, we can see that this is clearly a 14. _____ as there are
15. _____ advantages and disadvantages to the proposal. My own personal
view is that it would be better not to introduce the shortened working week
because it works only in 16. _____ and not in practice.