66 Ways of working

A Freelance work: the pros and cons

- You **are** not **accountable to** anyone but yourself.
- Working for a number of employers gives you an **insight into** different companies.
- You may **be better off**, and you don't have to rely **solely** on one company.
- Working from home makes it easier to **balance** work **and** family responsibilities.
- You don't have a **guaranteed** income or **additional** financial benefits, e.g. a company pension.
- You will **encounter** quiet periods, a **degree of** isolation, and perhaps loneliness.
- Work can **get in the way of** your home life and your free time.

SPOTLIGHT *degree*

A **degree of sth** is a certain level or amount of sth, and it is commonly used in these ways:

- *Cooking* ***requires a degree of*** *skill.*
- *I have* ***a (greater) degree of*** *freedom in my new job.*
- *I can do what I like,* ***to a degree.*** SYN **to an extent**

GLOSSARY

freelance	earning money by selling your work or services to different organizations rather than being employed by just one **freelance** *adv*
the pros and cons (of sth)	the advantages and disadvantages of sth
accountable to sb	responsible for your decision or actions and expected to explain them if asked. If you are **not accountable to anyone**, you are **your own boss.**
insight into sth	a clear understanding of what sth is like: ***have / give sb insight into sth***
be better off	have more money OPP **be worse off**
solely	only, not involving sb/sth else: ***be solely responsible for sth***
balance A and/ with B	give equal importance to two contrasting things
guarantee	promise that sth will happen **guaranteed** *adj*; **guarantee** *n*
additional	more than is usual, or mentioned before SYN **extra**
encounter	experience sth, especially sth unpleasant or difficult
get in the way (of sth)	prevent sb from doing sth, or prevent sth happening

1 **Underline the main stress on these words and phrases. Use the APP to help you.**

freelance accountable insight guarantee additional encounter

2 **Replace the underlined words with a word or phrase that has a similar meaning.**

1 We <u>experienced</u> a few problems during the project. .....
2 There is a certain <u>amount</u> of stress working freelance. .....
3 I enjoy being <u>my own boss</u>. .....
4 The project gave me an <u>understanding of</u> how the company works. .....
5 She tried to <u>give equal importance to</u> her career and her family. .....
6 There are various <u>advantages and disadvantages</u> with regular employment. .....
7 I could do what I liked in the job, to <u>a degree</u>. .....
8 Looking after the children sometimes <u>prevents me from</u> doing my work. .....

3 **Complete the text with suitable words or phrases.**

I was a **(1)** _____ designer for 10 years. I liked being my own **(2)** _____ and the fact that I was **(3)** _____ responsible for everything I did. Naturally, I **(4)** _____ a certain **(5)** _____ of isolation, but I didn't mind that, and I was generally **(6)** _____ off, so I was able to buy a nice house. However, when I had children, the work did get **(7)** _____ of my family life, so I went back to a regular job with a **(8)** _____ income, plus the **(9)** _____ benefits of a company car and pension.

4 ABOUT YOU **Have you ever worked freelance? If so, did you enjoy the same advantages and encounter similar problems? Write your answers, or talk to another student.**

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TEST YOURSELF

LIVEWORKSHEETS

B Working in a team: the pros and cons

✓ Working as **part of a team** with a common goal **fosters team spirit.**

✓ **Collaboration** and **mutual** feedback are **fulfilling** and make people feel **valued.**

✓ Bringing together **diverse** skills is generally more productive.

✗ If someone doesn't **fit in,** that can be **disruptive** for the whole team.

✗ Teams can **suppress** individual **enterprise** and **initiative.**

✗ Individuals can sometimes **get away with** being lazy.

GLOSSARY

part	a person or thing that, working together with others, forms part of a single unit: ***part of a team***
foster	help sth to develop SYN **encourage, promote**
team spirit	loyal feelings towards a group, team, or society
collaboration (with sb)	the act of working with others to produce sth
mutual	used to describe a feeling that two people have for each other equally: ***mutual respect/trust***
fulfilling	giving personal satisfaction SYN **rewarding; fulfil** *v*
value	think that sb/sth is important
diverse	different from each other and of various kinds
fit in (with sb/sth)	be accepted by the others in a group
disruptive	causing problems, and making it hard to continue with sth
suppress	prevent sth from growing, developing or continuing
enterprise	the ability to think of new ideas and make them successful
initiative	the ability to take decisions and act alone: ***use your initiative***
get away with sth	avoid doing sth, or manage to do less than expected

5 **Positive or negative? Write *P* or *N*.**

1 He showed enterprise during the project. .....
2 She can be disruptive in the office. .....
3 I don't feel valued. .....
4 The work was fulfilling . .....
5 The team members have diverse skills. .....
6 He doesn't use his initiative. .....
7 She gets away with poor-quality work. .....
8 There is mutual trust between the members. .....

6 **Rewrite the sentences without using the underlined words. Keep the same meaning.**

1 He <u>wasn't accepted by the others</u>. He didn't _____ .
2 She can <u>act on her own</u>. She can _____ .
3 They <u>did most of it together</u>. There was a lot _____ .
4 He <u>escaped without punishment</u>. He got _____ .
5 I need someone <u>to think up new ideas</u>. I need someone with _____ .
6 They have a lot of respect <u>for each other</u>. They have a lot of _____ .

7 **Complete the sentences with suitable words from the top of the page.**

1 My boss appreciates what I do, and that helps me to feel _____ .
2 To feel _____ of a team, it helps to have a manager who works to build team _____ .
3 You need people who will _____ a good atmosphere in the team.
4 The people in my office are all different and all from very _____ backgrounds.
5 One colleague has a lot of loud phone calls, and that is _____ for others in the group.
6 I used to work for a boss who tried to _____ any individual enterprise, which was very frustrating. With my new boss, however, I enjoy the work and find it very _____ .

8 ABOUT YOU **Do you agree with the pros and cons above? Can you think of any others? Write your answers, or talk to another student.**

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TEST YOURSELF

LIVEWORKSHEETS