

UPPER - INTERMEDIATE LEVEL (B2)

1 A manager and a consultant are having a discussion about some changes at work. Put the words in order.

Consultant So, the new working hours mean that employees could do their weekly number of hours over four days instead of five?

Manager Yes. It should make everyone happy

Consultant ¹ _____ more / I / agree / couldn't. There are bound to be several people who will find this way of working very appealing. And ² _____ don't / anyone / think / disagree / I / would that it will offer people a better work-life balance.

Manager I do have some concerns, however. Standards might slip if people are trying to fit in as much as possible during the time they're here so that they can get away to have a three-day weekend.

Consultant ³ _____ to / beg / differ / I , actually, and let me tell you why. Research shows that employees go out of their way to take advantage of this working arrangement.

Manager Well, I suppose that makes sense. Although I have to say that I've read some of the research you're referring to and ⁴ _____ I'm / quite / not / agree / sure / I / with it. Anyway, let's go ahead and try it.

Consultant So, I think the end of next week would be a reasonable deadline for completing everything. What do you think?

Manager ⁵ _____ completely / I / agree.

2 Complete the sentences with the correct words.

circumstances valuables justify abandoned illegal

- 1 I know it's a beautiful car, but I can't _____ spending that kind of money on a vehicle.
- 2 Did you know that it's _____ to take photos of certain monuments in this country? You could get in serious trouble for doing it.
- 3 The only comment the police have made so far is that the accident did not occur in suspicious _____.
- 4 When I travel, I always have my _____ stored in the hotel safe box so that they can't be stolen.
- 5 The car used in the bank robbery was found _____ with its doors unlocked almost fifty kilometres away.

3 Complete the sentences with the PRESENT PERFECT FORM of the verb in brackets and a PAST MODAL OF DEDUCTION. There may be more than one possible answer.

EXAMPLE: The food's still raw! You can't have turned on the oven.

- 1 There's only one reason why Lars would be late; he _____ (get) stuck in heavy traffic.
- 2 Carla _____ (take) her diet very seriously. She still ate junk food and drank fizzy drinks!
- 3 I _____ (be) wrong about Tina's ability to do the job, but I'm not sure yet.
- 4 I've been trying to contact my brother all day. He _____ (switch on) his phone.
- 5 Jan _____ (start) work at 7 this morning – the building doesn't open until 8 o'clock.

4 Choose the correct answer from options.

- 1 If I finish this work reasonably early, I **must / might / need** to have a barbecue later.
- 2 You really **mustn't / can't / needn't** use the equipment without wearing safety glasses.
- 3 **Need / Must / May** I call you later? There's something we need to discuss.
- 4 You **can't / don't have to / needn't** leave your luggage there. It will get taken away by the security team.
- 5 I honestly believe that our team **could / must / have** to win the championship this year.
- 6 You **might not have / can't have / needn't have** brought so much food. I'd already prepared plenty.
- 7 I really **may / can / ought** to pay more attention when someone tells me their name. I'm useless at remembering them.
- 8 **Can / Might / Has** to that be Graeme's bag? He has one just like it.
- 9 If you want to be rich, you **have to / may / can** work hard and get a good job.
- 10 I **must / could / ought** to be wrong, but I'm sure I saw Selma in town last night.

5 Choose the correct option A, B or C to complete the sentences.

1 Some scientists may be _____ dangerous chemicals as they carry out experiments.	a applied to b exposed to c reacted to	4 Nils felt he'd been unfairly _____ failing to do his share, when he'd actually been working overtime.	a accused of b reacted to c prohibited from
2 James is thoroughly reliable; I know I can always _____ him.	a insist on b blame for c count on	5 In the report, we were heavily _____ not taking customers' feedback into consideration.	a exposed to b criticized for c protected from
3 Staff in all branches of the bank have been _____ their salary cuts. They're extremely unhappy!	a insisting on b criticizing for c protesting against		

6 Complete the sentences with a prefix from A and a word from B. Use hyphens where necessary.

A	inter	mono	multi	self	semi
B	awareness	circle	lingual	national	storey

- 1 Nowadays students have no reason to remain _____; many colleges offer language courses to undergraduates.
- 2 To me, the painting just looked like a red _____ with white spots on it.
- 3 Our new library will be a _____ building that can store more books than the old one.
- 4 Henri has a high level of _____, so he knew his behaviour was unacceptable.
- 5 There was _____ support from all over the world for the research project.

7 Read the blog post in which five people talk about a benefit they have gained from their current job.

Which person ...?

1 has flexible working hours _____	4 enjoys reduced travel time to work _____
2 will be able to travel abroad _____	5 has the opportunity to learn a foreign language _____
3 feels a sense of belonging to a place _____	

A Kristina

When I left school, all I knew was that I was really keen on art, so I jumped at the chance to work as an assistant in a small art gallery. But it turned out that all I had to do was make lists and keep things tidy. I didn't exactly feel challenged! Nowadays I'm working with a firm of designers. Soon after I took up employment with them, they opened a shop near my home, which was an added bonus as it takes me only ten minutes to drive there as opposed to almost an hour in the past. I certainly don't miss being stuck in traffic every morning. I use the time I save to work the odd evening or weekend if I'm needed; I really don't mind doing that.

B Mandeep

Well, a job wouldn't suit me if it didn't involve computers or programming languages in a big way. I've always worked in this field, in one role or another. I set up my own business last year. I'm what you might call a PC doctor and I sort out everyone's problems. I could find myself working at any time. But strangely enough, this is quite a plus. Even though I'm on 'standby', I can meet up with old friends when I'm free during the day, or even go to the gym when it's quiet.

C Alannah

I was told that the route to roles in hotel management started with restaurant work, though personally I found it all hard going – long hours, and little chance of promotion, which didn't exactly motivate me. Anyway, I work as a receptionist now at a conference centre in the countryside, though not too far from home. I discovered only after I was a week into the job that it's part of a worldwide chain and there are plenty of chances for staff exchanges, so I'll get to use my language skills. Meanwhile, staff can take advantage of the beautiful woods and hills around the centre.

D Kostas

Because my family run a small business, when I left university most people thought I would just walk into a job. But I had other ideas which involved foreign travel and adventure. I started working for an international bank and it was OK to start with, but things turned out to be a bit slow, so I did end up joining the family business after all. Then Dad offered to pay for a college course in Spanish as we buy a lot of our supplies from South America. And I'm living at home, too, which is saving me a fortune on rent and bills!

E Marla

I'm an estate agent and our office is right in the centre of a lovely little market town. I feel really comfortable working there and can't imagine being anywhere else. I wasn't always in the property business; I started out in sales and that's a whole other world. I worked in one of those huge out-of-town shopping parks and it was tough as we had targets to meet every week. That led to lots of competition between staff and I soon realized that it wasn't for me. Anyway, now I'm much happier and with the inside knowledge I've got here, I've been able to buy a small reasonably-priced apartment – my first home!