



ON YOUR DESK



Scan to review worksheet

Expemo code:
1DXP-T3PL-D104

1

Warm up

In pairs, discuss the questions below.

1. What do you usually have on your desk?
2. Do you keep your desk clean or messy?
3. Do you think that your desk reflects your personality?





2

Focus on vocabulary

Part A: Match the given words to the pictures.

a) pen
e) calculator



1. _____

b) file
f) mouse pad



2. _____

c) mouse
g) keyboard



3. _____

d) folder
h) notepad



4. _____



5. _____



6. _____



7. _____



8. _____

Group 2:

a) photo
e) pencil



1. _____

b) plant
f) screen



2. _____

c) paper
g) post-it notes



3. _____



4. _____



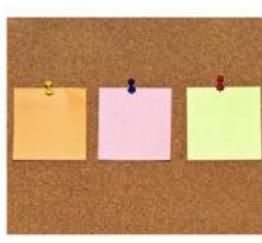
5. _____



6. _____



7. _____



8. _____



Part B: Look at the picture below for about a minute, cover it up and say what you remember.



picture A

3

Language point

Part A: What do you remember? Without looking at picture A above complete the sentences below with 'there was/were/wasn't/weren't' with 'a/an', 'some' and 'any'.

1. _____ telephone.
2. _____ paper clips.
3. _____ plant.
4. _____ plastic racks.
5. _____ lamp.
6. _____ pencils.
7. _____ post-it notes.
8. _____ photo.
9. _____ paper.



Part B: Now look at the conversation about the desk in exercise two part B and have a similar conversation with your partner about your desk. Use 'some', 'any', 'a few', 'a lot of', 'a little'.

A: Do you have a keyboard on your desk?
B: Yes, I do.
A: Are there any pens?
B: No, there aren't. But there's a pencil.
A: What else do you have on your desk?
B: I have a notepad and a few paper clips.

4

Pre-reading/pre-listening task

Match each type of person with what their desk tells us about them.

1. The dreamer	a. This person is liked a lot in the office because they always have sweets and like to chat.
2. The technophobe	b. This person wishes they were on vacation, not at work.
3. The rebel	c. This person works too hard and needs to play more.
4. The homesick person	d. This person finds computers hard and likes to use sticky notes.
5. The workaholic	e. This person's desk is empty, they might be looking for a new job.
6. The chatterbox	f. This person wishes they were at home, not at work.





5

Reading/listening comprehension



Now read or listen to the article about desks reflecting different personalities and answer the following questions then say which personality are you.

1. What items does the homesick person have on their desk?
2. Which personality type has a box of chocolate on their desk?
3. What might an empty desk mean?

What Does Your Desk Say About You?

A desk is not only a place to sit and do work. It says something about your personality

1. The dreamer

Do you have any photos of your vacation on your desk? Be careful. If there are a lot of vacation photos, it shows that you prefer to be somewhere else. You are thinking about the beach, not tomorrow's marketing presentation!

2. The technophobe

Are there any post-it notes on your desk? If you have post-it notes all over your desk, it shows that you have a problem with technology. If you want to be organized, use your computer.

3. The rebel

Is your desk empty? If there is nothing on your desk, it shows that you are not yet comfortable in your new company or maybe you are looking for another job.

4. The homesick person

Are there many family photos on your desk? It is fine to have a few photos of your family. But if you have a lot of photos, it shows that you want to be at home, not at work.

5. The workaholic

How many empty coffee cups and energy drinks do you have on your desk? If you have a lot, it shows that you do not have much balance in your life. You spend a lot of time in the office and you need a hobby.

6. The chatterbox

Do you always have a box of chocolates on your desk? Office workers with a never-ending supply of chocolates and sweets are often popular with their colleagues. But it can also show that you like talking all the time.





6

Talking point

In pairs or small groups discuss the questions below. These questions are meant to help you think and talk about the story. There are no right or wrong answers!

1. Which person from the story do you think you are most like based on how you keep your desk? Why?
2. Do you think it's right to guess what someone is like from how they keep their desk? Why or why not?
3. If you could change something about your desk to make it more like you, what would it be?
4. Why do you think people decorate their desks in different ways?
5. Do you think a tidy desk means a tidy mind? Why or why not?
6. Can you think of another type of person who wasn't in the story? How would their desk look and what would it tell us about them?
7. How important is it to you that your desk looks nice to other people? Why?
8. Do you think your desk is a private or a shared space? Should friends be allowed to talk about how your desk looks? Why or why not?
9. How does how your desk looks to change how you feel or work?
10. Which 'desk person' from the story do you find most interesting or fun? Why?

7

Let's play!

Work in pairs, and listen to the teacher's instructions. Remember, the goal is to have fun and practice English vocabulary!