

CONVERSATION



WFH
IS IT JUST SKIVING?



WARM-UP SPEAKING: STUDENT (A)

WORK WITH YOUR PARTNER

TALK FOR ONE WHOLE MINUTE ABOUT...

FOOD AND DRINK

- What you eat and drink
- When you eat it
- How much you spend
- Are you a healthy eater?
- What you should eat less (and more) of

WORK IS A FOUR-LETTER WORD

- Your dream job. And nightmare job
- What a good boss looks like
- The perfect office
- Fixed hours or flexitime?

LIVING IN THE CITY

- The good + bad things about your home town
- House prices. The cost of renting
- Shopping and nightlife
- Local people

THE HORROR, THE HORROR.

- A situation that frightened you
- A scary film
- A scary person you know
- Your fears for the future

I LA-LA-LIKE IT!

- A place you like
- A pop group you like
- A person you like



WARM-UP SPEAKING: STUDENT (B)

WORK WITH YOUR PARTNER

TALK FOR ONE WHOLE MINUTE ABOUT...

TV AND THE MEDIA

What you think of TV and the radio
How much you watch / listen to
Who controls it
How it makes money
The future of TV and the media

EDUCATION

Education in the past
Good teachers and bad teachers
Punishments
The future of education

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

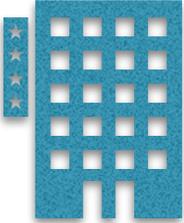
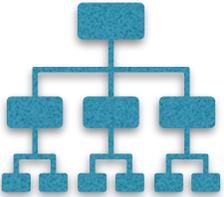
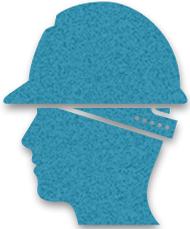
Your best friend
Your family
The family home
Your future family

SPORT

A sport you like
A sport you don't like
Popular sports in your country
Why sport is important...or unimportant

RELIGION

The good things about religion
The bad things
The future of religion

<p>START</p>	<p>Where will you be working in 10 years time? What will you be doing?</p>	<p>What is your dream job?</p>	<p>Should people get time off because of their religion? Muslims? Christians?</p>		<p>Do multinational corporations pay enough tax?</p>	
<p>What are the POSITIVES AND NEGATIVES of working from home?</p>		<p>Do you COMMUTE to work? How far do you travel?</p>		<p>Have you ever been UNEMPLOYED? When? Why? How long? How did you feel?</p>		<p>Can you be successful AND nice at work?</p>
<p>Which jobs will disappear in the future? Which will be safe? Will there be new jobs?</p>		<p>Is work easier than in the past? Or more difficult? Why?</p>	<p>When is a good age to retire? How much is a good pension? Do you worry about pensions and retirement?</p>	<p>Describe THE PERFECT BOSS...and THE BOSS FROM HELL?</p>		<p>What are the positives and negatives of being a FIREMAN, POLICEMAN or NURSE? What skills are needed for each?</p>
<p>FINISH</p>		<p>Should there be a fixed working week like in France? Why? Why not? How many hours?</p>		<p>In the past children worked. Should this be allowed again? Why? Why not?</p>	<p>Should the government be responsible for CREATING JOBS?</p>	<p>Do you agree with POSITIVE DISCRIMINATION? Why? Why not?</p>



VOCABULARY

Check the meanings of the words below. **Use an online dictionary (ENGLISH ONLY PLEASE) and your teacher will help you.**

skive (verb) stroll (verb + noun) dystopian (adj) tumbleweed (noun)
deserted (adj) con (verb + noun) commute (verb + noun)
toil away (phr verb) procrastinate (verb) cat litter (noun)

1. Bladerunner is a _____ story of **out-of-control robots** who have to be stopped.
2. On holiday, we always enjoy an evening _____ on the beach.
3. Everyone knows that Apple products are a _____. They are too expensive and not worth the money.
4. Jim told a terrible joke in the meeting and no-one laughed. There was silence and _____ blew across the room.
5. Most people working in London have to _____ because they can't afford to live in the city.
6. If I don't buy some _____, Mr Biggles will be angry at me and won't sit on my lap.
7. I'd love to write a book but never seem to have the time to sit down and write anything. I always _____.
8. Haven't you finished your jobs today? You need to stop _____ and get some work done.
9. The hall was _____ when we arrived. Had the concert finished already?
10. I need a break. I've been _____ on this essay for nearly 3 hours!



READING FOR COMPREHENSION



IS 'WORKING FROM HOME' JUST SKIVING?

STROLL into any office on a Friday and you might think you've stepped into one of those **DYSTOPIAN** films where everyone has disappeared. They are like ghost towns: **TUMBLEWEED** blowing across the desks, **DESERTED** corridors, empty meeting rooms. Where is everyone? Fire alarm? Global pandemic? Mass kidnapping? No, they're working from home - perhaps the greatest **CON** of modern times.

We should call working from home what it really is: **SKIVING**.

It all sounds sensible on paper. No **COMMUTING** means more hours to **TOIL AWAY**, right?

But, really, working from home is just a mix of work and leisure.

It's not that people are lazy, it's too easy to **PROCRASTINATE** at home. There are **CAT LITTER** trays to be cleaned, Amazon shopping to be done, sheets to be washed, food deliveries to be ordered.

It is amazing how much people can do when working from home - it's just that most of it has nothing to do with work.



FLUENCY SPEAKING: STUDENT (A)

INTERVIEW YOUR PARTNER

ALWAYS ASK +3 QUESTIONS FOR MORE INFORMATION

Could you tell me more...?

Interesting...Do go on...

1. If you could get rid of one country in the world, which would it be and why?
2. How do you make an omelette?
3. What do you think about when you are alone in the car or on the bus?
4. Have you ever stolen a pen from work or a public place?
5. A penguin walks into the classroom right now wearing a **SOMBRERO**. What does he say and why is he here
6. A billionaire walks into your office and says you can have a million dollars to launch your best business idea. What is it?

I'm all ears...

You don't say...

FLUENCY SPEAKING: STUDENT (A)

INTERVIEW YOUR PARTNER

ALWAYS ASK +3 QUESTIONS FOR MORE INFORMATION

Could you tell me more...?

Interesting...Do go on...

1. If I came to your house for breakfast, what would you prepare for me?
2. How do you make a tuna sandwich?
3. My wife and I are going on vacation, where would you recommend?
4. Estimate how many windows are in New York.
5. Pick two celebrities to be your parents.
6. What kitchen utensil would you be? A spoon, a saucepan...?
7. If you could be anyone else, who would it be?

I'm all ears...

You don't say...



VOCABULARY KEY

1. DYSTOPIAN
2. STROLLING
3. CON
4. TUMBLEWEED
5. COMMUTE
6. CAT LITTER
7. PROCRASTINATE
8. SKIVING
9. DESERTED
10. TOILING AWAY