World of Work

1. Job satisfaction (article “Motivating high caliber staff”, vocab sheet world of work, online research)

* Explain the term ‘overachiever’:

An overachiever consistently exceeds expectations and works harder than necessary. They set very high goals and strive for perfection. This can sometimes lead to stress or imbalance in their life.

* Outline the problems of losing high performance:

Loss of Experience, Reduced Team Morale, Increased Costs (recruitment, (re-)training), Reputation Damage, Longer Time to Achieve Goals

* Inform about motivating factors that help retain:

Rewards, Challenging Work, good Work-life balance, Meaningful Work, Job Security, Transparency and Communication, positive Feedback

1. Cross-cultural competence (transcript listening, Unit 7 Best Shots 4/5 pp. 103-104, 113-120)

* explain the term:

Cross-cultural competence is the ability to navigate and adapt to diverse cultural norms, values, and communication styles. It involves a deep awareness of one's own cultural biases and a refined sensitivity to the perspectives of others. This skill enables individuals to foster meaningful interactions and collaboration across global and multicultural settings.

* point out why cultural awareness is important:

Build trusts, Enhance Communication, Improves Problem Solving, Improves Team Dynamics, Contributes to Better Learning, Promotes Global Collaboration,

* discuss possible benefits and downsides of cultural diversity in the workplace:
* Benefits:
  + Improved Problem-Solving
  + Greater Market Understanding
  + Broader Talent Pool
  + Cultural Competence
* Downsides:
  + Communication Challenges
  + Conflict and Tension
  + Integration Difficulties
  + Difficulties in Decision-Making
* inform about ways to acquire cross-cultural skills:

**Education and Training**, Engage in Multicultural Teams, Develop Emotional Intelligence, Adaptability and Flexibility, Participate in Cultural Events

1. Gap year (article, Best Shots 4/5, unit 7 p. 117, graph)

* Explain the concept of spending a gap year abroad

A **gap year abroad** is a period, typically a year, when individuals—often students—take time off between life stages, such as after high school or college, to travel, work, or volunteer in a foreign country.

* Outline the pros and cons of taking a gap year
  + Pros:
    - Personal Growth
    - Cultural Exposure
    - Work Experience
    - Networking Opportunities
    - Academic and Career Clarity
  + Cons:
    - Financial Cost
    - Academic Delay
    - Social Disconnect
    - Uncertainty and Risk
    - Culture Adjustment
* Comment on what you have to consider when spending time in another country:
  + Cultural Awareness:
    - Respect for Local Customs
    - Language Barriers
  + Legal and Documentation Requirements:
    - Visas and Permits
    - Health insurance
  + Financial planning:
    - Cost of Living
    - Currency and Banking
  + Safety and Security:
    - Local Laws
    - Political Stability
    - Emergency Contacts
  + Cultural Sensitivity:
    - Religion and Beliefs
    - Gender Norms and Expectations

1. Changes in the world of work (Videos YouTube: “How the world of work has changed” and “5 trends”, Vocab sheet “World of Work”, Best Shots 2, unit 7 pp. 88f):

* outline the changes in the world of work over the past few decades:
  + Digital Transformation and Automation
  + Shift from Manufacturing to Services
  + Globalization
  + Skills-Based Economy
  + Continuous Learning and Reskilling
* speculate about future trends in the world of work:
  + **Automation and Artificial Intelligence (AI)**
  + Hybrid and Remote Work Models
  + Green Jobs and Sustainability
  + Reskilling and Lifelong Learning
  + Shorter Work Weeks and Flexible Schedules
* suggest ways of how to prepare for and adapt to potential changes in the world of work (flexibility, lifelong learning, use of digital technologies, focus on soft skills):
  + Embrace Flexibility
    - Adopt Flexible Work Models
    - Work-Life Balance
  + Commit to Lifelong Learning
    - Continuous Upskilling
    - Soft Skills Development
    - Learning Agility
  + Use of Digital Technologies
  + Focus on Soft Skills
    - Communication and Collaboration
    - Adaptability and Problem-Solving
    - Emotional Intelligence
  + Networking and Building a Personal Brand
    - Professional Networking
    - Personal Branding