

现代办公室生活 Life in the modern office

Hello. This is 6 Minute English from BBC Learning English. I'm Sam. And I'm Neil.

大家好。这里是 BBC 学习英语栏目的六分钟英语。我是萨姆。我是尼尔。

Have you seen my pen, Sam?

萨姆，你看到我的钢笔了吗？

It's not on my desk.

它不在我的桌子上。

No, I haven't touched your pen, Neil.

没看见，我没碰过你的钢笔，尼尔。

And someone's taken my coffee mug too!

有人把我的咖啡杯也拿走了！

Agh, ever since we started hot-desking, people in this office think they can do whatever they like!

啊，自从我们开始轮用办公桌，办公室里的人就觉得可以为所欲为了！

Neil doesn't like the new rule about office hot-desking, the system where workers don't have their own personal desk, but use any available desk, on a temporary basis.

尼尔不喜欢办公室轮用办公桌的新规定，即员工没有自己的私人办公桌，而是可以临时使用任何闲置的办公桌。

Maybe he should look for another job and quit the nine-to-five – a phrase describing jobs which start at 9am and end at 5pm, the normal hours that people in offices work from Monday to Friday.

或许他应该另找一份工作，辞掉这份朝九晚五的工作。朝九晚五是指从早上9点开始到下午5点结束的工作，这是坐办公室的人周一到周五的正常工作时间。

Hmm, maybe I should quit.

嗯，也许我应该辞职。

I loved working from home during the pandemic – no early mornings, no crowded trains... and no-one using my pens!

我喜欢疫情的时候在家工作，不用早起，不用挤车，也没人用我的笔！

As the Covid pandemic slows down, more and more people are returning to work in the office.

随着疫情消散，越来越多的人回到办公室工作。

In this programme, we take a look at life in the modern office.

在本期节目中，我们要讨论的是现代办公室生活。

And of course, we'll learn some useful vocabulary as well.

当然，我们也将学到一些有用的词汇。

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But first I have a question for you, Sam.

但首先我有个问题要问你，萨姆。

As you know, I'm not an office lover.

如你所知，我不喜欢坐办公室。

Besides disappearing pens, workers have plenty of other complaints about office life, from co-workers who never do the washing up, to fighting over spaces in the car park.

除了乱用钢笔，员工们对办公室生活还有很多怨言，比如，不洗碗的同事和停车位争夺战。

But according to a 2021 survey by the Metro newspaper, what did British workers vote the worst thing about working in an office?

但根据《都市报》2021年的一项调查，英国员工投票选出的在办公室工作最糟糕的事情是什么？

Was it a) printers not working?

是 a) 打印机坏了？

b) people speaking too loudly?

b)人们说话声音太大？

Or c) co-workers leaving empty milk cartons in the fridge?

还是 c) 同事把空牛奶盒留在冰箱里？

Hmm, I see stealing pens isn't on the list, so I'll say a) printers not working.

嗯，偷钢笔竟然不在选项里，那我选 a) 打印机坏了。

That really makes me mad!

这真的让我很生气！

OK, Sam. I'll reveal the correct answer later in the programme.

好的，萨姆。稍后我将在节目中揭晓正确答案。

Nowadays most modern offices are open-plan, large spaces without internal walls dividing them up.

如今，大多数办公室都是开放式的，整体很宽敞，但内部没有墙把空间隔成小块。

The idea is to create a sense of togetherness, but many employees prefer having their own space, and use all types of objects to mark out their own personal territory.

这是为了使员工更加团结，但许多员工更喜欢拥有自己的空间，并用各种各样的物品来划定出自己的私人空间。

These could be anything from family photos and holiday souvenirs, to home-made cakes and biscuits placed at the end of a desk to allow people grab a biscuit and start a conversation.

人们可能会摆放家人的照片、假期纪念品、自制蛋糕和饼干等等。同事可以拿些桌角的饼干，顺便聊会天。

Researcher, Harriet Shortt, travelled around Britain interviewing office workers about the types of objects they use to decorate and mark out their workspace.

研究人员哈里特·肖特采访了英国各地的上班族，询问他们用来装饰和划分私人工作空间的物品都有什么。

Here she is telling BBC Radio 4 programme, Thinking Allowed, about one young woman who stuck photos and postcards onto strips of cardboard.

她曾在BBC4台节目《脑洞大开》上讲过一位年轻女子将照片和明信片粘在纸板条上的故事。

She had created this sort of montage on this strip of paper and would roll it up daily.

她在这张纸上创作了一幅拼贴画，每天都会把它卷起来。

She had a little plant as well and she would take it to whatever desk she was working at and would pin it up to a set of low-level desk divider and so there's that sense of, however temporarily they might be in a particular space in the office, they still ... there's still evidence in this research that people want to feel comfort, and settled and have some sense of familiarity.

她还有一棵小植物。她去哪张桌子上工作都带着它，并把它放在低矮的桌面挡板旁边，所以，无论他们在那张桌子上待的时间有多短，他们仍然...这项研究仍然有证据表明，人们想要舒适的、安定下来的感觉，想要有些熟悉的东西。

The woman Harriet interviewed used photos and postcards to create a montage – a piece of work made by putting together several different items, often in interesting combinations.

哈里特采访的这位女士使用照片和明信片创作了一幅拼贴画，即一幅由几个不同的物品组合而成的作品，通常非常有趣。

Her photo montage reminded her of the people and places she loved outside of work.

她的照片拼贴画能让她想起工作之外的那些她喜欢的人和地方。

For Harriet this shows that people want workspaces to have a sense of familiarity – the feeling of knowing something so well that you feel comfortable and relaxed.

哈里特认为，这表明人们希望工作场所能给人一种熟悉的感觉，即对某物了如指掌而舒适、放松的感觉。

Harriet also interviewed hairdressers working in beauty salons about the marks and stains found in their workplace.

哈里特还采访了在美容院工作的理发师，询问他们店里的印记和污渍。

Here she tells BBC Radio 4's, Thinking Allowed, about a strangely shaped mark on the floor of one hair salon.

她在BBC4台节目《脑洞大开》上，提到过一家发廊地板上的一个形状怪异的印记。

A sort of half-moon scuff mark that goes right round the back of the chair – so literally, she's worn out the floor.

那是一个半月形磨痕，正好环绕着椅子的靠背，所以很明显，那是她剪头发时磨出来的痕迹。

It's exactly where a hairdresser would tread for many, many hours of the day.

那正是理发师一天踩过无数次的地方。

And she took the photograph, and she showed it to me, and she said, 'This is me.

她拿着照片给我看，说道：“这就是我。

You want to know about identity.

你想知道我什么是身份。

And it represents hard graft'.

这代表着我工作的辛劳。”

Harriet interviewed a hairdresser whose salon floor had been worn out – damaged by continual use, after being walked on again and again as the woman cut people's hair.

哈里特采访了一位理发师，她的沙龙地板已经被磨损，即因长时间使用而被损坏。因为她为别人理发时一遍又一遍地走过这块地面。

For her, the worn-out floor symbolised hard graft, or hard work.

对她来说，破旧的地板象征着艰苦的工作。

Whatever your job, we all spend most of each day at work, so it's important to have a workplace that's safe, comfortable and familiar... where people don't steal your pen!

无论你做什么工作，我们每天大部分时间都在工作，所以拥有一个安全、舒适、熟悉的工作场所是很重要的，至少应该没人偷你的钢笔！

Oh, Neil – you sound like the office workers in that newspaper survey.

哦，尼尔，你听起来像被《都市报》调查的那些上班族。

Yes, let's return to my question which was: according to a 2021 Metro newspaper survey, what is British workers' number one complaint about working in an office.

对了，回到我的问题上：2021年《都市报》的一项调查显示，英国员工对办公室工作最大的怨言是什么。

I guessed it was the printers not working.

我猜是打印机坏了。

Was I right?

我说的对吗？

You were wrong, I'm afraid!

回答错误！

In fact, the top complaint was people speaking too loudly – another of my pet hates!

其实，人们抱怨得最多的是说话声音太大，我也很讨厌这一点！

OK, let's recap the vocabulary from this programme on the nine-to-five – work which happens during normal Monday to Friday office hours.

好了，让我们回顾一下本期关于朝九晚五的工作的词汇。“the nine-to-five”指在周一到周五的正常办公时间内进行的工作。

Hot-desking is where office workers do not have their own permanent desk but use a different desk each day.

“hot-desking”是指办公室职员没有自己的固定办公桌，而是每天使用不同的办公桌。

A montage is made by putting together different items in interesting combinations.

“montage”是指通过将不同的物品以有趣的组合摆放在一起而制成的拼贴画。

A sense of familiarity is a feeling of knowing something so well that you feel comfortable and relaxed around it.

“a sense of familiarity”是指对某事了如指掌而感到舒服和放松的感觉。

When something is worn out from overuse, it's so old or damaged.

某物因过度使用而“be worn out”，意为它很陈旧或已被损坏。

And finally, hard graft is a slang phrase meaning hard work.

最后，“hard graft”是一个俚语，意为艰苦的工作。

Once more our six minutes are up!

我们的六分钟又到了！

We hope you'll join us again soon for more trending topics and useful vocabulary here at 6 Minute English.

6分钟英语将讲述更多热门话题和有用的词汇。记得收听我们的节目哦！

But that's goodbye for now! Goodbye!

下期再见！再见！
