

Intermediate - You Are Fired! (C0072)

A: Hi Isabel! You wanted to see me?

B: Yes Anthony, come on in. Have a seat.

A: Is everything okay? You seem a bit preoccupied.

B: Well, Anthony, this is not going to be an easy conversation. The company has made some decisions which will have a direct impact on your employment.

A: Okay...

B: I don't want to beat around the bush so I'm just gonna come out with it. We are going to have to let you go.

A: What? Why? I mean... just like that? I'm fired?

B: I'm sorry but, to be honest, you are a terrible employee!

A: What! I resent that!

B: Anthony, you were caught making international calls from the office phone, you called in sick in eight times this month and you smell like alcohol!

Key Vocabulary

preoccupied	<i>Adjective</i>	worried; thinking about something else
direct	<i>Adjective</i>	connected to, related to
impact	<i>common noun, singular</i>	strong influence or effect
beat around the bush	<i>phrase</i>	avoid saying something by talking about other things

come out with it	<i>phrase</i>	say something directly
let (someone) go	<i>phrase</i>	have someone fired or dismissed
to be honest	<i>phrase</i>	used to say something directly
resent	<i>phrase</i>	find something very insulting
call in sick	<i>verb</i>	call the office to say you can't come to work because you're sick

Supplementary Vocabulary

severance package	<i>phrase</i>	money or benefits you give someone when they are fired
lay off	<i>verb</i>	end an employment because of business reasons, not performance
layoffs	<i>common noun, plural</i>	the action of ending employment because of business reasons

dismissal letter

*common
noun, singular*

a letter written to tell
an employee he is fired

terminate

verb

end the employment of
a person; fire