

Relationships

Level: Intermediate

Age: Adults

Time: Up to 90 minutes

Lesson aim:

- To explain how to deal with relationships at work

Skills: Listening, Speaking

Materials:

- Worksheet
- Live from London: Business "Relationships" video
- Transcript

Key:

Prad—Yes; it's important to get to know colleagues, know how they work and build relationships.

Anne—Yes; 'you don't just work for work, otherwise I would stay at home.'

Jenny—Yes; it [socialising] helps with work. It's useful.

Chris—Yes; incredibly important; makes for a more efficient and open team; people share ideas and are more willing to engage.

C

This activity begins with learners sharing their own personal views. Which topics would they discuss during a free moment?

The discussion familiarises learners with the topics to listen out for. Play the remainder of the video from 3:18–4:19. Students listen and tick the topics mentioned by the speakers. They then reflect on how similar their ideas were to the speakers in the video.

Key:

Topics mentioned:

sport, food, work, the future of the company (Prad mentions 'prospects'), customers, relationships, family

Other topics mentioned that were not listed:

how tired you are, moving house, 'random topics'

Language focus

A

The purpose of this activity is to focus on interesting topic-related vocabulary from the video.

Students read the transcript extracts from Tolani and Anne. Draw attention to the underlined phrases. If you wish, you could ask students to discuss if they know the meaning of these phrases already. Students then match each phrase to the correct meaning.

Before you watch

A

The aim of this activity is to enable students to briefly share information and experiences regarding relationships at work. It also prepares the learners for the video content. They ask and answer questions in pairs, no need for specific details at this stage.

Video

A

Students watch the video from 0:00–1:52. They make notes on the two speakers' ideas.

They then discuss the summary questions:

Key:

1. Vivek
2. Tolani
3. Students' own views

B

Students watch the next part of the video from 1:52–3:18. They record the responses from each speaker to the question *Do you think it's important to socialise with your team?* They also add notes expanding on each speaker's response.

When they finish, they compare notes with a partner. They also discuss whether any of the ideas mentioned were the same as those they discussed in the 'before you watch' activity.

Intermediate

Key:

1. forming a good relationship
2. what motivates them
3. in common
4. in order to
5. otherwise
6. take place

B

This activity gives each of the phrases from Language focus A a meaningful context. Students complete the questions with one of the phrases from A. They choose the most logical option.

Key:

1. in common
2. forming a good relationship
3. take place
4. what motivates
5. otherwise
6. in order to

Communication focus

A

This activity makes use of the questions from Language focus B. Students discuss the questions in pairs, trying to extend their answers where possible.

B

This activity exploits the Language focus further and gives learners more chance to personalise the phrases. Students write two of their own questions using phrases from the language focus.

C

Students ask and answer the various questions they have created. They make notes on any interesting answers, which they can feed back to the class after the discussion.