

The World of Work

Task: The Future of Jobs in a Post-Pandemic World

Activity 1: Listening

Welcome to a practice listening task for the ISE 2.

You are going to hear a talk about **the future of jobs in a post-pandemic world**. You will hear the talk twice. The first time, just listen. Then I'll ask you to tell me generally what the speaker is talking about. Are you ready?

Audio Script

The COVID-19 pandemic has been affecting every aspect of our lives since it started, and the world of work is no exception. Despite that some jobs were lost or put on hold due to the pandemic, others had to adapt to the new reality and continue remotely. As we move towards a post-pandemic world, society ought to realize that the job market is expected to undergo significant changes.

So to continue, One major trend that experts predict is the rise of remote work. With more and more companies investing in digital infrastructure, remote work has become a viable option for many industries, being that they are reaping the benefits of increased flexibility, allowing better time management with a greater ability to meet personal and family needs, and reduced commuting time and expenses. Another change that is expected is an increase in the use of automation and artificial intelligence. The pandemic has accelerated the adoption of automation in many industries, as it provides a way to maintain business operations while minimizing human contact, which improves efficiency and cuts costs. It has also been beneficial to allow people to have the ability to work from anywhere with an internet connection, surely leading to a larger pool of job opportunities and increased job satisfaction. At the same token, companies used to be limited on hiring employees within a certain distance, but all that has changed with remote work. They too are able to access a wider pool of talent, as location is no longer a barrier to employment. This can result in a more diverse workforce and bring new perspectives and ideas to the organization. In addition to this many job recruiters have mentioned that remote work has led to improved employee retention and recruitment due to the added benefits and flexibility it provides.

However, the pandemic has also highlighted the importance of human connection and empathy in the workplace. Although some jobs have been able to be adapted to the current need, not all jobs are carried out in a distance. As a result, there is a growing demand for jobs that require social skills and emotional intelligence, such as healthcare workers, teachers, and mental health professionals. These jobs cannot be automated, and they are likely to remain in demand in the post-pandemic world. Furthermore, you must take into account that there are certain industries, such as actors, dancers and musicians that require live performances and cannot be done through remote work, due to the fact that this could potentially lead to a disappearance of these industries. Another type of industry to consider are some jobs in the hospitality industry, such as hotel staff and restaurant servers, which had required physical presence to provide customer service and couldn't have been done by distance. Also, it may be easy to not realize that if specialized equipment or machinery were

required, jobs such as mechanics or machine operators could not be done remotely. Finally, we shouldn't forget about service industry jobs, such as hairdressers, massage therapists and personal trainers, which require physical interaction with clients and would be impossible to do remotely.

All in all, the post-pandemic world is expected to bring significant changes to the job market. Remote work and automation are likely to continue to grow, while jobs that require social skills and emotional intelligence are expected to remain in demand. If the world of work hadn't adapted to new challenges in the past, it wouldn't have been as resilient and adaptable as it is now to face the challenges of the future.

Can you tell me in one or two sentences what the speaker was talking about?

Now listen to the talk again. This time make some notes as you listen, if you want to. Then I'll ask you to tell me the benefits of the rise in remote work and the growing demands for jobs with social skills and emotional intelligence.

Now tell me the benefits of the rise in remote work and the growing demands for jobs with social skills and emotional intelligence. You have one minute to talk.

This is the end of the listening task.

Answers:

Benefits of the rise of remote work:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increased flexibility and reduced commuting time and expenses ● Increase in the use of automation and artificial intelligence ● The ability to work from anywhere with an internet connection, which can lead to a larger pool of job opportunities and increased job satisfaction. ● Companies are able to access a wider pool of talent, as location is no longer a barrier to employment. This can result in a more diverse workforce and bring new perspectives and ideas to the organization. ● Improved employee retention and recruitment due to the added benefits and flexibility of remote work.
Growing demand for jobs that require social skills and emotional intelligence:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jobs that cannot be automated are likely to remain in demand

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Some jobs in the creative industries, such as actors, dancers, and musicians, require live performances and cannot be done through remote work.● Some jobs in the hospitality industry, such as hotel staff and restaurant servers, require physical presence to provide customer service and cannot be done by distance.● Jobs that require the use of specialized equipment or machinery, such as mechanics or machine operators, cannot be done remotely.● Service industry jobs, such as hairdressers, massage therapists, and personal trainers, require physical interaction with clients and cannot be done remotely.
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Marks: +_ / +10

Activity 2: Reading

Find grammar in the audio script and highlight it, writing behind the grammar: For example:
You must know that... = You **must [modal verb: must]** know that

Grammar list:

- Second conditional
- Simple passive
- Used to
- Relative clauses
- Modal verb: Must
- Modal verb: Should / Ought to
- Modal verb: May / Might
- Third conditional
- Present perfect continuous
- Past Perfect Simple
- Reported speech / Reported Verb
- Linking expressions: Although
- Linking expressions: In spite of / despite all
- Cohesive devices: So to continue,

Once you have found all the grammar, write down some vocabulary and ideas in the audioscript.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

Activity 3: Writing

Write an essay for your teacher (150 to 180 words) about remote work.

Piensa en qué tipo de ensayo

- Argumentative Essay → decir las ventajas y desventajas
- Discursive Essay → pide que informan sobre algo, con datos o información
- Descriptive essay → memoria, recuerdo, o experiencia

>> Describe how this has changed lives of some people that you know

>> Explain what benefits there are

>> Say rather you believe this is good for our future or not

Plan your writing with the grammar, writing format, and ideas from the writing prompt before starting.

Activity 4: Speaking

Now, think about having a two minute conversation about: How remote work has affected the way people live their lives? You can use ideas from the listening activity and/or add your own ideas.

What ideas can you use?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

What questions can you ask?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.