



The English Hub

The English Hub

The Rise of Remote Work, Is the Office Becoming a Thing of the Past?

Article: The Rise of Remote Work, Is the Office Becoming a Thing of the Past?

Just a few years ago, most people around the world woke up early, got dressed, and travelled to an office for work. Today, that routine is changing fast. More companies are allowing employees to work from home, cafés, or even while traveling. This way of working is called remote work, and it's becoming more popular than ever.

The rise of remote work started before the COVID-19 pandemic, but it grew rapidly when many offices were forced to close. Suddenly, millions of workers had to use video calls, email, and messaging apps to stay connected. Over time, many people discovered that they actually *preferred* working from home. They didn't need to commute, could wear comfortable clothes, and had more time with family or for hobbies.

Some businesses have also seen benefits. Without paying for large office spaces, companies save money. They can also hire talented people from anywhere in the world, not just those who live nearby.

However, remote work isn't perfect. Some employees feel **isolated** and miss the daily interaction with co-workers. Others find it difficult to focus when working near family, pets, or noisy neighbours. For new workers, it can be harder to learn or ask questions when everything is online. And some bosses worry about whether people are really working or watching Netflix during the day.

To find a balance, some companies now offer hybrid work, where employees go to the office a few days a week, and work from home the rest. This gives people flexibility, while keeping some face-to-face connection.

Whether you're a fan of working in pyjamas or still enjoy chatting by the coffee machine, it's clear that the world of work is changing. In the future, the "office" might be anywhere with a strong internet connection.



Vocabulary Practice:

Word / Phrase	Definition
Remote work	Doing your job from a location outside the office, often from home.
Commute	The travel you do between home and work.
Pandemic	A worldwide disease outbreak.
Video calls	Online face-to-face meetings using apps like Zoom or Google Meet.
Hybrid work	A mix of working at the office and remotely.
Isolated	Feeling alone or separated from others.
Interaction	Communication or activity with other people.
Flexible / Flexibility	Able to change easily or choose from options.
Focus	To give your full attention to something.

Comprehension Questions

1. What does “remote work” mean?
2. Why do some people enjoy working from home?
3. How do companies benefit from remote work?
4. What is one challenge workers may face at home?
5. Why can remote work be hard for new employees?
6. What are some tools used to communicate remotely?
7. What is hybrid work, and how is it different?
8. Why do some employers worry about remote workers?
9. According to the article, how might the workplace change in the future?

Discussion Questions

1. Would you prefer working from home or going to an office? Why?
2. Do you think people can be more productive at home? Why or why not?
3. What kind of jobs do you think cannot be done remotely?
4. How would you stay focused if you worked from home?
5. Do you think remote work will become the new normal in the future?