

الاسم: مسابقة في الثقافة العامة باللغة الإنكليزية
الرقم: المدة: خمسون دقيقة

Reading Comprehension

(Score: 12/20)

Read the following selection about the benefits of telecommuting (working from home), and then answer the questions that follow.

Telecommuting

1 A decade ago, working from home may have seemed like a distant dream. Today, **it** is the future of work. As more companies adopt telecommuting practices, the benefits are very clear. Remote work is no longer about working on a beach; it is a completely new concept in how we approach the way we work. In fact, the benefits and reasons why we resort to telecommuting outnumber its disadvantages.

2 Workers are finding **it** harder than ever to achieve productivity in a traditional office environment. Telecommuting has proved to be the right solution. With none of the distractions from a traditional office setting, telecommuting increases employee efficiency. It allows workers to save more of their time and adjust to their personal mental and physical needs that optimize productivity. Removing something as simple as a twenty-minute commute to work can make all the difference for employees who are able to work more hours from home.

3 With life expectancy increasing and the cost of living exploding, people over the age of 64 choose to delay retirement and prefer to work into their 70's to keep their minds engaged while continuously learning. Telecommuting presents this old generation with an ideal way to make ends meet without a hectic daily commute.

4 No matter what size of business you run, keeping costs to the minimum is always on the agenda. Telecommuting reduces heating and lighting expenses and helps boost a company's financial income. Other costs that can be avoided or reduced include office supplies, furniture, equipment, coffee and cleaning services.

5 In fact, telecommuting has moved beyond being just another 21st century trend; it has become a way of life, substituting the traditional workplace with employees who are self-satisfied and more productive. Therefore, it is high time to consider all these benefits that work in favor of both the employer and the employee. If you own your own business, depending on the roles and industry you are in, it may be beneficial to consider the telecommuting structure for your workforce.

A. Decide which paragraph each of the statements below refers to. (03)

- Telecommuting has proved to be a way of work that saves both money and energy.
- Employees who work from home become more productive and empowered.
- Telecommuting is a highly recommended work option in the modern world.

B. Find words in the selection that almost have the following meanings. (02)

- idea (Par. 1)
- make the best of (Par. 2)
- busy (Par. 3)
- improve (Par. 4)

C. What does each of the pronouns, bold-typed in the selection, refer to? (02)

- it** (Paragraph 1)
- it** (Paragraph 2)

D. Identify the ONE grammatical error in each sentence and then correct it. (02)

- Lack of motivation is one of the major problem that workers face.
- The number of Americans which work from home has been increasing.
- If employees leave their jobs before 50, they wouldn't receive retirement wages.
- Why online learning is considered a successful alternative during the Covid-19 pandemic?

E. Rewrite the following sentences, starting each as indicated, without changing the meaning. (03)

- Telecommuting is highly rewarding and challenging at the same time. *Not only*
- The company has lately recruited several technical experts. *Several technical experts*

Part Two: Writing

(Score: 08/20)

Not all workers are willing to engage in telecommuting (working from home) as a new experience. What are the challenges that they might face while dealing with such a widespread trend? Develop your writing in a well-organized paragraph of 10-12 lines. Provide a title for your paragraph.

[Score: Title (01), Ideas and Organization (03), Language and structure (03), Neatness and Legible handwriting (01)]