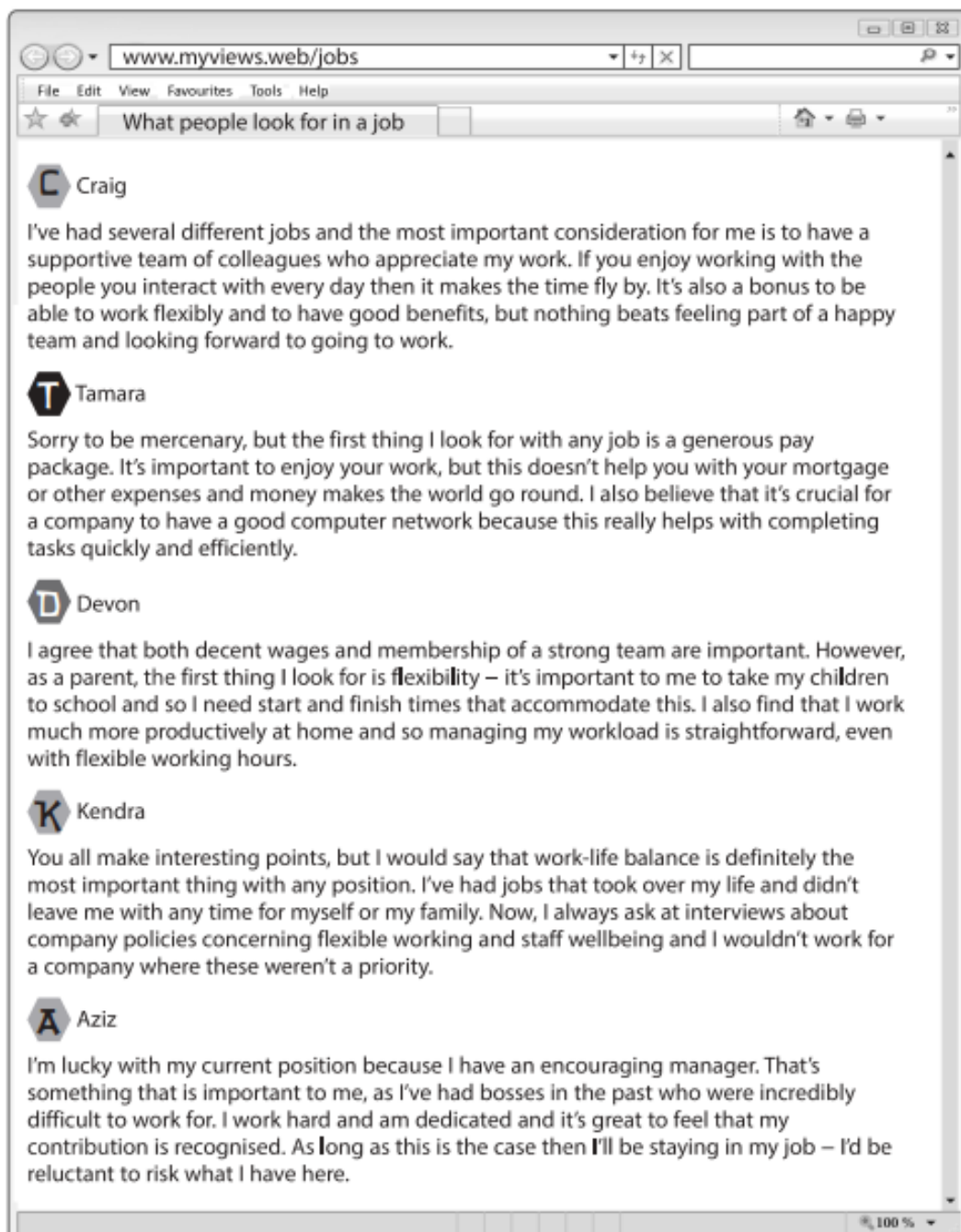


Functional Skills English | Level 2 Reading | Group Reading Activity | Text Two

Web forum



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What people look for in a job

C Craig

I've had several different jobs and the most important consideration for me is to have a supportive team of colleagues who appreciate my work. If you enjoy working with the people you interact with every day then it makes the time fly by. It's also a bonus to be able to work flexibly and to have good benefits, but nothing beats feeling part of a happy team and looking forward to going to work.

T Tamara

Sorry to be mercenary, but the first thing I look for with any job is a generous pay package. It's important to enjoy your work, but this doesn't help you with your mortgage or other expenses and money makes the world go round. I also believe that it's crucial for a company to have a good computer network because this really helps with completing tasks quickly and efficiently.

D Devon

I agree that both decent wages and membership of a strong team are important. However, as a parent, the first thing I look for is flexibility – it's important to me to take my children to school and so I need start and finish times that accommodate this. I also find that I work much more productively at home and so managing my workload is straightforward, even with flexible working hours.

K Kendra

You all make interesting points, but I would say that work-life balance is definitely the most important thing with any position. I've had jobs that took over my life and didn't leave me with any time for myself or my family. Now, I always ask at interviews about company policies concerning flexible working and staff wellbeing and I wouldn't work for a company where these weren't a priority.

A Aziz

I'm lucky with my current position because I have an encouraging manager. That's something that is important to me, as I've had bosses in the past who were incredibly difficult to work for. I work hard and am dedicated and it's great to feel that my contribution is recognised. As long as this is the case then I'll be staying in my job – I'd be reluctant to risk what I have here.

100 %

Functional Skills English | Level 2 Reading | Group Reading Activity | Text Two Questions

1. Using Text Two, give **two** quotations that suggests it is important to feel valued by people at work.

1.

2.

2. Using Text Two, identify **two** language features used to inform readers about people's views on work.

Give an example to support each answer.

Language Feature

Example

Language Feature

Example

3. Which one of these quotations from Text Two shows that the writer has a negative view of how much time jobs can take up?

- A 'managing my workload is straightforward'
- B 'doesn't help you with your mortgage'
- C 'I've had jobs that took over my life'
- D 'who were incredibly difficult to work for'

4. You may use a dictionary to answer this question.

'sorry to be mercenary'

Give **one** word or phrase to replace the word 'mercenary' that keeps the meaning of this quotation from Text Two the same.

Functional Skills English | Level 2 Reading | Group Reading Activity | Text Two Answers

1.

Award **1** mark for each quotation that suggests it is important to feel valued by people at work, up to a maximum of **2** marks.

- 'a supportive team of colleagues / who appreciate my work' (1)
- 'I have an encouraging manager' (1)
- 'it's great to feel that my contribution is recognised' (1)

Accept minor copying errors and quotations without quotation marks.

2.

Award **1** mark for each valid language feature identified, up to a maximum of **2** marks.

Award **1** mark for each valid and linked example, up to a maximum of **2** marks.

- direct address (1) e.g. 'If you enjoy', 'You all make interesting points' (1)
- first person (1) e.g. 'I look for', 'I would say'
- informal language (1) e.g. 'it makes the time fly by', 'I've had', 'That's something' (1)
- positive language / negative language / emotive (1) e.g. 'feeling part of a happy team', 'incredibly difficult' (1)
- technical language / jargon (1) e.g. 'work-life balance', 'company policies' (1)
- hyperbole / exaggeration (1) e.g. 'nothing beats', 'incredibly difficult', 'it makes the time fly by' (1)
- idiom / metaphor / cliché (1) e.g. 'money makes the world go round' (1)
- modal verbs (1) e.g. 'I would say' (1)
- alliteration (1) e.g. 'pay package' (1)

Accept any other valid features.

3.

C – 'I've had jobs that took over my life'

4.

Award **1** mark for any reasonable word or phrase to replace 'mercenary' that does not change the meaning of the sentence, e.g.:

- greedy
- money minded / motivated by financial gain
- interested in pay / focused on cash
- materialistic