

## What makes people happy at work?

(LEVEL B1/B2+)

### Part 1: SPEAKING

*As a warm-up ask your ss to brainstorm a few factors that can motivate people at work and/or make them happy at work. Board a few ideas. Brief feedback as a class. (appx. 3-5 minutes)*

*Pre-teach: perks, competitive, varied*

*Hand out exercise 1 (in larger groups - one set per pair)*

*Set the task by giving clear instructions. Allow appx. 5-8 minutes for a discussion. Brief feedback as a class*

**EX.1. Take a look at different factors below that typically motivate people at work. Which ones motivate you and your partner?**

<b>JOB SECURITY</b>	<b>FRIENDLY COLLEAGUES</b>
<b>GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH BOSS</b>	<b>PERKS</b>
<b>POSSIBILITIES TO DEVELOP</b>	<b>NICE OFFICE</b>

<b>COMPETITIVE SALARY</b>	<b>LOW LEVEL OF STRESS</b>
<b>GOOD WORK-LIFE BALANCE</b>	<b>FLEXIBLE WORKING HOURS</b>
<b>REAL RESPONSIBILITY</b>	<b>DOING VARIED JOB</b>

*Set the second task (exercise 2) by giving clear instructions. Allow ss appx. 5-8 minutes to order the factors and discuss the topic further. Feedback as a class.*

**EX.2 Order these factors in terms of their importance: from the most important to the least important. Check with your partner and discuss any differences/similarities.**

## Part 2: SPEAKING

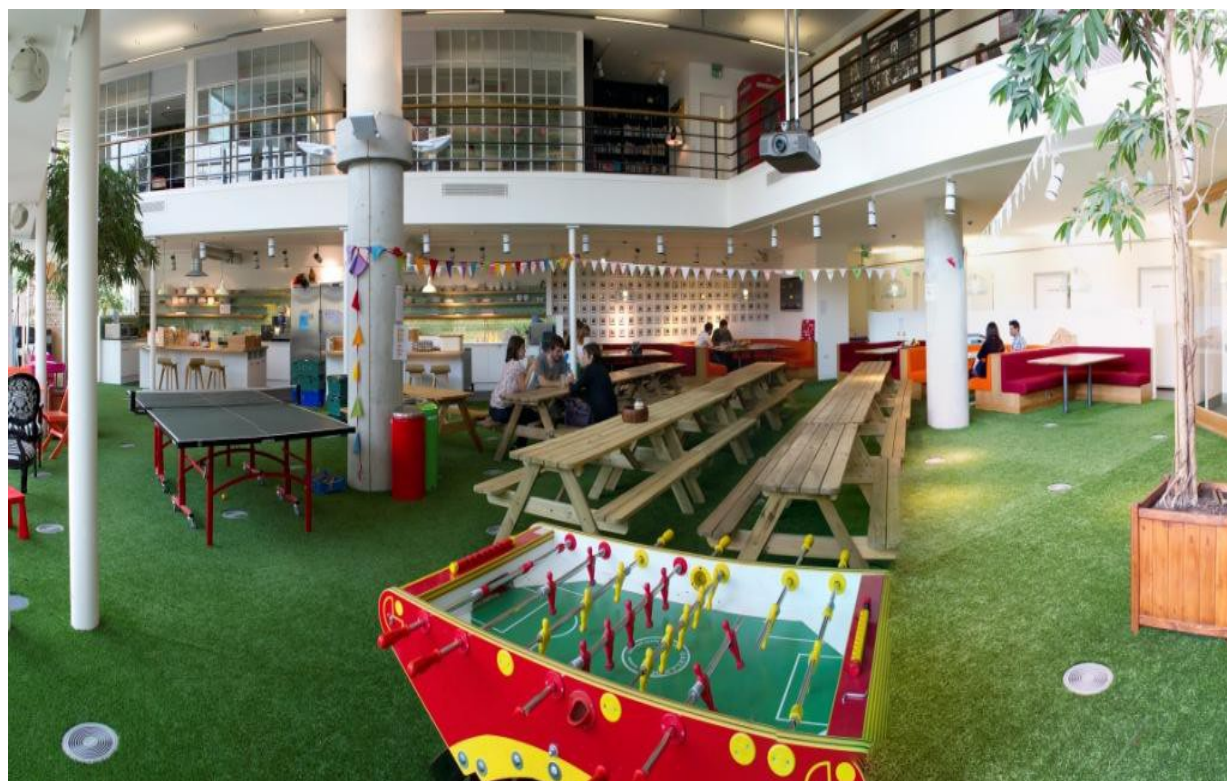
*Show ss the picture. You can pin it to the whiteboard/flipchart, show it on your laptop or make a few copies and hand them out in the group (one per 2-3 people).*

*Set the task. Allow appx. 3-5 minutes for your ss to brainstorm ideas. Brief feedback.*

*Possible answers may include: a hotel, a holiday resort, a bar, a restaurant etc.*

*Answer: It's a headquarters of a British company called Innocent Drinks which is based in London and was voted one of the coolest office spaces in the world.*

**EX.3. Look at the picture below. Where do you think it is? Discuss your ideas with your partner.**



Source: <http://now-here-this.timeout.com>

### Part 3: WATCHING

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9c2kj3nSuyQ>

Set the next task. Give clear instructions and inform ss that they will watch the video twice. Tell them to focus on Exercise 4 first.

Pre-teach: a nap, a life coach, morale

#### EX.4. Watch the video and decide if the statements are true or false.

1. Office parades happen at Zappos every day. F (*they happen nearly every day*)
2. Zappos is a shoe and clothing company based in Las Vegas. T
3. Zappos CEO says that employees' happiness is the key to better customer service. T
4. According to Tony Hsieh, taking a nap may reduce employee's effectiveness at work. F (*it can greatly improve productivity*)
5. An in-house life coach is there to help employees deal with various issues. T
6. Morale has an influence on employees' productivity. T

Tell your ss to compare their answers. Play the video again and tell ss to focus on Exercise 5 now.

#### EX. 5. Now watch the video again and complete the missing expressions.

1. Zappos is an office where **weirdness** is encouraged and **spontaneous** parades happen on regular basis.
2. Having fun at Zappos is **job one**. (*collq.*)
3. The company's CEO, Tony Hsieh thinks that an enjoyable office environment is **vital** to success.
4. Office perks include: in-house massages, a nap room and a **concierge** service which will arrange for your car to be washed and your pants **hemmed**.
5. Sitting on a **throne** helps employees to build up their **self-esteem**.

*After watching the video allow ss to compare their answers. Explain any new vocabulary. Feedback as a class. (appx.10 mins)*

*At the end tell your ss to swap partners and discuss the final questions. Allow appx. 8 -10 minutes.*

*Feedback: Ask ss if they agreed or disagreed with each other. Ask them to report what the other student said.*

**After watching:**

- 1. Would you like to work in such an office environment? Why/Why not?**
- 2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of working in such an office?**

**Vocabulary revision: TABOO**

*Tell your ss that they will now practise the new vocabulary. They will get a set of cards (one per pair) and will have to take a card, read a word and explain it to the partner WITHOUT using the word on the card. The student who guesses more words – wins.*

<b>TO HEM</b>	<b>A NAP</b>
<b>SELF-ESTEEM</b>	<b>VITAL</b>
<b>CONCIERGE</b>	<b>PERKS</b>
<b>COMPETITIVE</b>	<b>VARIED</b>