

English Conversation Class level 2

Week 3: 'What if' scenario – The ban of smartphones worldwide

Warm up

1. How often do you check your phone during the day? What do you look at the most?
2. Have you ever been to a place with no internet or phone signal? How did you feel?
3. What is the longest time you have been without your phone? How was the experience?

Vocabulary

<p>Communication (noun)</p>	<p>The act of talking or sharing information with others. <i>“Without smartphones, communication would be slower and more difficult.”</i> Similar words: interaction, discussion, or conversation.</p>
<p>Addiction (noun)</p>	<p>When you can't stop doing something, even if it's bad for you. <i>“Many people have developed a smartphone addiction.”</i> Similar words: habit or craving.</p>
<p>Ban (noun/verb)</p>	<p>To officially stop something. <i>“The government announced a ban on smartphones.”</i> Similar words: restriction or prohibition</p>
<p>Productivity (noun)</p>	<p>Getting a lot of work done. <i>“Some people believe banning smartphones could increase productivity at work.”</i> Similar words: efficiency or performance.</p>

Activity: Debate Activity

“Smartphones should be banned around the world to help people communicate better, stop smartphone addiction, and be more productive.”

Do you agree or disagree with the above statement? Why? Discuss in your groups.

Discussion questions

1. How do you think people would spend their time without smartphones?
2. Do you think the world would be less stressful without smartphones?

Would you feel more or less stressed? Why?

3. What would be the biggest challenge for you without your smartphone?
4. How would businesses and companies operate without smartphones?
5. If you couldn't check social media for a week, how would you feel?
6. How would you **communicate** or stay in touch with friends or family without a smartphone?
7. Do you think a smartphone ban would make people talk more face-to-face?
8. What would happen to the news and media if smartphones were banned?
9. Would people become more creative or more bored without smartphones?
10. If you could choose one app to keep during the ban, which would it be and why?

Notes:



JBNU – Language Education Center – English Conversation Class

LEVEL 3 – WEEK 1: WHAT IS A GOOD JOB?

TOPIC: WHAT IS A GOOD JOB?

In life, we all need a **job**. Everyone wants a good job with many **perks**. However, every **employee** has a different idea of what is a good job. Every **employer** gives different things to their employees. Here are some examples of the characteristics (특징) of a good job:



- A good job gives a good **salary**.
- A good job provides **job security**.
- A good job has a good work schedule.
- A good job has many good **coworkers / colleagues**.
- A good job allows **remote work** or **hybrid work**.
- A good job gives **parental leave**.
- A good job has many workers who are happy with their job (**job satisfaction**).



VOCABULARY:

- **Job (직업) [n.]** – The regular work that you do to earn money.
 - **Work (일) [n.]** – The physical (육체) and mental (정신의; 마음의) activities you do to get something.
- **Employee benefits / perks (복리 후생) [n.]** – The extra things [Ex. Money, stocks (주식), insurance, pension (연금)] that an employer gives to their employees in addition to their salary.
- **Employer (고용주) [n.]** – A person or company who hires (고용하다) someone; a person or company who gives someone a job.
 - **Employee (직원) [n.]** – A person who has a job at a company; a person who works at a company to earn money.
- **Salary (급여) [n.]** – The amount of money that an employer pays an employee for their work.
- **Job security (고용 보장) [n.]** – The situation in which an employee has a job in which they can work there for a long time, or until retirement (은퇴), without being fired.
- **Coworker / colleague (동료) [n.]** – A person who works with you in the same job or profession.
 - **Coworker [n.]** – A person who works with you in the SAME COMPANY.

- **Colleague [n.]** – A person who works with you in the SAME PROFESSION.
 - **Profession (직종) [n.]** –
 - A. Type of work.
 - B. Any type of work that needs a high level of education or skill.
- **Telecommuting {US} / teleworking {UK} / remote work / working from home (재택근무) [n.]** – The activity of working for a company from your home by using a computer, the internet, and telephone.
 - **...to telecommute / ...to work remotely / ...to work from home (통신 시설을 이용하여 재택 근무하다) [vb.]** – To work for a company from your home by using a computer, the internet, and telephone.
- **Hybrid work (하이브리드 업무; 혼합형 근무) [n.]** – The situation in which employees are allowed to work from home AND in their office as well.
 - **Hybrid worker (혼합 노동자; 하이브리드 노동자) [n.]** – A person who is able to work from home and in their office.
- **Parental leave / family leave (육아휴직) [n.]** – The time that a parent is allowed to leave work to take care of his or her baby.
 - **Maternity leave (출산 휴가) [n.]** – A period of time in which a MOTHER is allowed to leave work because of her baby.
 - **Paternity leave (남자의 출산 휴가) [n.]** – A period of time that a FATHER is allowed to be away from his job so that he can spend time with his new baby.
- **Job satisfaction (직무 만족) [n.]** – The situation in which an employee is happy with their job.

TEACHER-STUDENT DISCUSSION:

1. What do you think is the most important characteristic (특징) of a good **job**? [Ex. Salary; benefits; coworkers; etc.] Why?

STUDENT-STUDENT DISCUSSION:

1. What is your dream job? [Ex. Civil servant? Chef? Teacher? Doctor?] Why?
2. Today, do you have a lot of **work** after class? Why or why not?
3. Do you prefer to be an **employer** or **employee**? Why?

4. Are you a worker? If so, do you get along with your **colleagues/coworkers** at work? Why or why not?
 - Are you a student? If so, what **profession** do you want in the future? Why?

5. Right now, what job in South Korea has the highest **salary**? Why?

6. When you get a job in the future, would you like a job that allows **remote work**? Why or why not?

7. Would you like to be a **hybrid worker**? Why or why not?

8. What kind of **employee benefits** do you want in your job? Why?

9. Which is more important to you: **job satisfaction** or **job security**? Why?

10. Would you like to work for a company that gives no **parental leave**? Why or why not?

Discussion Questions

1. Do you think you'd enjoy living on a small island? What are the pros and cons?
2. What is the biggest/smallest city you've lived in?
3. If you had to move to Europe, which country/city would you want to move to?
4. If you had to move to another Asian country, which country/city would you want to move to?
5. If you moved to another country, what would you miss the most about your home country?
6. What are some of the things your hometown is known for?
7. Have you had an opportunity to travel abroad? If so, what were some memorable places you've visited?
8. Of the places you've traveled, which one would you recommend the most?
9. Have any of your friends or family members moved overseas permanently?
10. Which international food do you like the most? Which dishes do you like the most from that country?
11. Do you think you would like to renovate an old house? Do you know anyone who does this type of work as a profession or hobby?

Create Your Own Discussion Questions

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Activity – Words in Context

Complete the sentences below with vocabulary from the article.

permanent	come up with	condition	destination
renovate		lively	

1. The French government will try to _____ a new way to improve their roads.
2. We're staying at my parents' house for a few weeks while our apartment is being _____.
3. The apartment is located in a _____ neighborhood, full of shops, bars and restaurants.
4. This painting is part of the museum's _____ collection.
5. Before getting a loan from a bank, several _____ must be met.
6. Our travel package includes several _____ throughout the world.

Advanced Level

Chinese AI Startup DeepSeek Shocks US Tech Industry



fraction Noun	a tiny or small part of something <i>Only a fraction of the total number of applicants were accepted into the program.</i>
sustain Verb	to experience something negative <i>He sustained a serious back injury in the accident.</i>
forefront Noun	the leading or most important position <i>Boeing has been at the forefront of aircraft design and manufacturing for over 100 years.</i>
cutting-edge Adjective	highly advanced or innovative <i>The laboratory is known for its cutting-edge research in genetic engineering.</i>
frenzy Noun	a state of excitement or anxiety that cannot be controlled <i>British band Oasis announced a reunion tour in 2024, causing online frenzy as people tried to get tickets.</i>
malicious Adjective	causing or trying to cause harm <i>The magazine has been spreading malicious rumors about the couple for months.</i>

A Chinese company called DeepSeek has said it has developed a large language model that can compete with US artificial intelligence (AI) giants but at a fraction of the cost.

DeepSeek hit the top of the chart for free apps on Apple's App Store at the end of January, and news of the startup's progress saw a number of US tech companies sustain heavy losses in the stock market.

In fact, AI-related stocks were affected around the world.

DeepSeek, founded in 2023 by a 40-year-old Chinese developer named Liang Wenfeng, began attracting more attention in the AI industry last month when it released a new AI model.

It boasted that the model was as good as similar ones made by US companies like ChatGPT maker OpenAI, and was more cost-effective in its use of expensive Nvidia chips to train the system on huge amounts of data.

The chatbot became more widely accessible when it appeared on Apple and Google app stores this year.

Some US tech industry observers said they were worried about the idea that the Chinese startup has caught up with the American companies at the forefront of generative AI without spending the same amount of money.

The US has restricted Chinese access to some of the best AI chips but DeepSeek has said its recent models were built with Nvidia's lower-performing H800 chips, which are not banned in China, sending a message that the very latest hardware might not be needed for cutting-edge AI research.

After the stock market frenzy, US President Donald Trump said the DeepSeek news was "positive" if it is accurate because "you won't be spending as much and you'll get the same result."

But he called the development a "wakeup call for our industries that we need to be laser focused on competing to win."

On the same day that Trump was speaking, DeepSeek said that it was hit by "large-scale malicious attacks" on its services that meant registered users could not log in normally.

Discussion

1. What are your thoughts on DeepSeek's rapid rise in the AI industry?
2. Have you tried DeepSeek? If so, how did you find it?
3. Do you think DeepSeek is likely to overtake ChatGPT and other AI language models in popularity?
4. What are the best generative AI tools you've used so far?
5. How do you feel about the pace at which AI models are developing?
6. Do you use any generative AI tools for work?
7. Has AI changed your industry or workplace much in recent years?
8. What industries do you think will benefit the most from the advancement of AI?
9. What are your biggest concerns about the development of AI?
10. Artificial intelligence and generative AI may be the most important technology of any lifetime. —
Marc Benioff (CEO of software company *Salesforce*). What do you make of this quote?