

词汇: work 工作

For many, the idea of **commuting** daily to a place of work might sound outdated. In the UK, at least, the shape of the working week is changing, and a new **hybrid** approach is becoming commonplace. This new look seems inevitable: new technology means **tasks** traditionally done in the office can be done at home. And there's the demand for a better **work-life balance**, too. All of this has been accelerated by the necessary changes brought on by the Covid pandemic.

One obvious change in the UK is that Friday has become the most popular day to work from home. One survey found it's when just 13% of **workers** go into the office. It means **employees** can save on commuting costs and the price of lunches. And Claire McCartney from The Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development told the BBC that generally **employers** thought the shift to hybrid working and home working had "increased **productivity** rather than decreased it".

Monday is also becoming a '**work from home**' day: a recent study of mobile phone activity in the UK suggested a typical week in the office now runs from Tuesday to Thursday. This means **companies** have to think differently about the **workspace** they provide. Mark Allan, chief executive of property firm LandSec, told the BBC: "We certainly believe there are going to be fewer people in offices for the longer term, and we are planning accordingly." A shorter office week isn't great news for the city-centre shops, which depend on trade from workers. But **suburban** and small-town high streets are reporting an increase in **footfall** as people work and shop locally.

There's also an emerging trend for a shorter working week. Some companies are experimenting with a four-day working week – but with the same full-time **pay**. They have tried to make work time more **efficient** by cutting out unnecessary meetings and having shorter breaks, for example. They claim this has made workers more **productive**. All this makes you wonder if the act of going to work and doing **the nine-to-five** will become a thing of the past.

## 词汇表

<b>commute</b>	上下班，通勤
<b>hybrid</b>	(办公地点) 混合的
<b>task</b>	任务，工作
<b>work-life balance</b>	工作与生活之间的平衡
<b>worker</b>	工作者，员工
<b>employee</b>	雇员，员工
<b>employer</b>	雇主
<b>productivity</b>	生产率，工作效率
<b>work from home</b>	居家办公
<b>company</b>	公司
<b>workspace</b>	工作空间，办公场所
<b>suburban</b>	城郊的
<b>footfall</b>	客流量
<b>pay</b>	工资
<b>efficient</b>	高效的，有效率的
<b>productive</b>	高产的，成效高的
<b>the nine-to-five</b>	朝九晚五的工作

## 测验与练习

### 1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. Name one of the reasons given in the article that has made hybrid working more commonplace.
2. According to one survey, how many people go into an office on Fridays?
3. On which days of the week is it thought most workers now go to the office?
4. Who is being affected negatively by a shorter office working week?
5. True or false? *Some companies are giving staff a full week's pay for working only four days.*

### 2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. \_\_\_\_\_ are responsible for the wellbeing of staff while they are at work.

Employers	Employees	Employed	Workers
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2. I wanted a better \_\_\_\_\_, so I've decided to reduce my working hours.

life-work balance	commuting
work from home	nine-to-five

3. The shopping centre has seen an increase in \_\_\_\_\_ since the January sales started.

pay	productivity	efficient	footfall
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4. I've been \_\_\_\_\_ to work on the bus recently – it's cheaper than the train!

commuted	commuting	commuter	commutes
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5. The team has been very \_\_\_\_\_ and completed the project on time.

productive	hybrid	suburban	productivity
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## 答案

### 1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. Name one of the reasons given in the article that has made hybrid working more commonplace.

**New technology, a demand for a better work-life balance and the Covid pandemic are reasons that have made hybrid working commonplace.**

2. According to one survey, how many people go into an office on Fridays?

**One survey found just 13% of workers go into the office on Fridays.**

3. On which days of the week is it thought most workers now go to the office?

**A study of mobile phone activity in the UK suggested most workers go into the office on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.**

4. Who is being affected negatively by a shorter office working week?

**City-centre shops who depend on trade from workers are being affected by the shorter office week.**

5. True or false? *Some companies are giving staff a full week's pay for working only four days.*

**True. Some companies are experimenting with a four-day working week – but with the same full-time pay.**

### 2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. **Employers** are responsible for the wellbeing of staff while they are at work.

2. I wanted a better **work-life balance**, so I've decided to reduce my working hours.

3. The shopping centre has seen an increase in **footfall** since the January sales started.

4. I've been **commuting** to work on the bus recently – it's cheaper than the train!

5. The team has been very **productive** and completed the project on time.