

AI

SEMINAR 9 – ANSWER KEY Professions and Careers

Task 1 – Based on class work.

Tasks 2 & 3 – Listening – Title: The Working Week in Twentieth-Century America

1: D 2: K 3: G 4: B 5: H 6: A 7: C 8: F 9: J 10: E 11: I

Transcript:

Introduction

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen, **if I may have your attention, please?** Thank you very much for coming along today. My name's Nathan Morse and I'm going to be outlining some research we've been doing at the University of Arkansas on the working week in twentieth-century America. **First**, I'll be looking at the situation at the beginning of the last century. **Then** I'm going to show you how the general trend has not always been to work less and less, **and finally** we'll be looking at some startling predictions, some made in the 1930s and others more recently.

Body

So, first of all, let's look at how many hours people were working last century. Data on the annual average workweek tends to vary enormously, one reason being that it depends on whether we are talking about agriculture or industry. **For instance**, in agriculture they worked just under seventy hours at the beginning of the twentieth century, compared to sixty hours in industry. **What is interesting is that** at the end of the nineteenth century the highest paid workers worked substantially fewer hours than the lowest paid, a situation that was gradually redressed over most of the twentieth century and has now almost completely been reversed.

Now, let's look at more detail at the situation for industry. In 1900, people were working an average sixty-hour week, which fell quite rapidly down to fifty by about 1920. It then went down steadily, but not quite so rapidly, to forty-five hours over the next twenty years. The Second World War meant that industry was working overtime, so there was a sharp rise in the number of working hours during the war years, reaching a peak of about fifty-five hours in 1943, before dropping rapidly back to forty-five in 1947. Between 1947 to 1970 there was a gradual decline toward a forty-hour week.

If we turn to studies made in the 1930s it's interesting to note, **as you can see in this slide**, that they forecast that the trend in the shorter working week would continue far beyond forty hours. This has not happened in the US, though in some European countries they were pushing for thirty-five hours at the end of the last century. Instead in the US the total number of working hours has been going up since 1970 by an average of 163 hours per year. If the present trend continues, the average white collar American will be working over sixty hours per week by the year 2020.

Conclusion

So, to summarize, the idea that we will have more and more leisure time seems to be in total contradiction to today's working hours. In fact, more and more skilled workers and professionals are finding ways to keep themselves at work rather than at home.

Closing

OK, well, thank you very much for your attention, and if you have any questions perhaps you'd like to ask them over coffee. Thank you.

Transition and helping words are in bold italic.

Task 4 – 1: H 2: B 3: G 4: J 5: K 6: C 7: E 8: I 9: A 10: D 11: F 12: M 13: L

Task 5 & 6 – Based on class work.

Task 7 (PP = present perfect; PS = past simple)

this semester **PP** in the summer **PS** on Monday **PS** this week **PP**
since Tuesday **PP** two weeks ago **PS** last month **PS** at Easter **PS**

Task 8

- 1 Have / (ever) write / a work evaluation report?
Example: Have you ever written a work report?
- 2 When / write / your first CV (in English)? **When did you write your first CV?**
- 3 Have / work / outdoors? **Have you ever worked outdoors?**
- 4 How / feel / at your first job interview? **How did you feel at your first job interview?**
- 5 Have / be / a volunteer? **Have you ever been a volunteer?**
- 6 Have / be selected / for a prestigious position? **Have you ever been selected ... ?**
- 7 Have / be / unemployed? **Have you been unemployed?**
- 8 How many months / work / last summer? **How many months did you work last summer?**
- 9 Have / apply for / a job in a foreign country? **Have you ever applied for a job...?**
- 10 Have / think about / working freelance? **Have you ever thought about... ?**

Task 9

- 1 Do you know about Ann? She **has given up** her job.
- 2 My boss **has promoted me** and now I am in charge of the whole department.
- 3 When Paul and Mark left school they **applied for** a job in a local travel agency.
- 4 The job **involved** doing quite a lot of paperwork, so I quit two weeks ago.
- 5 I **was responsible for** training street workers last year but this year I have to deal with team building.
- 6 Do you know that he is unemployed? They **have sacked** him.
- 7 Finally! They **have resigned!** What a great piece of news!
- 8 Meg **started looking for** a new job with a bigger company last week.
- 9 They **have had** enough of this shift work; they would like to have flexi-time.
- 10 Pete and Steve **were not** at work yesterday. I wonder why!
- 11 Sue **has had** five different jobs in the past four years.
- 12 It's the first time I **have handed in** a notice.
- 13 I never **had** a part-time job when I studied at university.