

Relationships

Before you watch

A

Work in pairs. Discuss the questions about relationships at work.

- What is 'a good relationship' with colleagues? Describe it.
- How do you build good relationships with colleagues?
- Do you think it's important to socialise with your team? Why? Why not?

Video

A

Watch the first part of the video. Make notes on each speaker's response to the question *How do you build a relationship with colleagues?*

<i>Tolani</i>	
<i>Vivek</i>	

Discuss the questions with a partner.

1. Who thought it was important to get colleagues' views about the company?
2. Who felt it was important to socialise with colleagues?
3. Who do you think made the most interesting point? Why?

B

Watch the next part of the video. Complete the table.

Question: *Do you think it's important to socialise with your team?*

Speaker	YES/NO	Why
<i>Prad</i>		
<i>Anne</i>		
<i>Jenny</i>		
<i>Chris</i>		

Did anyone mention the ideas you discussed at the start of the lesson?

C

Which of the following topics would you discuss with colleagues during a free moment (e.g. before or after a meeting, during a coffee break)?

- sport
- food
- work
- the future of the company
- social media
- religion
- customers
- TV
- relationships
- family
- nights out
- gossip

Watch the last part of the video. Tick the topics that the speakers feel they would discuss. Were their ideas similar to yours?

Language focus

A

Read the two extracts from the video transcript.

Tolani: So I feel that, sometimes, to— in order to build good relationships, you need to have, you know, the characteristics of wanting to get to know people, get to know what motivates them and drives them. It's not really, maybe, about, you know, the work they are doing, it's more about the emotion around it. You know, what gets them up every day? What makes them be at work in the first place? So by knowing a bit more about what motivates them or what makes them happy, then it's easier for you to actually, you know, to nurture that relationship and find out similar things that you have in common. So sometimes forming a good relationship with your work colleagues can take place outside of work as well, in a more— you know, I wouldn't say relaxing, but in a more comfortable environment.

[...]

Anne: Yeah, definitely. Because you don't just work for work, otherwise I would stay at home. It's important to— I think it has an impact— yeah, for— for everyone. Just— For me it's simple like that.

Match each of the underlined phrases to its correct meaning.

Phrase	Meaning
1.	creating positive connections at work
2.	the reason that someone does something
3.	as a shared interest
4.	to make it possible to do something
5.	if the situation was different
6.	happen

B

Complete the questions with a phrase from A. Choose the most logical answer.

1. Do you have much _____ with your work colleagues? If so, what?
2. What do you think is the hardest thing about _____ with work colleagues?
3. Imagine you're meeting your new boss for the first time. Where would you want the first meeting to _____? Why?
4. Do you know much about _____ your colleagues? Do you think it's money? Success? Taking pride in their work? Or something else?
5. Imagine that you never need to work again in your life. What would you do _____?
6. What do you need to do _____ develop your career? For example, do you need to do any further training?

Communication focus

A

Work with a partner. Ask and answer the questions in Language focus B. Try to extend your answers.

B

Choose two of the phrases from Language focus A and B. Write your own questions including those phrases.

Question 1:
Notes:
Question 2:
Notes:

C

Ask as many classmates as you can your questions. Note down (or remember) their responses and report any interesting answers to the class.