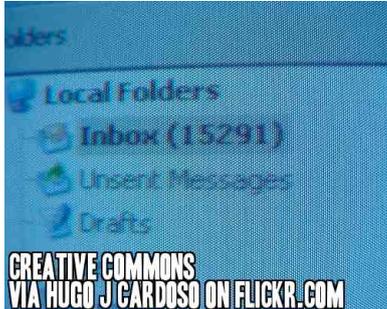


No work E-mail for workers on vacation

17th August, 2014



It is becoming more and more difficult for workers to switch off from work. Many workers answer or write e-mails on the train to and from work, during lunchtime and at home after

work. A lot of people even check their work e-mail when they go on vacation to other countries. This might be changing. The German carmaker Daimler is giving its workers the choice to not receive e-mail when they are on holiday. This will mean employees will be able to relax on the beach instead of dealing with problems in their inbox. Daimler employees can choose to auto-delete all work e-mail while on vacation. Daimler says it wants workers to enjoy family time or "me time" while on vacation.

Daimler spokesman Oliver Wihofszki told reporters that staff would work better if they returned from holiday feeling refreshed. He said staff should return to work feeling refreshed and motivated. A human resources officer said: "Our employees should relax on holiday and not read work-related emails." The system is called 'Mail on Holiday'. The sender will receive a reply that says: "I'm using 'Mail on Holiday'...your e-mails will be deleted....If you want me to read this e-mail personally, please be kind enough to send me the information [next week]." Not everyone thinks the system is a good idea. Customers may not like receiving a mail telling them to write again later and companies could lose business.

Sources: MarketPlace.org / Tech Republic / The Atlantic

Writing

People should not check work email at home. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

workers / switch off / lunchtime / vacation / relax on the beach / inbox / me time / reporters / refreshed / motivated / human resources / personally / information / idea

True / False

- A company is telling workers to switch off computers at work. T / F
- A car company wants all workers to take holidays to the beach. T / F
- Workers of the car company can choose to auto-delete work emails. T / F
- The car company said "me time" is important for workers on holiday. T / F
- The company said workers worked better after a refreshing holiday. T / F
- The car company's mail system is called "Holiday on Mail". T / F
- The mail system tells senders their mail will be deleted. T / F
- The article says customers will like the mail system. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. difficult | a. option |
| 2. check | b. chill out |
| 3. choice | c. energised |
| 4. relax | d. binned |
| 5. choose | e. problematic |
| 6. returned | f. workers |
| 7. refreshed | g. select |
| 8. employees | h. look at |
| 9. deleted | i. getting |
| 10. receiving | j. got back |

Discussion – Student A

- How important is email in your life?
- Are holidays becoming a thing of the past?
- What do you think of spam mail?
- Should people leave their iPhones at home when they go on holiday?
- What do you think of the 'Mail on Holiday' idea?
- Would you do a job where you had to answer email every day?
- Should workers always be in contact with their customers?
- What questions would you like to ask Daimler?

Breaking News English - The Mini Lesson

Phrase Match

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. It is becoming more | a. not receive e-mail |
| 2. check their work e-mail when | b. this e-mail personally |
| 3. giving its workers the choice to | c. to enjoy family time |
| 4. relax on the beach instead | d. related emails |
| 5. Daimler says it wants workers | e. they go on vacation |
| 6. staff should return to work | f. them to write again later |
| 7. read work- | g. of dealing with problems |
| 8. you want me to read | h. feeling refreshed |
| 9. Not everyone thinks the | i. and more difficult |
| 10. receiving a mail telling | j. system is a good idea |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think of email?
- What makes you angry about email?
- Does email take up too much of your time?
- Why is it difficult for workers to switch off from work?
- What do you get email about?
- Which is better, email or Facebook messages? Why?
- What do you think of checking work email while on holiday?
- How important is "me time" to you?

Spelling

- hctisw off from work
- anrswe or write e-mails
- go on vacation to other rsiuecnot
- the choice to not eivecre e-mail
- yeoepsmle will be able to relax
- auto-letdee all work e-mail
- Daimler opmnesksa Oliver Wihofszki
- rtrnudee from holiday feeling refreshed
- feeling refreshed and vmtitdeao
- read this e-mail alplrnyose
- the tssmey is a good idea
- companies could lose nibssesu

Answers – Synonym Match

1. e	2. h	3. a	4. b	5. g
6. j	7. c	8. f	9. b	10. i

Role Play

Role A – Reading a book

You think reading a book is the best way to relax. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least relaxing of these (and why): chatting to friends, sleeping or going for a walk.

Role B – Chatting to friends

You think chatting to friends is the best way to relax. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least relaxing of these (and why): reading a book, sleeping or going for a walk.

Role C – Sleeping

You think sleeping is the best way to relax. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least relaxing of these (and why): chatting to friends, reading a book or going for a walk.

Role D – Going for a walk

You think going for a walk is the best way to relax. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least relaxing of these (and why): chatting to friends, sleeping or reading a book.

Speaking – Relax

Rank these with your partner. Put your favourite ways of relaxing at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| • read a book | • go to a restaurant |
| • surf the Internet | • sleep |
| • listen to music | • watch a movie |
| • chat to friends | • go for a walk |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	F	c	T	d	T	e	T	f	F	g	T	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.