

Company culture

Worksheet

1a

NOTE: This activity is not linked to the activity on Worksheet 1b.

ACTIVITY

Pairwork: speaking, writing

AIM

To find out about working practices in different companies/countries.

GRAMMAR AND FUNCTIONS

Present simple: questions with and without question words

Adverbs of frequency: *usually, often*

Asking for and giving information

VOCABULARY

Working practices and behaviour: *greet, employee, retire, benefits, training*

PREPARATION

Make a copy of the worksheet for each student.

TIME

30 to 40 minutes

PROCEDURE

- 1 Go through the questions on the worksheet with the class, asking students to suggest possible answers for each question. Don't make reference yet to any specific company or country. For example, for the first question, *casual clothes, uniform, a suit*, etc; for the second question, *shake hands, bow, 'hello'* etc.
- 2 Ask students to write down on their worksheet the answers for their own company or a company they know well.
- 3 In pairs, students now ask about each other's companies and write down the information on their worksheets. They can repeat this two or three times with different partners. In a class discussion ask the students to report back on what they have discovered, particularly anything which they found unusual or surprising.

FOLLOW-UP

Ask the students to write a short letter to a friend describing working practices in a company, beginning like this:

Dear Colin,

*You asked me for some information about Revulux and Co.
I know that people in this company usually use first names
and...*