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Level 6 – 15th November, 2021

Portugal bans bosses contacting staff after work

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy.html>

Technology is an integral and often indispensable part of our lives. However, it can also be an intrusive part, especially where the workplace is concerned. Many employers and bosses contact employees outside of working hours. This means staff can never entirely switch off from work. The government in Portugal has taken steps to limit this incursion into the lives of workers. It has introduced a law that prohibits employers and bosses from contacting workers by email, message or phone outside of working hours. The law applies to companies with more than 10 employees. It states that any violation constitutes a "serious offense" and could result in financial penalties.

The Portuguese government has introduced the new privacy law after receiving a deluge of complaints during the coronavirus lockdowns. An increasing number of employees are now working from home remotely because of COVID-19. The research company Gartner estimated that remote workers will nearly double to represent 32 per cent of the global workforce by the end of 2021, compared to 17 per cent in 2019. Portugal's government said: "The employer must respect the privacy of the worker." The new law also requires employers to provide employees with the appropriate tools to work from home, and reimburse them with any costs incurred to assist with increased energy bills.

Sources: <https://edition.cnn.com/2021/11/11/success/portugal-employer-contact-law/index.html>
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2021/11/11/portugal-working-from-home-law/>
<https://www.euronews.com/next/2021/11/08/portugal-makes-it-illegal-for-your-boss-to-text-you-after-work>

WARM-UPS

1. WORKERS' PRIVACY: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about workers' privacy. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

technology / workplace / employers / employees / working hours / email / penalties / government / complaints / coronavirus / research / double / privacy / energy bills

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. NINE-TO-FIVE: Students A **strongly** believe 9-5 should mean 9-5; Students B **strongly** believe being asked to work outside of working hours is OK. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. THE WORKPLACE: How can these things be improved? How would this make workers' lives better? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Improvement	Better Lives for Workers
Working hours		
Lunch times		
Pay		
Overtime		
Meetings		
Clothing		

5. BOSS: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "boss". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. TECHNOLOGY: Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Smartphones
- TVs
- Watches
- Washing machines
- Microwave ovens
- Cameras
- Printers
- Games consoles

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. integral | a. The act of failing to respect someone's peace, privacy, or rights. |
| 2. intrusive | b. Completely (often used for emphasis). |
| 3. entirely | c. Causing disruption or annoyance through being unwelcome or uninvited. |
| 4. limit | d. A breach of a law or rule; an illegal act. |
| 5. violation | e. Essential or fundamental. |
| 6. constitutes | f. A point or level beyond which something does not or may not extend or pass. |
| 7. offense | g. Be or be equivalent to something. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 8. deluge | h. Have regard for or think about someone's feelings, wishes, or rights. |
| 9. remotely | i. Repay a person who has spent or lost money. |
| 10. double | j. Suitable or proper in the circumstances. |
| 11. respect | k. From a distance; without physical contact. |
| 12. appropriate | l. A printed or written statement of the money you have to for goods or services (like electricity, gas, repairs, etc.). |
| 13. reimburse | m. A great quantity of something arriving at the same time. |
| 14. bill | n. Become twice as much or as many. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

1. The article says technology is making workers work longer hours. **T / F**
2. Bosses told workers they should never switch their phones off. **T / F**
3. A new law applies to companies with over 10 employees. **T / F**
4. Bosses could get fined if they message workers outside working time. **T / F**
5. Portugal's government received complaints during covid lockdowns. **T / F**
6. The number of people working at home has nearly doubled since 2019. **T / F**
7. The government said employees must respect employers. **T / F**
8. Companies may have to help workers with energy bills. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. integral | a. approximated |
| 2. entirely | b. help |
| 3. incursion | c. breach |
| 4. violation | d. flood |
| 5. financial | e. basic |
| 6. deluge | f. proper |
| 7. estimated | g. observe |
| 8. respect | h. completely |
| 9. appropriate | i. intrusion |
| 10. assist | j. monetary |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. an integral and often indispensable | a. serious offense |
| 2. staff can never entirely | b. incurred |
| 3. limit this incursion | c. penalties |
| 4. any violation constitutes a | d. of complaints |
| 5. result in financial | e. switch off from work |
| 6. after receiving a deluge | f. tools |
| 7. 32 per cent of the global | g. part of our lives |
| 8. provide employees with the appropriate | h. bills |
| 9. reimburse them with any costs | i. workforce |
| 10. increased energy | j. into the lives of workers |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy.html>

Technology is an (1) _____ and often indispensable part of our lives. However, it can also be an intrusive part, especially where the workplace is (2) _____. Many employers and bosses contact employees outside of working hours. This means staff can never entirely (3) _____ off from work. The government in Portugal has taken steps to (4) _____ this incursion into the lives of workers. It has introduced a law that (5) _____ employers and bosses from contacting workers by email, message or phone outside of working hours. The law (6) _____ to companies with more than 10 employees. It states that any (7) _____ constitutes a "serious offense" and could result in financial (8) _____.

limit
violation
concerned
penalties
prohibits
integral
switch
applies

The Portuguese government has introduced the new (9) _____ law after receiving a (10) _____ of complaints during the coronavirus lockdowns. An increasing number of employees are now working from home (11) _____ because of COVID-19. The research company Gartner estimated that remote workers will nearly (12) _____ to represent 32 per cent of the global workforce by the end of 2021, (13) _____ to 17 per cent in 2019. Portugal's government said: "The employer must (14) _____ the privacy of the worker." The new law also requires employers to provide employees with the appropriate (15) _____ to work from home, and reimburse them with any costs incurred to assist with increased energy (16) _____.

compared
privacy
bills
respect
remotely
tools
double
deluge

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy.html>

- 1) Technology is an integral and often indispensable part _____
 - a. of our living
 - b. of our alive
 - c. of our lives
 - d. of our lithe
- 2) However, it can also be an intrusive part, especially where the _____
 - a. workplace is concertinaed
 - b. workplace is concerned
 - c. workplace is concerns
 - d. workplace is cornered
- 3) This means staff can never _____
 - a. entirely swash off
 - b. entirely swish off
 - c. entirely switch off
 - d. entirely swoosh off
- 4) The government in Portugal has taken steps to _____
 - a. limit this incur shun
 - b. limit this incurs on
 - c. limit this incur zone
 - d. limit this incursion
- 5) any violation constitutes a "serious offense" and could result _____
 - a. in financially penalties
 - b. in financials penalties
 - c. in financial penalties
 - d. in finance shall penalties
- 6) introduced the new privacy law after receiving a _____
 - a. delegate of complaints
 - b. delude of complaints
 - c. deduce of complaints
 - d. deluge of complaints
- 7) The research company Gartner estimated that remote workers _____
 - a. will nearly double
 - b. will nearly doublet
 - c. will nearly double it
 - d. will nearly doubt it
- 8) The employer must respect the _____ worker
 - a. privet sea of the
 - b. pre-vacancy of the
 - c. privatize of the
 - d. privacy of the
- 9) The new law also requires employers to provide employees with _____
 - a. the appropriate tools
 - b. the a proper at tools
 - c. the a proper ate tools
 - d. the ape proper at tools
- 10) reimburse them with any costs incurred to assist with _____
 - a. ink-risked energy bills
 - b. in crisp energy bills
 - c. ink leased energy bills
 - d. increased energy bills

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy.html>

Technology (1) _____ and often indispensable part of our lives. However, it can also be (2) _____, especially where the workplace is concerned. Many employers and bosses contact employees outside of working hours. This means staff can (3) _____ off from work. The government in Portugal has taken steps to limit this (4) _____ lives of workers. It has introduced a law that prohibits employers and bosses from contacting workers by email, message or phone outside of working hours. The law applies to companies with more than 10 employees. It states (5) _____ constitutes a "serious offense" and could result (6) _____.

The Portuguese government has introduced the new privacy law after (7) _____ of complaints during the coronavirus lockdowns. An increasing number of employees are now working (8) _____ because of COVID-19. The research company Gartner estimated that remote workers will (9) _____ represent 32 per cent of the global workforce by the end of 2021, compared to 17 per cent in 2019. Portugal's government said: "The employer must (10) _____ of the worker." The new law also requires employers to provide employees with (11) _____ to work from home, and reimburse them with any costs (12) _____ with increased energy bills.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy.html>

1. What does the article say is an indispensable part of our lives?
2. What is it difficult for workers to switch off from?
3. What has the Portuguese government taken?
4. What size of company does the new law apply to?
5. What does a violation of the law constitute?
6. When did Portugal's government receive complaints?
7. What nearly doubled between 2019 and 2021?
8. What did the government say employers must respect?
9. What will employers have to provide employees with?
10. What might companies have to help workers with paying?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy.html>

- 1) What does the article say is an indispensable part of our lives?
 - a) work
 - b) bosses
 - c) technology
 - d) money
- 2) What is it difficult for workers to switch off from?
 - a) work
 - b) smartphones
 - c) bosses
 - d) Portugal
- 3) What has the Portuguese government taken?
 - a) advice
 - b) steps
 - c) bosses
 - d) employees
- 4) What size of company does the new law apply to?
 - a) those who make lots of profit
 - b) giant companies
 - c) any size
 - d) those with over 10 employees
- 5) What does a violation of the law constitute?
 - a) disrespect
 - b) a small breach
 - c) a serious offense
 - d) a disaster
- 6) When did Portugal's government receive complaints?
 - a) the day before yesterday
 - b) during the coronavirus lockdowns
 - c) earlier this year
 - d) 2019
- 7) What nearly doubled between 2019 and 2021?
 - a) overtime
 - b) covid-19 cases
 - c) the number of bosses
 - d) the number of people working from home
- 8) What did the government say employers must respect?
 - a) the law
 - b) workers' privacy
 - c) each other
 - d) Portugal
- 9) What will employers have to provide employees with?
 - a) overtime pay
 - b) appropriate tools
 - c) training
 - d) new smartphones
- 10) What might companies have to help workers with paying?
 - a) energy bills
 - b) lunch
 - c) travel
 - d) tools

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy.html>

Role A – Cameras

You think cameras are the best form of technology. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): games consoles, microwave ovens or washing machines.

Role B – Games Consoles

You think games consoles are the best form of technology. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): cameras, microwave ovens or washing machines.

Role C – Microwave Ovens

You think microwave ovens are the best form of technology. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): games consoles, cameras or washing machines.

Role D – Washing Machines

You think washing machines are the best form of technology. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): games consoles, microwave ovens or cameras.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'boss' and 'worker'.

boss	worker

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• lives• staff• steps• prohibits• applies• result	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• deluge• increasing• double• 17• tools• assist
--	--

WORKERS' PRIVACY SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy.html>

Write five GOOD questions about workers' privacy in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WORKERS' PRIVACY DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'boss'?
3. How important is technology to you?
4. What's the most important technological tool you have?
5. Is technology ever intrusive in your life?
6. What kind of relationship do you have with your boss?
7. Should bosses contact workers after hours?
8. Is it easy for you to totally switch off from work?
9. How difficult is it not to work outside of working hours?
10. What kinds of fines should bosses get?

Portugal bans bosses contacting staff after work – 15th November, 2021
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WORKERS' PRIVACY DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'staff'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Would you be a good boss?
15. What complaints did you have during lockdown?
16. Would you prefer to work from home?
17. What privacy issues are there regarding technology?
18. What tools should companies give to remote workers?
19. What will working life look like in 50 years from now?
20. What questions would you like to ask bosses?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy.html>

Technology is an (1) _____ and often indispensable part of our lives. However, it can also be an (2) _____ part, especially where the workplace is concerned. Many employers and bosses contact employees outside of working hours. This means staff can never (3) _____ switch off from work. The government in Portugal has taken steps to limit this incursion (4) _____ the lives of workers. It has introduced a law that prohibits employers and bosses from contacting workers by email, message or phone outside of working hours. The law (5) _____ to companies with more than 10 employees. It states that any violation constitutes a "serious offense" and could result (6) _____ financial penalties.

The Portuguese government has introduced the new privacy law after receiving a (7) _____ of complaints during the coronavirus lockdowns. An increasing number of employees are now working from home (8) _____ because of COVID-19. The research company Gartner estimated that remote workers will nearly (9) _____ to represent 32 per cent of the global workforce by the end of 2021, compared to 17 per cent in 2019. Portugal's government said: "The employer must respect the privacy (10) _____ the worker." The new law also requires employers to provide employees with the (11) _____ tools to work from home, and reimburse them with any costs incurred to assist with increased energy (12) _____.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| 1. | (a) integral | (b) integer | (c) integrity | (d) ingratiate |
| 2. | (a) entirely | (b) imbibing | (c) intrusive | (d) interlocutor |
| 3. | (a) entry | (b) entreaty | (c) entirely | (d) entirety |
| 4. | (a) onto | (b) unto | (c) as to | (d) into |
| 5. | (a) complies | (b) replies | (c) applies | (d) supplies |
| 6. | (a) on | (b) in | (c) at | (d) of |
| 7. | (a) trudge | (b) deluge | (c) trust | (d) luge |
| 8. | (a) majorly | (b) remotely | (c) virtuously | (d) audibly |
| 9. | (a) twice | (b) duo | (c) double | (d) duet |
| 10. | (a) in | (b) on | (c) at | (d) of |
| 11. | (a) ahead | (b) incursion | (c) replete | (d) appropriate |
| 12. | (a) horns | (b) mandibles | (c) beaks | (d) bills |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy.html>

Paragraph 1

1. often bdeilsneasnip part of our lives
2. it can also be an eiuinsrtv part
3. This means staff can never eritynel switch off
4. taken steps to limit this irinuncos
5. any tioviajno constitutes a serious offense
6. result in financial linstpeae

Paragraph 2

7. after receiving a eugedl of complaints
8. working from home rmeoetly
9. The research company Gartner tsteidmae that
10. provide employees with the iroprpeaapt tools
11. irerbemsu them
12. any costs rurednci

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () part, especially where the workplace is concerned. Many employers and bosses contact employees
- () now working from home remotely because of COVID-19. The research company Gartner estimated that remote
- () prohibits employers and bosses from contacting workers by email, message or phone outside of working hours. The law
- () tools to work from home, and reimburse them with any costs incurred to assist with increased energy bills.
- () in Portugal has taken steps to limit this incursion into the lives of workers. It has introduced a law that
- () The Portuguese government has introduced the new privacy law after receiving a deluge
- () workers will nearly double to represent 32 per cent of the global workforce by the end of 2021,
- () of complaints during the coronavirus lockdowns. An increasing number of employees are
- () respect the privacy of the worker." The new law also requires employers to provide employees with the appropriate
- () outside of working hours. This means staff can never entirely switch off from work. The government
- (**1**) Technology is an integral and often indispensable part of our lives. However, it can also be an intrusive
- () compared to 17 per cent in 2019. Portugal's government said: "The employer must
- () constitutes a "serious offense" and could result in financial penalties.
- () applies to companies with more than 10 employees. It states that any violation

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy.html>

1. part of our lives . Technology an is indispensable
2. can never entirely from off work . switch Staff
3. this of into Limit the lives workers . incursion
4. apply 10 Laws with over employees . to companies
5. serious in penalties . A offense result could financial
6. government new Portugal's has law . privacy introduced the
7. deluge during Receiving a of coronavirus lockdowns . complaints
8. respect worker . of privacy The employer must the the
9. tools . employees Employers with the provide appropriate
10. them energy with assist Reimburse to bills . increased

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy.html>

Technology is an *integer / integral* and often indispensable part of our lives. However, it can also be an *intrusive / intuitive* part, *especially / especial* where the workplace is concerned. Many employers and bosses contact employees outside *of / on* working hours. This means staff can never *entreaty / entirely* switch off from work. The government in Portugal has taken *steps / paces* to limit this incursion into the lives of workers. It has introduced a law that *probate / prohibits* employers and bosses from contacting workers by email, message or phone outside of working hours. The law *applies / complies* to companies with more than 10 employees. It states that any *violation / volition* constitutes a "serious offense" and could result *on / in* financial penalties.

The Portuguese government has introduced the new privacy law after receiving a *derange / deluge* of complaints during the coronavirus lockdowns. An increasing *number / numeral* of employees are now working from home *remote / remotely* because of COVID-19. The research company Gartner estimated that *remote / demote* workers will nearly double to *represent / misrepresent* 32 per cent of the global workforce by the *complete / end* of 2021, compared to 17 per cent in 2019. Portugal's government said: "The employer *must / most* respect the privacy of the worker." The new law also requires employers to provide employees with *an / the* appropriate tools to work from home, and *reimburse / combust* them with any costs *incurred / recurred* to assist with increased energy bills.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy.html>

T_chn_l_gy _s _n _nt_gr_l _nd _ft_n _nd_sp_ns_bl_ p_rt _f __r l_v_s. H_w_v_r, _t c_n _ls_ b_ _n _ntr_s_v_ p_rt, _sp_c__lly wh_r_ th_ w_rkpl_c_ _s c_nc_rn_d. M_ny _mpl_y_rs _nd b_ss_s c_nt_ct _mpl_y__s __ts_d_ _f w_rk_ng h__rs. Th_s m__ns st_ff c_n n_v_r _nt_r_ly sw_tch _ff fr_m w_rk. Th_ g_v_rnm_nt _n P_rt_g_l h_s t_k_n st_ps t_ l_m_t th_s _nc_rs__n _nt_ th_ l_v_s _f w_rk_rs. _t h_s _ntr_d_c_d _ l_w th_t pr_h_b_ts _mpl_y_rs _nd b_ss_s fr_m c_nt_ct_ng w_rk_rs by _m__l, m_ss_g_ _r ph_n_ __ts_d_ _f w_rk_ng h__rs. Th_ l_w _ppl__s t_ c_mpn__s w_th m_r_ th_n 10 _mpl_y__s. _t st_t_s th_t _ny v__l_t__n c_nst_t_t_s _ "s_r__s _ff_ns_" _nd c__ld r_s_lt _n f_n_nc__l p_n_lt__s.

Th_ P_rt_g__s_ g_v_rnm_nt h_s _ntr_d_c_d th_ n_w pr_v_cy l_w _ft_r r_c__v_ng _ d_l_g_ _f c_mpl__nts d_r_ng th_ c_r_n_v_r_s l_ckd_wns. _n _ncr__s_ng n_mb_r _f _mpl_y__s _r_ n_w w_rk_ng fr_m h_m_ r_m_t_ly b_c__s_ _f C_V_D-19. Th_ r_s__rch c_mpn_y G_rtn_r _st_m_t_d th_t r_m_t_ w_rk_rs w_ll n__rly d__bl_ t_ r_pr_s_nt 32 p_r c_nt _f th_ gl_b_l w_rkf_rc_ by th_ _nd _f 2021, c_mpr_d t_ 17 p_r c_nt _n 2019. P_rt_g_l's g_v_rnm_nt s__d: "Th_ _mpl_y_r m_st r_sp_ct th_ pr_v_cy _f th_ w_rk_r." Th_ n_w l_w _ls_ r_q__r_s _mpl_y_rs t_ pr_v_d_ _mpl_y__s w_th th_ _ppr_pr__t_ t__ls t_ w_rk fr_m h_m_, _nd r__mb_rs_ th_m w_th _ny c_sts _nc_rr_d t_ _ss_st w_th _ncr__s_d _n_rgy b_lls.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy.html>

technology is an integral and often indispensable part of our lives. however, it can also be an intrusive part, especially where the workplace is concerned. many employers and bosses contact employees outside of working hours. this means staff can never entirely switch off from work. the government in portugal has taken steps to limit this incursion into the lives of workers. it has introduced a law that prohibits employers and bosses from contacting workers by email, message or phone outside of working hours. the law applies to companies with more than 10 employees. it states that any violation constitutes a "serious offense" and could result in financial penalties.

the portuguese government has introduced the new privacy law after receiving a deluge of complaints during the coronavirus lockdowns. an increasing number of employees are now working from home remotely because of covid-19. the research company gartner estimated that remote workers will nearly double to represent 32 per cent of the global workforce by the end of 2021, compared to 17 per cent in 2019. portugal's government said: "the employer must respect the privacy of the worker." the new law also requires employers to provide employees with the appropriate tools to work from home, and reimburse them with any costs incurred to assist with increased energy bills

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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Technology is an integral and often indispensable part of our lives. However, it can also be an intrusive part, especially where the workplace is concerned. Many employers and bosses contact employees outside of working hours. This means staff can never entirely switch off from work. The government in Portugal has taken steps to limit this incursion into the lives of workers. It has introduced a law that prohibits employers and bosses from contacting workers by email, message or phone outside of working hours. The law applies to companies with more than 10 employees. It states that any violation constitutes a "serious offense" and could result in financial penalties. The Portuguese government has introduced the new privacy law after receiving a deluge of complaints during the coronavirus lockdowns. An increasing number of employees are now working from home remotely because of COVID-19. The research company Gartner estimates that remote workers will nearly double to represent 32 percent of the global workforce by the end of 2021, compared to 17 percent in 2019. Portugal's government said: "The employer must respect the privacy of the worker." The new law also requires employers to provide employees with the appropriate tools to work from home, and reimburse them with any costs incurred to assist with increased energy bills.

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. WORKERS' PRIVACY: Make a poster about workers' privacy. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. REMOTE WORKING: Write a magazine article about banning employers from contacting staff who work remotely outside of working hours. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on workers' privacy. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to better preserve workers' privacy. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. e 2. c 3. b 4. f 5. a 6. g 7. d
8. m 9. k 10. n 11. h 12. j 13. i 14. l

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F 2 F 3 T 4 T 5 T 6 T 7 F 8 T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Technology
- Work
- Steps
- Those with over 10 employees
- A serious offense
- During the coronavirus lockdowns
- The number of people working from home
- Workers' privacy
- Appropriate tools
- Energy bills

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- Technology is an indispensable part of our lives.
- Staff can never entirely switch off from work.
- Limit this incursion into the lives of workers.
- Laws apply to companies with over 10 employees.
- A serious offense could result in financial penalties.
- Portugal's government has introduced the new privacy law.
- Receiving a deluge of complaints during coronavirus lockdowns.
- The employer must respect the privacy of the worker.
- Employers provide employees with the appropriate tools.
- Reimburse them to assist with increased energy bills.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. c 2. a 3. b 4. d 5. c 6. b 7. d 8. b 9. b 10. a

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)