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Level 5 – 15th November, 2021

Portugal bans bosses contacting staff after work

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy-5.html>

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

Portugal has introduced the new privacy law after receiving many complaints during the lockdowns. An increasing number of employees are working remotely because of COVID-19. A research company estimated that the number of remote workers will nearly double to 32 per cent of the global workforce by the end of 2021, compared to 17 per cent in 2019. The government said: "The employer must respect the privacy of the worker." It must also give employees the appropriate tools to work from home, and reimburse them with any costs leading to 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>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Technology is an integral | a. incursion |
| 2. it can also be | b. a serious offense |
| 3. especially where work is | c. of working hours |
| 4. contact employees outside | d. intrusive |
| 5. This means staff can never | e. penalties |
| 6. taken steps to limit this | f. concerned |
| 7. any violation constitutes | g. entirely switch off |
| 8. result in financial | h. part of our lives |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. receiving many complaints during | a. will nearly double |
| 2. An increasing number | b. energy bills |
| 3. the number of remote workers | c. workforce |
| 4. 32 per cent of the global | d. tools |
| 5. The employer must respect the | e. with any costs |
| 6. give employees the appropriate | f. the lockdowns |
| 7. reimburse them | g. of employees |
| 8. leading to increased | h. privacy of the worker |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy-5.html>

Technology is (1) _____ of our lives. However, it can also be intrusive, especially where (2) _____. Many employers contact employees outside of working hours. This means staff can never (3) _____. Portugal's government has taken steps to limit this incursion into workers' lives. It has introduced a law (4) _____ from contacting workers by email, message or phone outside of working hours. The (5) _____ companies with more than 10 workers. It states that any violation constitutes a "serious offense," which could (6) _____ penalties.

Portugal has introduced the (7) _____ after receiving many complaints (8) _____. An increasing number of employees are working remotely because of COVID-19. A research company (9) _____ number of remote workers will (10) _____ 32 per cent of the global workforce by the end of 2021, compared to 17 per cent in 2019. The government said: "The employer must (11) _____ of the worker." It must also give employees the appropriate tools to work from home, (12) _____ with any costs leading to increased energy bills.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy-5.html>

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WORKERS' PRIVACY SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy-4.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.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2111/211115-worker-privacy-5.html>

Write about **workers' privacy** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.
