

Work and Leisure

- 1 People often complain that they work too hard. They complain that they don't have enough time for leisure. Leisure is what you do when you are not working, studying, or looking after your home and family (for example, cooking and **cleaning**). It is what you do when you relax and enjoy yourself. Most people have leisure time at the end of the workday or school day or on weekends.
- 2 The amount of time we have for leisure has changed throughout history. In the past, most people worked on the land, so their work depended on the weather and the seasons. For example, in western countries – Europe and North America, people did most of the work during the late spring, summer, and early fall. They did not do as much work during the winter.
- 3 The amount of time that people have for leisure changes when their work changes. In the late eighteenth century and early nineteenth century, industrialization transformed many western countries. Thousands of people left their farms and small villages. They went to work in factories in towns and cities. Their work in factories was very hard, and both the workday and workweek became longer. Many people worked for 16 hours a day, 6 days a week. They only took off one day a week from work – Sunday.
- 4 In the middle of the nineteenth century, **factory work began to change in two ways**. First, the machines in the factories became faster and more efficient, so that workers did not need to work as many hours. They had more free time. Second, the factories began to pay their workers more money. As a result, workers had more money to spend.
- 5 With more time and money, workers had more opportunity for leisure activities. People who worked in or near cities in the second half of the nineteenth century had many new choices about how

WHILE YOU READ 1

Look back in this sentence for a phrasal verb. Highlight it.

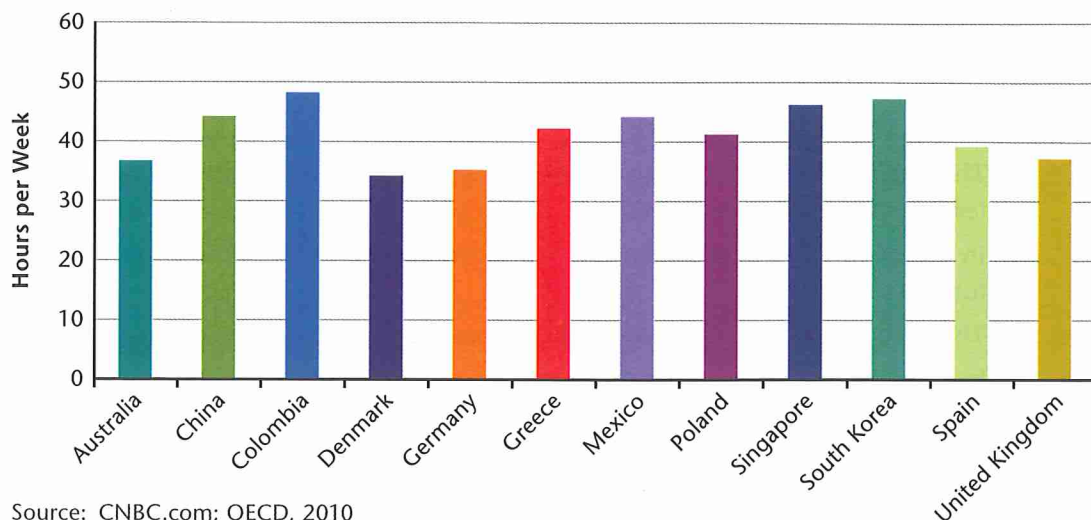
WHILE YOU READ 2

As you read this paragraph, look for words and phrases that signal cause and effect. Highlight the effects.



In the nineteenth century, many people had more time for leisure.

Figure 8.1 Number of Work Hours Per Week



Source: CNBC.com; OECD, 2010

to spend their time and money. Western countries were changing rapidly. Transportation was continuing to improve, so people could get around more **easily**. Streetcars could take people into the city for entertainment. In the cities, there were new public parks and gardens. Workers could go out with their families to the city for games, picnics, and concerts. The first movies and professional baseball games appeared at this time. They were both very popular. There were also trains so that people could get away from the city and spend the day in the country or at the beach.

- 6 As people moved from farms to cities to work in factories, at first the number of hours people worked went up. However, as a country's economy develops, average working hours start to decrease. As a result, by the middle of the twentieth century, the eight-hour workday and the five-day workweek became typical in most western countries. Today, the average workweek in most countries of western Europe is about 35 **hours**.
- 7 In many parts of the world, however, people continue to work much longer hours. In many Asian and Latin American countries, many people work more than 45 hours per week. (See Figure 8.1.) They also get less time off from work. Workers in many western European countries get more than 30 days off every year. In contrast, North American, South American, and Asian workers have fewer days off. In general, the pattern around the world has been similar: Both work hours per week and the number of weeks worked per year have decreased in the last 50 years. However, there is still significant variation in the number of work hours across different regions of the **world**.

WHILE YOU READ 3

Look back in this sentence for a phrasal verb. Highlight it.

WHILE YOU READ 4

What is the main idea of paragraph 6? Highlight it.

Main Idea Check

Match the main ideas below to five of the paragraphs in Reading 1. Write the number of the paragraph on the blank line.

- _____ A People still have a long workweek in many countries.
- _____ B The move from farm work to factory work resulted in a decrease in leisure time.
- _____ C In the middle of the nineteenth century, workers had more time and money for leisure.
- _____ D The amount of time we have for leisure has changed through the years.
- _____ E In general, the workweek is shorter now than in the past.

A Closer Look

Look back at Reading 1 to answer the following questions.

- 1 In the past, the amount of work often depended on the following factors. Circle two answers. (Par. 2)
 - a Seasons
 - b Location
 - c Factories
 - d Weather
- 2 When people moved from farms to factories, their leisure time increased. **True or False?** (Par. 3)
- 3 In the middle of the nineteenth century, how did the machines in factories change? Circle two answers. (Par. 4)
 - a They became less dangerous.
 - b They got faster.
 - c They got cheaper.
 - d They became more efficient.
 - e They became easier to use.
- 4 What did workers do in their leisure time in the nineteenth century? Circle three answers. (Par. 5)
 - a They went to the beach.
 - b They went to parks.
 - c They listened to music.
 - d They listened to the radio.
 - e They played music.

- 5 Put the events (A–D) in the correct order in which they happened. Write the correct letter in each box. (Par. 6)



- A Work hours decreased.
B People moved from farms to factories.
C Factories became more efficient.
D Work hours increased.
- 6 According to Figure 8.1 on page 233, people in western Europe generally work for fewer hours than people in Asia. **True or False?**

Skill Review

In Skills and Strategies 15, you learned that phrasal verbs are a combination of a verb and one or more prepositions. Since it is often difficult to figure out their meaning from their individual parts, it is important to learn phrasal verbs as a unit.

- A** Find the phrasal verbs in Reading 1 that mean the same as the words and phrases in parentheses in the sentences below. Write the appropriate phrasal verb on the blank line.

- 1 I stay home in the evening during the week, but on weekends, I prefer to (leave the house) _____. Perhaps I might go to a restaurant or a movie. (Par. 5)
- 2 During the winter, it is more difficult to (move from place to place) _____ because of the snow. (Par. 5)
- 3 Some people decide to ride bicycles when gasoline prices (increase) _____. (Par. 6)
- 4 Many people like to (escape) _____ from the city when the weather is hot. They go to the mountains or to the beach. (Par. 5)
- 5 Some people (take care of) _____ other children in their homes to make some extra money. (Par. 1)
- 6 I'm going to have to (not go to work) _____ Friday, because it is my sister's wedding. (Par. 3)

- B** Compare your answers with a partner's.

Definitions

Find the words in Reading 1 that complete the following definitions.

- 1 _____ are places where things are made by machines. (*n pl*) Par. 3
- 2 A/An _____ is a chance to do or get something. (*n*) Par. 5
- 3 Something that is open and available to everyone is _____. (*adj*) Par. 5
- 4 _____ are meals that you eat outside, often in parks. (*n pl*) Par. 5
- 5 _____ are performances of live music. (*n pl*) Par. 5
- 6 A/An _____ is the area of land next to the sea or a lake. (*n*) Par. 5
- 7 The _____ is the system in which a country makes and uses things and money. (*n*) Par. 6
- 8 Two things that are almost the same are _____. (*adj*) Par. 7

Word Families

A The words in bold in the chart are from Reading 1. The words next to them are from the same word family. Study and learn these words.

B Choose the correct form of the words from the chart to complete the following sentences. Use the correct verb tenses and subject-verb agreement. Use the correct singular and plural noun forms.

NOUN	VERB
appearance	appear
enjoyment	enjoy
entertainment	entertain
improvement	improve
transformation	transform

- 1 I _____ many leisure activities, but listening to music is my favorite one.
- 2 The president wants to _____ her small company into a large international one.
- 3 After she stopped smoking, her health began to _____.
- 4 Films, concerts, and games are all forms of _____.
- 5 The musicians played in the park for the _____ of the tourists.
- 6 The sun _____ for a few minutes, and then went behind the clouds.
- 7 The children _____ their parents with their musical performance.
- 8 The _____ of the president surprised all of the people who were waiting at the train station.
- 9 His parents were very happy with the _____ in his grades in math.
- 10 Industrialization brought the greatest _____ in 100 years. It changed many things about how people lived and worked.

Critical Thinking

Reading 1 states that people worked more hours during the period of industrialization than when they worked on farms.

A Discuss the following questions with a partner.

- 1 How do you define "hard work"? What makes a job hard? For example, which do you think is harder: farm work or factory work?
- 2 Why do you think so many people chose to leave the land and go to work in factories?
- 3 Today, a lot of people work for long hours in offices, often in front of computers. Do you think their work is as hard as the factory work of the nineteenth century? As hard as earlier farm work? Explain your answers.

B Share your discussion with the rest of the class.

ANALYZING INFORMATION

Critical thinking involves thinking carefully about important topics that the writer has not completely explained.

Research

Do some research on work hours in your country or another country that interests you. Find answers to the following questions.

- How long is the average workday?
- How long is the average workweek?

Writing

Use your class's results to create charts like the one below. Use answers to one of the questions above to create your chart. Then write a few sentences about the information in the chart.

