

The best companies to work for

27th May, 2014



A new report has identified the top 25 companies in the USA to work for. The report comes out every year and always has

some surprises. It ranked the best places to work in 2014 by taking a survey of employee satisfaction. Top of the list was Google, which has become famous for its excellent working conditions. Google knocked Facebook off of the number one position. A Google software engineer earns an average salary of \$119,000 a year. He or she also gets free access to a gym, laundromat, sports facilities and a place which looks after their pets when the employee goes on holiday. One ex-employee said Google staff are so happy that it is unusual for anyone to take time off.

Another survey released at the same time shows a slightly different picture. The careers website Glassdoor asked employees to rate how happy they are with their company, career opportunities, pay, culture, and values. It found that the consulting firm Bain and Company was the best place to work. Russ Hagey, Global Chief Talent Officer at Bain and Co. said: "We are incredibly proud to be named the number one best place to work." He added that: "For more than 40 years, we have placed significant focus on creating an outstanding professional and personal work experience that in turn has fueled our growth anchored in a mission of delivering results for clients and organizations around the globe."

Sources: ndtv.com / cnbc.com / techspot.com

Writing

What are the differences between working for Google and McDonald's?

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

top companies / surprises / employee / satisfaction / salary / working conditions / survey / a different picture / career opportunities / proud / number one / focus / globe

True / False

- A report listed the best companies in the world to work for. T / F
- The report is made once every two years. T / F
- Facebook was number one last year. T / F
- Google has a kind of pet hotel for when staff go on holiday. T / F
- A company called Glassdoor paints pictures. T / F
- Another survey said a consulting company was the best place to work. T / F
- The consulting company has been number one for 40 years. T / F
- The company's mission is to help its clients around the world. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. every year | a. job |
| 2. ranked | b. issued |
| 3. survey | c. strange |
| 4. salary | d. ordered |
| 5. unusual | e. bringing |
| 6. released | f. annually |
| 7. slightly | g. excellent |
| 8. career | h. a little |
| 9. outstanding | i. questionnaire |
| 10. delivering | j. pay |

Discussion – Student A

- What company would you really like to work for (and why)?
- What's the best company you've ever worked for?
- What do you think it would be like to work for Google?
- What's the best company to work for in your country (why?)
- What benefits do you think are important at work?
- What kind of work environment do you like?
- Would you prefer to work from home?
- Would you prefer to work for Google or Starbucks?

BreakingNewsEnglish - The Mini Lesson

Phrase Match

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. the top 25 companies in the | a. the number one |
| 2. famous for its excellent working | b. to a gym |
| 3. earns an average salary | c. off |
| 4. she also gets free access | d. happy they are |
| 5. take time | e. conditions |
| 6. Another survey released | f. experience |
| 7. asked employees to rate how | g. USA to work for |
| 8. proud to be named | h. at the same time |
| 9. work | i. for clients |
| 10. delivering results | j. of \$119,000 a year |

Discussion – Student B

- Are you a good employee? Why do you think so?
- What score would you give the companies you worked for ?
- What's more important, long holidays or pay?
- What's the minimum salary you would work for?
- What should a company do to be a professional employer?
- Would you be a good boss (why do you think so)?
- What is your ideal (perfect) job?
- What questions would you like to ask Google's boss?

Spelling

- idtfednii the top 25 companies
- always has some eprursiss
- a survey of oeeeypm satisfaction
- software nnerieeg
- sports ecsifiitla
- it is lunusua
- ladeeers at the same time
- a htiyglls different picture
- ecarre opportunities
- We are incredibly rdupo
- work riexcepnee
- a isisnmo of delivering results

Answers – Synonym Match

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

Role Play

Role A – Nice uniform

You think a nice uniform is the most important thing about a job. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that aren't so good about their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): lots of training, friendly co-workers or lots of overtime.

Role B – Lots of training

You think lots of training is the most important thing about a job. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that aren't so good about their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): a nice uniform, friendly co-workers or lots of overtime.

Role C – Friendly co-workers

You think friendly co-workers is the most important thing about a job. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that aren't so good about their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): lots of training, a nice uniform or lots of overtime.

Role D – Lots of overtime

You think lots of overtime is the most important thing about a job. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that aren't so good about their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): lots of training, friendly co-workers or a nice uniform.

Speaking – Working conditions

Rank these with your partner. Put the most important at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| • pay | • lots of overtime |
| • uniform | • long holidays |
| • nice boss | • friendly co-workers |
| • training | • responsibility |

Answers – True False

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