

Business Result Upper-intermediate

Student's Book Answer Key

16 | Career breaks

Starting point

3

Possible response

For the employee, the career break will be expensive and the person will need to anticipate reduced (or no) earnings and therefore a change in their spending. They may also find that they miss the routine life more than they expected. Ideally, the employee will take the break and return to the same employer. However, this means the employer needs someone to temporarily replace the person and possibly pay for retraining.

Working with words

1

- 1 Roberto and Jenny (south-east Asia and Bangladesh), Roberto and Freya (Australia)
- 2 Roberto and Jenny (both employers 'kept the job open')
- 3 Freya and Roberto (make sure you've got good career experience before you leave / take it after you've worked for five years)
- 4 Freya and Jenny (voluntary work in Australia / worked with local communities to improve education and health care)
- 5 Freya and Jenny (it has given me a new perspective / it broadened my outlook)

3

perspective / outlook
hesitating / feeling uncertain
piece of advice / tip

put off / postponed
appreciate / feel grateful for
voluntary organization / charity

4

1 voluntary organization / charity
2 revitalized grateful for
3 put off / postpone

4 perspective / outlook
5 appreciate / feel grateful for
6 piece of advice / tip

6

- 1 because the industry was having a bit of a downturn
- 2 because a lot of their work is project-based and consultants work for different lengths of time on projects
- 3 cost savings, improves staff retention rate, a chance for staff to broaden horizons, a way to attract new staff
- 4 The employee learns new skills which the company also benefits from. He or she also has renewed motivation.

7

- | | | | |
|--------|-----------|---------------|-------------|
| 1 off | 3 renewed | 5 development | 7 retention |
| 2 soft | 4 broaden | 6 policy | |

Business communication skills

1

I've been a loyal employee.
I'll be more motivated after the trip.
I'll gain experience I can bring to the company.
It's a lifelong ambition of mine.

2

- 1 It's been a long-term goal of mine to ...
- 2 I've been inspired by ...
- 3 It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.
- 4 It's a win-win situation.
- 5 ... the experience I'd gain would be invaluable for ...
- 6 I understand your misgivings ...
- 7 ... this is a chance I can't afford to miss.
- 8 That's hardly fair. I've never refused to ...
- 9 I'd really appreciate it if you could speak to HR ...

3

- | | | | | |
|--------|--------|-----|--------|--------|
| a 1, 9 | b 4, 5 | c 2 | d 3, 7 | e 6, 8 |
|--------|--------|-----|--------|--------|

Practically speaking

1

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 did DIY jobs | 3 visited family and played golf |
| 2 went on a spa break | |

2

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| 1 A | 3 E | 5 E | 7 A | 9 T |
| 2 T | 4 E | 6 T | 8 E | 10 A |

Business Result

Language at work

1

1 a

2 d

3 b

4 e

5 c

6 f

2

infinitive: want, would like, fail, decide, refuse, seem, it's very difficult, manage, arrange, can't afford, plan, it's easy

-ing form: like (see *Tip*), there's no point, enjoy, look forward to, miss, it's not worth, risk, finish

Case study

Discussion

1, 2

Possible responses

- 1 Employees would develop management and leadership skills in difficult or new types of conditions. They would also experience working with new cultures.
- 2 Companies would benefit from the new skills their employees acquired. This type of project would provide very positive publicity for the business. It would also develop knowledge of potentially new markets.

3

The experience gained: new skills, more confident, knows he can achieve things on his own, making decisions, knowledge and cultural awareness.

The benefits for the company: the consultant believes his new skills will benefit the company though he doesn't say exactly how. He also refers to the knowledge and cultural awareness that he's developed which will be of benefit to the company in the future.