

TEAMWORK.- Communicative Activities.

Caso práctico

Charlotte is still intrigued by the organisation of the company she's going to work for. She does some more research on the Internet. She finds an interesting website about funny and interesting facts about business around the world. Below you can read just a few:



- ✓ In 1987, American Airlines decided to omit one olive from each salad course in the first class. As a result, they made a savings of \$40,000.
- ✓ Bank of America started operations as Bank of Italy.
- ✓ If the entire population of the world is taken as 100, then half of the total wealth would be held by 6 people.
- ✓ More than 90% of cab drivers in New York are immigrants from other countries.
- ✓ The Mall, the biggest departmental store in Washington, D.C. is 1.4 times bigger than the Vatican City.
- ✓ A Tupperware party starts somewhere in the world every 23 seconds.
- ✓ The soft drink industry spends more than \$100 million a year in stopping thefts involving their vending machines.
- ✓ Kids in North America spend an average of about half a billion dollar annually on chewing gums.
- ✓ Canada and United States are the leaders in producing paper and paper products.

Adapted from <http://www.stumblz.com/business-facts-you-must-know/>

Think about it

Choose some of the facts above and discuss them in the forum.



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1.- Reading Activity.

Read the following text about leadership qualities:



There are many qualities that shape a successful leader. Consequently, there is no single recipe for guaranteeing top management skills. If there were, there wouldn't be so few truly international success stories.

Obviously, a great decision-maker possesses the ability to inspire his employees. A charismatic boss can motivate employees to give that added-extra that puts a company over the top. This leader is energetic while at the same time being thoughtful when it comes to important, strategy-changing decisions. This of course does not mean that balanced leader is without his impulsive side. In fact, it is exactly this adventurous spirit that separates true genius from run-of-the-mill management.

Take Bill Gates for example, if he hadn't left Harvard University before graduation he might never have become the stellar public figure that he is today. His ruthlessness, combined with a passionate conviction has made him the envy of many an industry captain today.

Many would say that Apple's Steve Jobs was taken advantage of. While this may be true in a certain sense, if Gates had decided to become a hardware manufacturer, as well as a software pioneer, as was the case with Jobs, he probably wouldn't have had his past resounding success with Microsoft software products. Nowadays, however, the tables have turned with Apple being incredibly successful in both hardware and software developments for the computer, as well as innovative mobile phones and tablets.

The lesson to be learned is that leadership can make the difference between a good company and a great company.

Autoevaluación

Decide if the following statements are true or false.

Most leaders have the same sort of qualities.

- True.
- False.

Not really.

Great!

Solución

1. Incorrecto
2. Opción correcta

The ability to inspire employees is often seen in top management.

- True.
- False.

Fantastic!

Are you sure?

Solución

1. Opción correcta
2. Incorrecto

A charismatic boss can motivate employees to give an extra push.

- True.
- False.

Amazing!

Perhaps you should read the text more carefully.

Solución

1. Opción correcta
2. Incorrecto

Most run-of-the-mill managers are adventurous.

- True.
- False.

That's not correct.

Well done!

Solución

1. Incorrecto
2. Opción correcta

Both Steve Jobs and Bill Gates have been extremely successful.

- True.
- False.

Brilliant!

That's not exact.

Solución

1. Opción correcta
2. Incorrecto

Autoevaluación

Match the expressions from the text with their definitions.

Matching exercise

Expressions	Match	Definitions
Recipe for guaranteeing something.	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. To encourage in a positive way.
Decision-maker.	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Change positions with someone.
Run-of-the-mill.	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. An extremely successful CEO, director, etc.
Industry captain	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Person who is responsible for decisions in a company.
To turn the tables	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Standard way of doing something that makes sure it will succeed.
To inspire / to motivate.	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Normal, usual, nothing special.

Enviar

Well done!

Text and activities adapted from <http://esl.about.com/od/businessreading/a/Leadership-Qualities-Reading.htm>

2.- Listening Activity.

Listen to John Dow, Regional Manager at International Chemical Ltd. A Then answer the questions. Then, when you have done the activity, you can read the transcript.



[Script](#)

Think about it

Now answer the following questions:

1. How many independent distributors integrate the company network?
2. Where are the factories located?
3. How many departments have the company created for their in-house running?
4. How many people are in charge of each of these departments?
5. How often does the Regional Committee meet?
6. What is John's post at the National Executive Committee?

Mostrar retroalimentación

1. 200.
2. London and Liverpool.
3. 6.
4. 1.
5. Weekly.
6. OH&S National Manager.

3.- Writing Activity.

Imagine you're going to do an English course in London for two weeks. You receive an email from Tim, your teacher at the language school, asking some questions. Reply to his email and include the following information:

- ✔ Say hello.
- ✔ Thank them for their email.
- ✔ Your age, family, work / study.
- ✔ Your experience learning English.
- ✔ Say goodbye.



4.- Speaking Activity.

Answer the following questions:

- ✓ Who are the most famous entrepreneurs in your country?
- ✓ What are they famous for?
- ✓ Can you tell us a little bit more about one of them?
- ✓ Do you think people are born with leadership skills?



Appendix.- Licenses of Resources.

Licenses of Resources used in session Communicative Activities

Resource (1)	Resource information (1)	Resource (2)	Resource information (2)
	By:Sarah Ross. License: CC by-nc 2.0 . From: http://www.flickr.com/photos/23680544@N07/2583802345/		By:Lori Tingey. License: CC by 2.0 . From: http://www.flickr.com/photos/loritingey/350043329/
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