Upgrading management technology
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WARM-UP

1. Discuss the following points briefly:
   • What kind of software do you use in your company to improve the management of teams/time/projects?
   • Which aspects of your work could be improved by using technology?
   • What are the benefits and drawbacks of applying technology for management?

VOCABULARY

2. Match the words from the two columns to create business-related collocations:

   • disruptive
   • one-size-fits-all
   • address
   • be (dis)engaged
   • make
   • performance
   • empower
   • achieve
   • boost

   • employees
   • at work
   • goal
   • performance
   • appraisal
   • an issue
   • approach
   • progress
   • technology

3. Which underlined words from ex. 1 collocate with all the words in the points below.

   A. enhance, optimize, evaluate, measure, poor, outstanding:
      ................................................
   B. set, reach, pursue, realistic, attainable, strategic:
      ................................................
   C. fully, actively, deeply, get, become, in:
      ................................................
   D. people, consumers, fully, technology, individuals:
      ................................................
   E. emerging, employ, embrace, apply, implement, adopt:
      ................................................
   F. productivity, growth, efficiency, substantially, activity:
      ................................................
   G. track, impede, review, hamper, technological, slow, rapid:
      ................................................
   H. adopt, holistic, innovative, develop, use, comprehensive:
      ................................................
   I. resolve, raise, tackle, complex, key, central, contentious, major:
      ................................................

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VIDEO COMPREHENSION

4. Watch the TED talk and answer the following questions:

A. How do the four companies (Amazon/Facebook/Spotify/Netflix) help their customers?

B. How is the home environment different from the work environment?

C. How has the technology of management changed work?

D. What examples of technology that help us did the speaker list?

E. What are the benefits of the Orion system that UPS implemented?

F. What did Henry Ford say a hundred years ago?

DISCUSSION

5. Discuss the following points in pairs/groups:

- Do you agree with the speaker who said that our work environment hasn’t changed?
- What if companies understood their own employees better than they understand customers?
- Look at the pie chart on the right and discuss whether your work life is similar or different and to what extent.
- How do you feel about training at work? Is it modern? Has it changed during your career?
- Are there too many processes at your work? How do they affect your work?
- What’s your opinion on performance reviews? How does it compare to what the speaker presented:

- What kind of technological improvements could enhance management at your company?