

Simplified Speech #164 – Socializing with coworkers

AD-FREE

Episode description

Have you ever gotten together with your coworkers on the weekend? In this episode, Andrew and Kassy talk about their experiences spending time with their colleagues socially. They discuss the kinds of activities they participate in, cultural differences regarding socializing with coworkers, and the idea of drinking alcohol with the boss. What do you think English teachers living abroad do for fun with their colleagues? Give this episode a try and find out!

Fun fact

While many Americans would feel uncomfortable with the idea of going out to the bars with their boss and coworkers, this is an important part of business culture in both South Korea and Japan. It's called hoesik in Korean and nomikai in Japanese.

Expressions included in the study guide

- To talk shop
- Slowly but surely
- Next level
- Common ground
- To not be one's thing
- At play



Transcript

Note: The words and expressions that appear in **bold text** within the transcript are discussed in more detail in the Detailed Explanations section that follows the transcript. The transcript has been edited for clarity.

Andrew: Simplified Speech episode 164. Socializing with coworkers featuring Andrew and Kassy.

Hello, Kassy.

Kassy: Hey, Andrew, and hey, listeners. How's it going?

Andrew: I'm good, Kassy, and I'm looking forward to our conversation that we're going to have today. I think it will be a really interesting discussion. And that's because we're going to talk about some of the ways that we can have fun with our coworkers, some of the ways that we can have fun with our coworkers. Wow. It'll be a good discussion, I think.

Kassy: Yeah, that's right. But maybe we should first explain what we mean by that topic because, you know, it's a little bit vague. So, everyone, we'll be talking about some ways that we personally spend time socializing with coworkers outside of the regular, professional working relationship. You know, we see our coworkers every day in the office. But today, we're going to talk about times that you might hang out with coworkers outside of the office. So, we'll talk about some things that we personally do with our coworkers and things that are common for coworkers to do together in workplaces in North America. So, Andrew, why don't you start us off and tell us some things that you do with your coworkers for fun?

Andrew: Sure. Well, I have to be honest, and say that I don't socialize with my coworkers too often. I like my coworkers, they're all wonderful people, but they're all at the stage in their life where they're kind of recently married or having children. And they're all busy with work as well. So outside of work, we don't really see each other very often. But

we do get together maybe once or twice per semester. So, for listeners who don't know, I work at a university. And of course, at universities, you have semesters, right? And each semester is 4 months long. And once we complete a semester, then there are 2 months of vacation time.

So there's two semesters per year, there's a spring semester and a fall semester. And we usually meet once at the beginning of the semester and sometimes once at the end of the semester as well. And I don't meet with all of my coworkers because, of course, working at a university, there's like hundreds of employees there, hundreds of people that are my coworkers. But I do meet with some of the other members of the staff that are in my department.

And when we hang outside of official functions, because there are some times when we go to a conference, or we have a meeting, and sometimes we'll eat lunch together, and that kind of situation. But that doesn't feel like hanging out or socializing. That just feels like working to me. So, when we do socialize, usually what we do is we hang out at someone's house. And we play cards together and maybe we'll have a drink or two. And we usually order pizza as well. So we have kind of pizza party and play cards. Usually poker is the game that we play. And we listen to music and chat. Unfortunately, most of the chat is usually about working life, which we try not to do because we're like, "Oh, we're hanging out, let's just not talk about work for today." But, you know, the conversation topic always drifts back to work eventually.

But, yeah, that's usually what I do these days for socializing with my coworkers. It's always fun. And we're always like, "Let's do this more often. We should do this again." And then of course, the whole semester goes by and then we're like, ah, it's the end of the semester. Let's get together to celebrate completing a semester together, then we have a little gathering. But yeah.

Kassy, how about you? How do you spend time with your coworkers?

Kassy: Well, I think I'm a little bit different than you. I guess, I'm in my 20s and I live internationally, like you do. I feel like people in their 20s who live internationally, they don't have their family around, so you really have to make friends fast so that you don't feel lonely. And when you're working, you know, 8 to 9 hours a day, the fastest friends you can make are your coworkers. So I hang out a lot with my coworkers at my current school and also at my previous schools in Korea.

Andrew: That's awesome, yeah. And that's a great point. I think when I was younger, as well, I did that. But now I guess I'm a little bit older than you, Kassy, and I'm at the point in my life where I don't hang out with friends as often as I used to. But that's great to hear that you've made a lot of friends already at your new school. So, when you guys spend time together, what kind of things do you do?

Kassy: Yeah, I think it depends on the group. So, I know a lot of people, usually they'll go to happy hours on Fridays after work to celebrate the end of the week. Our group that I hang out with often, we actually started two new activities, hobbies, kind of, together. One of them, on Thursdays we go to a trivia night, which has been pretty fun.

Andrew: Oh, I like that.

Kassy: Yeah. The people that go there, like outside of our team, are intense, Andrew. I've never seen such amazing trivia players in my life.

Andrew: Hardcore trivia players.

Kassy: Hardcore. And then another thing that we just started doing that I find super fun is if we have time on the weekends, we all meet together and we play a sport together.

Andrew: Oh, yeah?

Kassy: Yeah. And last weekend, we played rugby together, because three of the people in the group are on a rugby team here in Bangkok. And I've never touched a rugby ball in my life. It was so fun.

Andrew: That's awesome. So new friends and new experiences. Kassy, when you hang out with your coworkers, do you have the same issue that I have, and that is that you always **talk shop** and talk about work and the office? Or are you guys pretty good at separating work and leisure?

Kassy: I think it's a pretty good mix. Luckily, our group is kind of separated between the elementary, middle school, and high school teachers. So we can't talk about a lot of things similarly, because, you know, the students and the teaching styles are so different between departments. But, yeah, we definitely talk about student drama and teacher drama. But we also talk about things outside of work as well.

Andrew: You mentioned that a lot of your coworkers are not locals, but they are people from different countries. So, do you have like a pretty diverse friend group? Or do you mostly hang out with other Americans?

Kassy: All of us are either American or Canadian.

Andrew: Oh, really?

Kassy: Yes, I have quite a few Canadian acquaintances now, Andrew. You're not the only one.

Andrew: You're becoming one of us, **slowly but surely**, maybe, Kassy. And Kassy, you also told me about something that you've been doing with your coworkers, which is playing Wordle?

Kassy: Yeah.

Andrew: I thought that was kind of cool. Like, that's another thing that you can do with your coworkers to have fun and socialize outside of working together. And that is to do some kind of office activity. And this is common in Canada as well and maybe I'll explain that later. But first, could you tell us about Wordle, what it is and how you play it with your coworkers?

Kassy: Sure. Wordle's a word game where you have six chances to guess a five-letter word. And it was created by this guy, I feel bad, I forget his name. But it was sold to the New York Times. And on the New York Times website, you can find this daily Wordle. So, me and my coworkers have a group. And every day we try to guess this Wordle in as few guesses as possible. And we grade it like golf.

Andrew: Grade it like golf. So like golf, maybe you have a par four hole. But if you do it in two attempts, then you get a minus two score. So do you think of Wordle as being like par six? And if you get it in one guess then you're minus five. Is that what you mean?

Kassy: Kind of, yeah, so we say that if you didn't guess the word that day or you forgot, you get a straight automatic 10 points. But if you guessed the word in six guesses, you get six points. And you don't want points, you want the lowest number, like in golf.

Andrew: I see. So just like in golf minus score is actually a good thing.

Kassy: Yes, it's impossible to get minus in Wordle, our version of Wordle. But going for the lowest score is still the main goal.

Andrew: OK, I got it, the lower the better. How many players do you have in the Wordle? What do you call it, do you have a nickname for it or something? Like the Wordle crew, or the Wordle tournament?

Kassy: You know, I forget, I think Wordle battle.

Andrew: Wordle battle. How many players are participating in the Wordle battle?

Kassy: Um, one, two, three, four, five, six. I think there's six of us, six or seven of us right now. And then we also have a student-led competition. So the teachers participate in the global daily Wordle. But we've also found a website where you can make your own Wordles and distribute them. So 3 days a week, our homeroom students also participate in a homemade Wordle.

Andrew: Nice. I like that. That sounds really fun. Who's the winner right now? Kassy, are you winning? I know you're good with words, you have a way with words. So I think that you probably are pretty good. But maybe you have some coworkers who are better, I don't know. How are you doing?

Kassy: I thought I was good until I started this competition. And, wow, they are **next level**, Andrew.

Andrew: When playing Wordle, I always start the Wordle with the same guess each time, I use the word ocean. Do you have a five-letter word that you start the puzzle with?

Kassy: One of my students uses ocean. I used to, but now I mix it up every time. I know one of my coworkers always uses the word audio because it has so many vowels.

Andrew: So, Kassy, I hinted just a moment ago, about an activity that Canadian people do at their workplace. And of course, this is just some people, this is not everybody. It's really hard to say that everybody does this, or everybody does that, especially in North America, where we have people from all around the world working together. But one kind of activity that is pretty common in Canadian workplaces is having a hockey pool, because we are hockey-loving people.

So ice hockey is the most popular sport in Canada, and a lot of people will participate in a hockey pool. And what that is, is that at the start of the new hockey season, you get together with some of your coworkers, usually make a group like five or ten people. And they will select some of the players that they want for their team, they have a kind of draft where each person gets to select a player, one by one, and you select maybe 20 players for your team or 15 players, every hockey pool has slightly different rules. And then you follow the progress of those players throughout the season.

And at the end of the season, you count, you know, how many goals did this player score? How many points does this player have? And you total all of your players together and then the person with the most points wins. And usually there's some kind of competitive element to it. You know, there's some kind of friendly betting where maybe everybody puts

some money into the hockey pool, maybe \$20 or \$50. And then the winner at the end of the season will take all of the money. There's usually some kind of financial incentive to it. But I think the point is that it creates conversation between coworkers. So after every weekend, on Monday morning, you know, like, "Oh, did you see the game?" Like, "My player did so well. I'm winning."

And, like, you know, our situation is kind of unique, Kassy, as being international teachers at foreign schools in different countries, because that means that automatically we have a pretty tight bond with our coworkers right from the start because we're all in this unique situation. But back home in the States and in Canada, you know, like, you might have absolutely nothing in common with some of your coworkers, right? But an activity like this gives you some **common ground** and I think it helps people become closer and friendly with each other. Even in a situation, you know, where sometimes you don't want to be at the office. So it just makes the day a little bit brighter and more fun.

Kassy: Yeah, that's right. We actually have a similar one in the US. There's not as many hockey fans, but we have a fantasy football league. Not to confuse listeners with soccer, I mean American football. But it's the same process, you pick players, make a draft pool and then, you know, the same thing you said, but with American football.

Andrew: And it's really hardcore in the States. I know, fantasy football is really extreme, it's quite competitive. And there are like podcasts about fantasy football. I know there's been a TV show, even, that was centred around a group of guys who played fantasy football with each other. So it's really a popular pastime. Have you ever participated in a fantasy sports league Kassy?

Kassy: That's **not my thing**.

Andrew: The last time that I participated in a hockey pool was actually when I was an elementary school student. And I remember—yeah, it's been a while. There was a long time in my life where I didn't care about hockey. Now, I love hockey again, but I kind of put it away for most of my high school and university days. But I remember, this is how long

ago it was that I was in a hockey pool, is that to follow the stats, I would look in the back of the newspaper to see the information about the previous day's game, because all of the hockey statistics would be in the sports section of the newspaper. You could see, you know, who scored the goals, who got some assists, how much time on ice each player had. And then I used to take that newspaper and enter it into my spreadsheet on my computer. And that's how I would track my players' progress. This is like pre-internet, probably in like the early 90s when I was just 7 or 8 years old.

Kassy: That's so cool.

Andrew: Yeah, that memory just came back when I was talking about it. And it's kind of funny, but that is a popular way that people socialize in North American workplaces, at least.

Kassy, quick question here before we wrap up, and I'm curious about in the States. I have a feeling about what you're going to say, but I need to hear it from a true American. And my question is about dinner meetings or drinking meetings with your coworkers. Like, here in Korea, there is a culture called hoesik. Hoesik means office dinner. So what people do, of course every company is different, but most companies do this, at least sometimes, is that after work, you and all of your coworkers will get together, usually go to a nice restaurant, and eat some food together and drink together. That is kind of a central part of the hoesik culture, although it is changing these days. But that is still a fundamental part, I think, of a hoesik. In Canada, that's not so common. What about in the States? Do you have any of these staff dinner parties and drinking parties?

Kassy: Yeah, I'm gonna say on the average no. Usually I think companies have one or two parties a year. For example, maybe a Christmas party, or in my mother's company's case, an end of tax season party, because they are an accounting firm.

Andrew: Oh, yeah. Sure, sure.

Kassy: Yes, but besides those special occasions, not really, no.

Andrew: One distinction that I think we can make is that it's really common for, like, coworkers to go out for maybe a beer after work on Friday, and just hang out amongst themselves. But these hoesiks are, like, with the managers and the bosses. And I think that's why some people feel they're a little bit uncomfortable is because you have to hang out and socialize with the people above you, you know, higher on the ladder in the company. And although it could feel comfortable just hanging out among people the same department as you, hanging out with like the management and those kinds of executives and the higher ups can feel a little bit uncomfortable.

Kassy: I feel like it could also cause a lot of competition between coworkers, you know? Who can make your boss laugh the most or pour him the most drinks or her the most drinks so that you can get a promotion.

Andrew: Yeah, there are definitely a lot of power politics **at play** in that kind of dinner meeting.

But anyway, Kassy, I think this is a perfect time for us to wrap up our conversation. So, everyone that brings us to the end of today's episode, and I want to say thanks for listening and great job on completing an English study session with us. And we'd love to know what you think about this episode. If you have any questions for us or feedback for us, please leave a comment on Culips.com or on our discussion forum and share them with us.

That is it for us, for now, but we'll be back soon with another brand-new episode and we'll talk to you then. Goodbye.

Kassy: See ya.

Detailed Explanations

To talk shop Idiom

In the beginning of the episode, Andrew asks Kassy whether she ends up **talking shop** with her coworkers like he does when socializing outside of work. Kassy tells him that it's usually a good combination of **talking shop** and talking about other things.

To talk shop is an idiom that means to discuss your job with people you work with or people who are in the same profession as you. It usually refers to discussing these topics outside of working hours, such as at a dinner or a party. For instance, two film producers would likely end up **talking shop** if the topic of movies came up in conversation.

This idiom is completely neutral and **talking shop** can be a good thing or a bad thing. However, since having a healthy work-life balance is considered to be very important these days, it's not a bad idea to check with a coworker before discussing work at a social event. Helpful phrases for this situation include, "Would you mind if we **talked shop** for a minute?" or "Can we **talk shop** for a moment?"

Here are a couple more examples with **to talk shop**:

Wendy: Hey, good to see you. How's your weekend going?

Harold: Not bad. I got some yard work done this morning and I spent the rest of the afternoon playing games with the kids. What have you been getting up to?

Wendy: Oh, the usual. I went to the gym and saw my sister. By the way, Harold, I had a question for you about those reports that are due next week—

Harold: Aw, Wendy. Do we have **to talk shop**? It's the weekend. I don't want to think about those stupid reports.

Wendy: All right, all right, I get it. I'll wait until Monday to ask you.

Josie: I saw you were chatting with Tim at the party. It looked like you were having a lively conversation. What did you guys talk about?

Fred: Oh, yeah, it was great. I haven't seen Tim in ages. We were **talking shop**—you know, what kinds of cars we've been working on at the garage, suspension upgrades we're considering doing ... That kind of stuff. He's been handling a lot of interesting repair jobs recently.

Slowly but surely

Adverbial phrase

Kassy tells Andrew that all of her colleagues are from the United States or Canada and that he isn't her only Canadian friend anymore. Andrew replies by jokingly telling her that she's **slowly but surely** becoming Canadian herself.

Slowly but surely is an adverbial phrase you can use to describe a gradual but certain change. You can use it to emphasize that progress is happening even though it isn't happening fast. For example, a foreign exchange student's English might **slowly but surely** improve after a few weeks in California.

Compare the following sentences:

- She is slowly getting better from her illness.
- She is **slowly but surely** getting better from her illness.

There's nothing wrong with the first sentence, but by adding "but surely" there is more of a feeling of positivity and hopefulness in the second sentence. This adverbial phrase is helpful for reassuring someone that change is taking place. Another example of this is telling your boss, "We're **slowly but surely** finishing up the project." Adding "but surely" will likely give her more confidence that the project will be completed before the deadline than if you just said "slowly."

Although this is less common, you can also use this phrase as an adjective if you drop the "-ly" endings: "**slow but sure**." For instance, you might say that an artist is making **slow but sure** progress on her masterpiece.

Here are a couple more examples with **slowly but surely**:

Tammy: I just got back from the gym. Are there any snacks with protein around?

Nicholas: I think there's some trail mix in the cupboard. You've been going to the gym a lot recently. How has it been going?

Tammy: Lifting weights isn't easy for me, but I'm **slowly but surely** seeing some muscle definition in my back and shoulders.

Nina: How's your research paper coming along, honey?

Carlos: It's OK. I'm managing to write it **slowly but surely**. Hopefully I'll have it done within the next few days.

Next level Adjective

Kassy tells Andrew that one of the things she and her coworkers do for fun is play the game Wordle competitively. Wordle is a popular word game where you have six attempts to guess a five-letter word. Kassy says that she thought she was pretty good at Wordle until she started playing with her coworkers and realized that they're **next level**.

Next level is an adjective you can use to describe someone who is impressively good at something. In Kassy's example, her coworkers are extraordinarily good at Wordle, so she calls them **next level**. You might also describe the best player on a sports team as a **next level** athlete or your musically gifted friend a **next level** guitarist. This adjective is usually used with positive traits, but you can also use it to describe a negative trait. For instance, you could say that someone is a **next level** gossip.

Next level can also be used as a noun. For example, if you want to improve your gym routine, you could say, "I need to take my weight lifting to the **next level**." A similar verb is to level up something. For example, you could say that your friend is taking steps to level up her career.

Here are a couple more examples with **next level**:

Tyrone: Are you going to try out for the fall musical?

Kristina: They decided to put on Wicked, right? I don't know, a lot of those songs seem really difficult to sing. I don't want to try out, get my hopes up, and not get picked.

Tyrone: Are you kidding? You're a **next level** singer, Kristina. You'll be able to sing those songs without any problems. Come on, just try out.

Peter: Lisa, did you remember to take out the trash this morning?

Lisa: Sorry, I totally forgot.

Peter: OK ... Well, did you return our overdue library books like I asked you to?

Lisa: Shoot! Sorry about that, Peter. It completely slipped my mind.

Peter: Honey, you really need to start writing things down. Your forgetfulness has been **next level** recently.

Lisa: I know, I know.

Common ground

Noun

Andrew tells Kassy that a common social activity among Canadian coworkers is a hockey pool. During the hockey season, you pick players for a fantasy team and count all the points those players score every week. At the end of the season, whoever's fantasy team scored the most points wins and they get a small cash prize. Andrew says this type of activity is a wonderful way to find some **common ground** with your coworkers.

Common ground refers to mutual agreement between people. It can mean shared interests, shared opinions, or shared experiences. For example, you might realize you have some **common ground** with your new coworker after learning you graduated from the same university and grew up in the same town. You may also find **common ground** with your brother's new girlfriend when you discuss music and discover that you both love the same bands.

The examples above can also be described as two people having things in common. However, **common ground** is often used to describe commonalities between people despite the existence of many other differences. For instance, your mother may disagree with her brother about most things, but they find **common ground** in their love of animals.

Common ground is frequently used with verbs like have, find, share, discover, and reach.

Here are a couple more examples with **common ground**:

Leo: But, Mom, I don't want to go to Aunt Mary's for Thanksgiving dinner.

Tiffany: What? Why not? She always hosts a lovely meal.

Leo: We always end up arguing because we can never agree on anything when the topic of politics inevitably comes up!

Tiffany: Oh, come on, Leo. Let's just do our best to avoid political conversations. You both love to travel, right? We'll tell her about our recent trip to Quebec and you can ask how her visit to Taiwan was. That way, maybe you two can find some **common ground**.

Wanda: So, how was your first week of college? Do you like your roommates?

Rudy: Yes, they're great! I was a pretty shy talking to them at first, but we started talking about the World Cup and found some **common ground**. They're really nice guys.

To not be one's thing

Idiom

After Andrew explains the rules of the hockey pool to Kassy, he asks her whether she's ever participated in any fantasy sports before. She replies, "That's **not my thing**."

To not be one's thing is a polite way of saying that one does not like something. People often think of English as much more direct than, for example, Japanese or Korean, but being indirect about negative opinions is an important part of being polite in the English language. It's much more socially acceptable to negate a positive statement than to use a negative adjective or verb.

For example, if someone asks you if you want to go see a musical, it's much more polite to say, "Thanks, but musicals **aren't really my thing**" than it is to say, "Thanks, but I hate musicals." Similarly, if a classmate invites you to go on a hike but you can't stand the thought of walking uphill for hours at a time, you can politely tell her, "Thanks for the invitation, but hiking **isn't my thing**. I hope you have a great time, though!"

Even if the topic is plural (for example, musicals, fantasy sports, or auto shows) you should not pluralize "thing" to "things." Just change "is" to "are" and keep "thing" singular. You could say, for example, "Auto shows **are not my thing!**"

Variations of this expression include to not be one's bag, to not be one's cup of tea, to not be one's favourite, and to not be one's first choice.

Here are a couple more examples with **to not be one's thing**:

Emily: I'm going to reheat the tofu and vegetable stir-fry I made last night. Would you like some?

Andy: No, thanks. Tofu **isn't really my thing**.

Sophie: How did your date go?

Mark: It was really nice, actually. She asked me to go to the contemporary art museum with her. Museums **aren't really my thing** and I don't know anything about art, but I didn't want to say no. In the end, I actually had a great time at the museum and I learned a lot!

Sophie: That's great! It's nice to get out of your comfort zone for a change.

Mark: Agreed. The next time I think **something isn't my thing**, I'm going to give it a try anyways.

At play Idiom

Towards the end of the episode, Andrew and Kassy chat about the Korean workplace cultural tradition of hoesik, where you go out for dinner and drinks with your coworkers and bosses. The hosts mention that these kinds of dinners can feel uncomfortable because of the power politics **at play** when workers are trying to impress and please their bosses.

At play means in action or influencing a situation or result. It's used to talk about things that are qualitative or conceptual, such as issues, factors, politics, forces, social norms, cultural differences, and so on. For example, a boss might tell a hiring manager, "Choosing who to give this job promotion to isn't an easy decision. There are a lot of factors **at play**, such as seniority, work ethic, and job performance."

As another example, imagine someone asking a friend who works in real estate why housing has become so expensive in the past several years. The friend could reply, "There are a lot of issues **at play**. Construction costs have gone up, zoning regulations have gotten stricter, there are more buyers than sellers, and so on."

You can also use this as a verb, as in to be **at play**. For example, traditional American gender norms are **at play** when women are expected to cook, clean, and take care of the children.

Here are a couple more examples with **at play**:

Kylie: Which seminar are you going to go to tomorrow afternoon, Dave?

Dave: I think I'll attend the one about market forces that are **at play** in the tech industry.

Kylie: Oh, sounds very interesting. This has been a great conference.

Faith: I saw a headline that Facebook lost users for the first time in history. I wonder why that is.

Russ: I think there are a lot of reasons, but one of the biggest issues **at play** is data privacy. A lot of people are becoming more and more suspicious about the way these big social networking companies are using our data.

Faith: I can understand that. I'm always seeing news about leaked passwords and personal information. Plus, targeted advertisements can be so creepy and annoying.

Quiz

1. **If your coworker tells you she doesn't feel like talking shop, she means _____.**
 - a) she doesn't want to talk about buying things
 - b) she doesn't want to talk about work
 - c) she doesn't want to talk about anything at all
 - d) she doesn't want to talk while she's at the store buying groceries

2. **"Sorry, but alcohol isn't my thing" is a polite way of saying _____.**
 - a) I don't have any alcohol
 - b) I've never tried alcohol
 - c) I have no knowledge about alcohol
 - d) I don't like to drink alcohol

3. **If your mom tells you to try to find some common ground with your grandfather, she is asking you to _____.**
 - a) try to find a common interest or opinion with him
 - b) try to debate with him about something
 - c) try to make small talk
 - d) try to stand near him

4. **What's another way of saying "Beth is a next level artist"?**
 - a) Beth is a very talented artist
 - b) Beth is a very untalented artist
 - c) Beth is a video game artist
 - d) Beth has been an artist for a long time

5. **If there are a lot of issues at play in an election, it means _____.**
 - a) the election is rigged
 - b) there are a lot of candidates on the ballot
 - c) there are several political concerns that voters expect the candidates to address and that could influence the election results
 - d) there are lots of newspaper publications about the election

Writing and Discussion Questions

1. When is the last time you socialized with a coworker outside of work? What kinds of activities did you do together?
2. Do you find it comfortable or uncomfortable to socialize with your coworkers? Why or why not?
3. Do you have any common ground with the people you work with? How about with your boss?
4. Do you like to talk shop whenever you get the opportunity, or do you usually prefer to not talk shop outside of working hours?
5. Tell about the last time you tried something that wasn't your thing. What did you do? Who did you do it with? What happened?

Quiz Answers

1.b 2.d 3.a 4.a 5.c

Episode credits

Hosts: Andrew Bates and Kassy White

Music: Pixabay.com

Episode preparation/research: Andrew Bates

Audio editor: Andrew Bates

Transcriptionist: Heather Bates

Study guide writer: Indiana Brown

English editor: Stephanie MacLean

Operations: Tsuyoshi Kaneshima

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