

**Access English Centre
Immigrant Centre Manitoba
Canadian Culture # 2 – In the Workplace
Intermediate Level**

90 minutes

Objective/Goal:

: This is a fun interactive activity for the participants to get to know more about Canadian workplace culture and help familiarize themselves with Canadian workplace culture.

Materials:

Participants need: a sheet of new words and pictures, scenario cards, and two sets of play cards.

Facilitator needs:

- magnetic whiteboard
- whiteboard markers

Procedure: *Warm-up* 15 min
Work-out 60 min
Cool-down 15 min

1. Warm-up Activity - Whole group activity

Write the questions on the whiteboard and ask the group to repeat with you a few times before you ask the participants to answer the questions.

- A. What do you do if you are late for work?
- B. What do you do if you don't understand?
- C. What do you do if you don't agree with your co-worker?
- D. What do you do if you are mistreated by your co-workers?

Write the answers on the white board. Ask the students to repeat with you.

- 1. I phone my supervisor if I will be late.
- 2. I ask for clarification if I don't understand.
- 3. I share my suggestions with my supervisor.
- 4. I report to my supervisor / Human Resources manager first.

Pair work: Pair the participants and ask them to work with their partner to practice the questions and answers on the whiteboard. For example, Participant A asks Participant B " What do you do if you are late for work? Participant B will answer " I phone my supervisor if I will be late."

2. Work-out Activity : Tell the whole group that they will be working on a

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worksheet to make some sentences by using the words or phrases.

First, lead the whole group to read out loud the following new words several times, and make sure the participants know how to say the words.

Second, ask the participants to highlight the words or the pictures you read to reinforce their learning.

Lastly, encourage them to use the words in their own sentences such as "I have a very good supervisor. My co-worker always helps me."

Tell the group that they are going to play a play card game to share their understanding of the differences between their culture and Canadian culture at work.

Group activity 1: Group participants into 3s or 4s to play the card game. They will take turns picking one card from the deck. If the card is:

- a spade, they will talk about the best job that they had in the past.
- a heart, they will talk about the best boss they had in the past
- a diamond, they will talk about the best co-worker that they had in the past.
- a club, they will talk about their ideal boss they'd like to have in Canada

Group activity 2: Ask the group to take turns to name two things at work that they found are different from their home country.

For example, "In my country, it is OK to be 15 minutes late." "In Canada, people work together as a team." "In Canada, I can report to the manager if I was not treated with respect." "In Canada, people have two coffee breaks."

Group Activity 3: Workplace Culture - group participants into 3s or 4s to work on the scenario picture cards. Ask them to describe the cards and answer the questions.

Cool-down Activity: Gather the whole group together and randomly pick a few participants to share their findings based on the 8 scenario cards that they worked on with their partners.

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Worksheet 1: New words:

Supervisor



Co-worker



don't understand



late for work



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<p>Mistreated</p>	
<p>Ask for clarification</p>	<p>Asking for Clarification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• So, are you saying that...?• Do you mean...?• I'm sorry, I'm not sure if I understand what you mean.• What does that mean exactly?• Sorry, but I lost you when you said...• Could you repeat that, please?
<p>Share suggestions</p>	
<p>Report to the manager</p>	

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Describe the Pictures and Answer the Questions

<p>What do you do if you don't understand at work?</p> <p><i>(What do you do in your country?)</i></p>	
<p>What do you do if you work with a team?</p> <p><i>(What do you do in your country?)</i></p>	
<p>What do you do if you are treated unfairly?</p> <p><i>(What do you do in your country?)</i></p>	
<p>What do you do if you don't understand your task?</p> <p><i>(What do you do in your country?)</i></p>	

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What do you do if your co-workers blamed you for being too slow?

(What do you do in your country?)



What do you do if you are bullied at work?

(What do you do in your country?)



What do you do if your co-worker doesn't agree with you?

(What do you do in your country?)



What do you do if you are late for work?

(What do you do in your country?)

