

Lesson 80

He's vying for a promotion.

Target: Having a conversation about promotions.

Vocabulary

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Promotions



Related vocabulary

- | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| - to promote... / to get a promotion | - to be indispensable | - to stay put |
| - (promotion) go to... | - to be modest | - to be vying for a position |
| - to get passed over for a promotion | - to be ambitious | - a go-to person |
| - to move into management | - to burn the midnight oil | - to work hard |
| - to have friends in high places | - to put in long hours | - to work smart |
| - to set one's sights on... | - to sit on the sidelines | - hard skills |
| - to climb the corporate ladder | - to keep track of... | - soft skills |

Conversation

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1 Use the questions below to have a conversation with your partner about the topic

Partner #1: Questions

1. Have you ever been promoted? When was the last time you got a promotion?
2. Who do you think is indispensable to your company? Why?
3. What are some different ways people can suck up to their bosses?
4. Are you vying for a position at the moment?
5. Would you like to move into management?
6. Do you usually burn the midnight oil?
7. Why do you think some employees always just sit on the sidelines and never move up?
8. How do you climb the corporate ladder?
9. Does everyone usually put in long hours at your company?
10. Do you have friends in high places? How did you make friends in high places?

Partner #2: Questions

1. Have you, or has anyone you know ever been passed over for a promotion?
2. What do you think of people who brownnose?
3. What normally comes with a promotion? e.g. title / raise etc.
4. What position have you set your sights on at the moment?
5. Do you keep track of your achievements and accomplishments at work?
6. Who is the go-to person in your department?
7. What are the nouns for modest / ambitious?
8. How long do people in Japan usually stay put in the same positions?
9. What are soft skills? How good are your soft skills?
10. Do you think it's better to work smart or to work hard?

2 Complete one or more of the situations below

- 1. Role play:** Partner #1: (Hard worker) You really feel you deserve a promotion Explain why.
Partner #2: (Manager) You have agreed to meet & talk about a possible promotion.
- 2. Interview:** Interview a business executive about how they climbed the corporate ladder.
- 3. Speech:** Describe how people in Japan usually climb the corporate ladder compared to in America.
- 4. Debate:** You think the company should have mandatory promotions, but your partner disagrees.