

Lesson 19: Sleeping at Work

Hi! How are you today?

Today's lesson is about "*Sleeping at Work.*"

Have fun learning English!

Warm-up | Useful Expressions

Directions: Listen and repeat.

- **the last thing that you want** - something that you certainly do not want
- **nap** - to sleep for a short period
- **go viral** - become very popular and spread quickly, especially through the Internet
- **decline** - to refuse
- **offense** - an action that breaks a law or rule
- **suspension** - a temporary removal from the job
- **forthright** - frank, direct to the point, honest
- **remorseful** - feeling sad and guilty; regretful
- **tolerate** - to allow something to happen or exist, even if you don't like it
- **neglect of duty** - failure to perform a duty properly

Activity 1 | Dialogue

Directions: Read the dialogue aloud with your teacher.

Bob looks sleepy. Alvin is asking why.

Alvin : Hey, Bob! Wake up!

Bob : I'm so tired. I had trouble sleeping last night.

Alvin : Did you stay late watching TV?

Bob : No. I'm having this allergy during spring, and it keeps me from sleeping.

Alvin : Oh, I see. You really look exhausted. Just be careful not to fall asleep during working hours.

Bob : That's **the last thing that I want**. I know sleeping at work is never allowed in our company.

Alvin : Here, have a cup of coffee. It might help you stay awake.

Bob : Thanks Alvin!

Activity 2 | Article

Directions: Read the news article aloud with your teacher.

ZANESVILLE — A Zanesville Police Department officer will be punished but not fired after a picture of him **napping** on the job **went viral**.

The picture, which shows Patrolman Kyle Brooks in uniform and asleep [...], was picked up by news organizations in the area and Columbus.

Brooks **declined** to comment, but ZPD Chief Eric Lambes said he learned about the picture Thursday and has spoken with Brooks briefly, only to tell him he won't be fired for the **offense** but will be punished.

That punishment, which could range from a written reprimand to counseling or an unpaid **suspension**, will be determined next week after an investigation, Lambes said.

Brooks was "very **forthright, remorseful**," about the incident, Lambes said. He's a good officer who made a mistake, he said.

[...]

Brooks just made the switch from afternoon to midnight shift this week, Lambes said, and likely is having some difficulty **adjusting** to the new hours.

[...]

Still, though, sleeping on the job is not **tolerated**, Lambes said. In the ZPD handbook, it would fall under **neglect of duty**, he said.

Officers are to be "attentive and shall remain awake while on duty," the handbook states.

[...]

Lambes has dealt with sleeping officers before, but "it's rare," he said.

-Zaneville Times Recorder

Check your understanding: Answer the following questions.

1. Who was caught sleeping on the job?
2. What could be the possible punishment for this man in uniform?
3. According to Lambes, why was Brooks having difficulty adjusting?
4. What does the ZPD handbook say about sleeping on the job?

Activity 3 | Free Conversation

Directions: Take turns with your teacher in answering the questions

1. Do you ever feel tired or sleepy while working? What do you do when that happens?
2. Do you think that companies should provide short nap times for their employees? Why or why not?
3. What are you like when you don't get enough sleep?
4. What can you say about people who are fond of sleeping at work? If caught, should they be disciplined or fired?