

## Wacky Employee Perks 五花八门的雇员额外福利

英语学习点: *Phrases About Work-Life Balance* 有关工作与生活平衡的词语

Lunchtime Botox anyone?

Would \$25,000 (164,000 yuan) for IVF treatment be helpful?

How about an on-site nursery place... for your pet?

Fortune Magazine has revealed that top companies offer some pretty fancy perks to attract employees.



*Can perks really motivate and retain employees?*

Staff sweeteners include a Latin-style dance exercise called Zumba to improve employee well-being and motivation.

Really stressed-out employees may develop frown lines. But at one company staff whose faces are showing the strain can have Botox treatment during their lunch break at the company's own clinic.

Another company offers the corporate jet to bereaved employees, while one employer gives staff who are finding it difficult to get pregnant \$25,000 towards IVF treatment.

But for the business commentator Lucy Kellaway, some companies go too far in trying to help employees achieve a good work-life balance.

"Such benefits, even the nice ones, are all pretty creepy" she says. "There ought to exist a boundary between employer and employee - between home and work. And Botox and IVF are a long way on the wrong side of it."

For Ms Kellaway, the real proof of a top employer is not its touchy-feely benefits but whether staff choose to stay put for a long time.

词汇表请参看答案与词汇部分

## Quiz 测验

阅读短文并回答问题。

1. Why do top companies offer such wacky benefits?
2. True or false: Zumba is a type of drink.
3. When can employees have Botox treatment in their company clinic?
4. Look at the article. Find an adjective that is used to describe people who have recently experienced the death of someone close.
5. In the last paragraph, some staff benefits are described as 'touchy-feely'. Does Ms Kellaway think they are a sign of a top employer?

## Exercise 练习

请你从下表中选择合适的词语填入每句话的空白处，从而组成完整的句子。以下所有的句子都提供了这些词语的典型用法。

wacky, IVF treatment, sweetener, showing the strain, touchy-feely

1. That's the last time I invite him to dinner; he's got some \_\_\_\_\_ ideas!
2. After seven years of trying for a baby, they've decided to try \_\_\_\_\_.
3. If you throw in a \_\_\_\_\_, he might sign the contract.
4. She's really \_\_\_\_\_ these days. Have you seen all her wrinkles?
5. He's a really nice man, but sometimes he's a bit too \_\_\_\_\_.

## Answers and Glossary 答案与词汇

### Quiz 小测验

1. Why do top companies offer such wacky benefits? They want to attract employees.
2. True or false: Zumba is a type of drink. False. Zumba is a type of Latin dance exercise.
3. When can employees have Botox treatment in their company clinic? During their lunch break.
4. Look at the article. Find an adjective that is used to describe people who have recently experienced the death of someone close. Bereaved.
5. In the last paragraph, some staff benefits are described as 'touchy-feely'. Does Ms Kellaway think they are a sign of a top employer? No, she thinks the sign of a good employer is when staff choose to stay with the company for a long time.

### Exercise 练习

1. That's the last time I invite him to dinner; he's got some wacky ideas.
2. After seven years of trying for a baby, they've decided to try IVF treatment.
3. If you throw in a sweetener, he might sign the contract.
4. She's really showing the strain these days.
5. He's a really nice man, but sometimes he's a bit too touchy-feely.

### Glossary 词汇表

IVF treatment 人工授精治疗	an on-site nursery 办公区的幼儿园
fancy perks 花里胡哨的额外福利	sweeteners 好处, 甜头
well-being 康乐/幸福	motivation 动力
to be stressed-out 精疲力尽的	showing the strain 呈现出压力
bereaved 刚刚丧失亲人的	work-life balance 工作与生活的平衡
creepy 离奇的	a boundary 边界/限度
touchy-feely 过于感情外露夸张的	to stay put 留守不动