

## NEWS BREAK

Article: **Get set for a ‘tsunami’ of people changing jobs once pandemic ebbs**

Section: **JOBS, C12**

Sunday's News Break selects an article from **Sunday, May 2, 2021** of The Seattle Times print replica for an in-depth reading of the news. Read the selected article and answer the attached study questions.

You are encouraged to modify this lesson to fit the needs of your students. For example, some teachers might use this as a take-home assignment and others might read and answer the questions in a small group or larger, class discussion.

***\*Please be sure to preview all NIE content before using it in your classroom to ensure it is appropriate for your students.***

### Standards:

#### **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.1**

- Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

#### **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.2**

- Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarize the text.

### Objectives:

***Students will talk about how COVID has impacted how their parents or other family members work and whether they have thought about changing their career and why. Have they enjoyed working from home (if that was an option) or do they miss their in-person work community? Students will talk about why being connected on a team and friendships at work are important...and how that improves employee morale. They'll also discuss about why they think so many workers are looking for new employment opportunities and why a hybrid-type of work environment is important for so many. They'll also debate the pros/cons of a remote working lifestyle.***

### Pre-Reading Discussion:

#### **Get set for a ‘tsunami’ of people changing jobs once pandemic ebbs**

- What do you think the article will be about, using only the title of the article only?
- Are there any clues?
- What can you infer?

### Vocabulary Building:

Read this sentence, what do you think the highlighted words mean using *context clues*? A **context clue** is a word or words that are hints and refers to the sources of information outside of words that readers may use to predict the identities and meanings of unknown words.

There’s a **seismic** shift in the work force brewing, one that experts say is altering the way employees view their workplace and how companies do business.

#### **Seismic Guess:**

#### **Seismic Definition:**

### Comprehension Questions:

1. There’s a seismic shift in the work force brewing, one that experts say is altering the way employees view what?
2. That’s according to Prudential Financial’s most recent Pulse of the American Worker Survey, which shows that 1 in 4 workers, \_\_\_\_\_%, plan to look for a job at a different company once the pandemic has subsided.
3. The survey, which polled 2,000 adults working fulltime, also shows that 80% of those who are planning to leave their job are concerned about \_\_\_\_\_, and 75% say the pandemic has made them rethink what?
4. A year into the pandemic, 68% of American workers believe what is the ideal workplace model?
5. Of workers who have been working remotely during the pandemic, \_\_\_\_\_% want to continue working remotely at least one day a week once the pandemic subsides.
6. The job-hopping trend can be categorized by three distinct areas. What are they?
7. “Human beings are social beings,” Cathey said. “By and large, we need community, and by being forced to be at home, they feel disconnected from their work. On one hand they’re looking for remote work, but on the other

- hand ... this trial that we were forced to go through last year caused them to realize that they need what?
8. \_\_\_\_\_ are the largest generation in the workforce, and 1 in 3 say they are planning to look for a new job with a different employer once the pandemic is no longer an issue, according to Prudential's survey, compared to 25% of Generation X-ers and just 10% of baby boomers.

**Discussion Questions (small/large groups), Journal Prompts or Essay Questions:**

- ***What surprised (or stood out to) you in the article?***
- ***At first I thought \_\_\_\_\_, but now I think \_\_\_\_\_?***
- ***What things did you already know from prior experience?***
- ***How has COVID impacted how your parents or other family members work?***
- ***Do you think COVID has changed their minds about work and what they want to do? Have they thought about changing their job?***
- ***Have they enjoyed working from home (if that was an option) or do they miss their in-person work community?***
- ***When you think about what you'd like to do in the future, would you want to work in an office /at work the entire week or more of a hybrid situation?***

"There has been a significant culture decay across many organizations because we're just not connected as we were before the pandemic." Some miss the office. While some employees may chafe at being brought back into the office too early, there are others who actually yearn to get back there.

- ***Why is being connected on a work team important?***
- ***Are work friendships important? Why or why not?***
- ***Does it help employee morale? How? In what ways?***

Unity Search Group's recent survey about what people want to see moving forward showed the over whelming majority wanted to see some type of hybrid of being in the office some days and at home on others, Cathey said. "I think what workers have found out is that life is short and they really want to be satisfied with the work that they're doing and the company that they are working for," he said. "A lot of people have realized they have a particular unique skillset that doesn't necessarily align with what their education or their career path is leading to at this point in time, and so they're more willing to take the risk and move on and do something else."

- ***Why do you think so many workers might be looking for new employment opportunities?***
- ***Why do you think workers want a hybrid-type of work environment?***
- ***What are pros/cons of a remote working lifestyle?***

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