

Talking about rumours

Listen to two people talking about a colleague to practise and improve your listening skills.

Before listening

Do the preparation task first. Then listen to the audio and do the exercises.

Preparation task

Match the definitions (a–f) with the vocabulary (1–6).

Vocabulary

1. to keep your mouth shut
2. to be in someone's good books
3. to come to light
4. to take credit for
5. to be out
6. high up

Definition

- a. to be in a position where someone is pleased with you and nice to you
- b. in a powerful position
- c. to say nothing
- d. to be excluded
- e. to be made public
- f. to allow people to believe that you did something that deserves praise or special attention

Tasks

Task 1

Are the sentences true or false?

	Answer	
1. No one really knows the truth about the situation with John.	True	False
2. Kiera doesn't immediately share everything she knows about John.	True	False
3. Susanne wasn't the original creator of the cars idea.	True	False
4. Susanne reported John to people higher up in the company.	True	False
5. Kiera disagrees with what Will has said about John's aggressive behaviour.	True	False
6. Kiera saw John stealing ideas from other people.	True	False
7. Kiera made an official complaint about John's behaviour.	True	False
8. There was a culture of silence that meant John was not investigated earlier.	True	False

Task 2

Complete the sentences with words from the box.

credit	fire	award	investigation
contact	high	mouths	books

1. Will has heard that they might John.
2. John used to take for other people's ideas.
3. One project won an, but only John got the recognition.
4. Kiera says it's almost impossible to report people as up as John was.
5. He shouted and screamed at people and they learned to keep their shut.
6. You could be in his good and then suddenly you were out.
7. Kiera was lucky that she didn't have much with him.
8. They're doing a full

Discussion

What makes a good or bad boss?