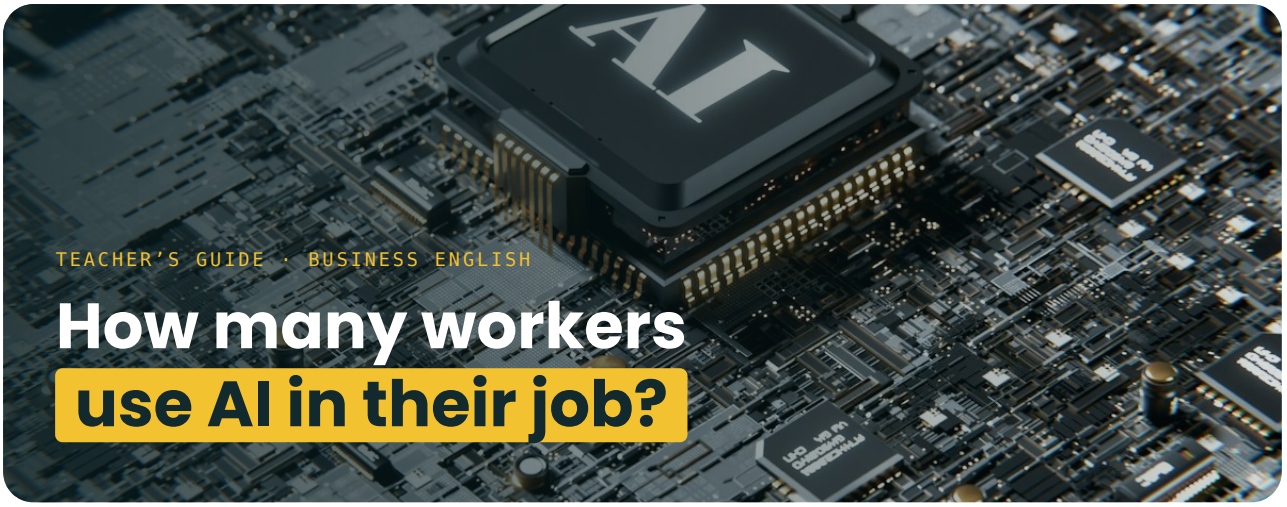

TEACHER'S GUIDE · BUSINESS ENGLISH

How many workers use AI in their job?

LEVEL
B1 · Intermediate

TIME
60 min

SKILLS
Reading · Speaking · Grammar · Vocabulary

Learning objectives

In this lesson, you can:

- understand a short research report about AI at work
- describe changes with the present perfect (*has increased from… to…*)
- use trend vocabulary (*rise, fall, stay the same*)
- discuss how AI is changing your job

Key vocabulary

survey · share · workplace · tool · increase · decrease · degree · trend · up from · unchanged

Materials

- this worksheet
- article: *About 1 in 5 U.S. workers now use AI in their job, up since last year* (Pew Research Center)

1 Warm up

SPEAKING

Look at the pictures. What can you see? How are they connected to the topic? Then answer the questions with your teacher.



PICTURE A · working with a laptop



PICTURE B · data on a screen

1. Which digital tools do you use every day at work?
2. Have you tried an AI tool? What for?
3. Do you think AI will help or replace people in your job?

2 Vocabulary preparation

VOCABULARY

Part A: Match the words with the definitions.

share (n) | degree (n) | workplace (n) | tool (n) | unchanged (adj) | survey (n)

1. _____ a study where many people answer the same questions
2. _____ a part of a group, often a percentage
3. _____ the place where people work
4. _____ something (a program or an object) that helps you do a job
5. _____ the same as before
6. _____ a university qualification, for example a bachelor's

Part B: Trends. Write *rose*, *fell* or *stayed the same*.

Example: 10% → 15% = *rose*

1. 16% → 21% = _____
2. 17% → 12% = _____
3. 2% → 2% = _____
4. 31% → 36% = _____
5. 45% → 46% = _____ (almost)

3 Main input: read and learn

READING · GRAMMAR

Pew Research Center is an independent research organisation in the USA. Read its short article about AI use at work (the whole text is short).

ARTICLE

About 1 in 5 U.S. workers now use AI in their job, up since last year
Pew Research Center · Luona Lin · 6 October 2025 · about 330 words (2 minutes) · free
https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2025/10/06/about-1-in-5-us-workers-now-use-ai-in-their-job-up-since-last-year/

Read the first three paragraphs. Answer: What percentage of US workers say at least some of their work is done with AI? What was the figure about a year before?

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Language focus: describing change: present perfect and past simple

Look at how the article describes changes over time.

Use	Example
Change up to now: present perfect	The share of workers who use AI has increased from 16% to 21%.
No change: present perfect negative	The share who do most of their work with AI hasn't changed.
Finished time: past simple	In 2024, 31% of non-users said some of their work could be done with AI.
Short forms in reports	21%, up from 16% · 12%, down from 17%

Practice: Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs.

1. The share of US workers who use AI _____ (increase) from 16% to 21%.
2. The share who haven't heard about AI at work _____ (fall) from 17% to 12%.
3. The share who do all or most of their work with AI _____ (not change).
4. Last year, 31% of non-users _____ (say) some of their work could be done with AI.
5. _____ your company _____ (start) using AI tools yet?

4 Reading comprehension

READING

Part A: Read again. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)? Circle.

1. About 1 in 5 US workers use AI in their job. T / F
2. Most American workers use AI a lot. T / F
3. The share who do all or most of their work with AI increased. T / F
4. Workers with a bachelor's degree or more are among the most likely to use AI. T / F
5. Fewer workers say they haven't heard about AI at work than a year ago. T / F
6. The survey took place in September. T / F

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Part B: Complete the table with the percentages.

Group	A year earlier	2025
workers who do at least some work with AI		
workers with a bachelor's degree or more		
workers with some college or less education		
non-users who say some of their work can be done with AI		

Part C: Think and answer.

1. Which group drove most of the increase in AI use?

2. Why do you think younger and more educated workers use AI more?

3. Do you think the results would be similar in your company or country? Why?

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5 Speaking practice and discussion

SPEAKING

Part A: Choose TWO cue cards. Talk about each card with your teacher for 1–2 minutes.

Cue card 1: AI at my job

- Tasks I use it for
- Tasks I don't
- Results

Cue card 2: My digital tools

- Email and chat
- Data and reports
- The most useful one

Cue card 3: Learning new technology

- How I learn
- Training at work
- Difficulties

Cue card 4: Jobs and the future

- Jobs that will change
- New jobs
- Skills we need

Cue card 5: Data and surveys

- Surveys at my company
- Do I trust them?
- Why?

Part B: Answer the questions with your teacher. Give reasons and examples.

1. Do you use AI tools at work? For which tasks? If not, why not?
2. How has your job changed in the last five years?
3. Which tasks in your job could AI do well? Which couldn't it do?
4. Why do you think 65% of US workers still don't use AI much?
5. Should companies train all employees to use AI? Why? / Why not?

6 Lesson takeaway and wrap-up

REVIEW

Complete the sentences. Then tell your teacher.

1. Three useful phrases to describe trends: _____
2. One fact from the article: _____
3. In my job, AI use has _____
4. One task I want to try with AI: _____

Takeaway: AI use at work is growing, but in the USA most workers still don't use it much. The fastest growth is among workers with more education — training can close the gap.

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+ Optional extension / homework

WRITING

Write a short report (80–100 words) about technology use in your team. Describe one change with the present perfect and one past event with the past simple.

Alternative activity:

Prepare a one-minute presentation: “How AI could help my team” — one task, the tool and the expected result. Present it to your teacher in the next class.

References

Lin, L. (2025, October 6). *About 1 in 5 U.S. workers now use AI in their job, up since last year*. Pew Research Center. https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2025/10/06/about-1-in-5-us-workers-now-use-ai-in-their-job-up-since-last-year/

Original materials: vocabulary, language examples and exercises were written for NATeacher for B1 learners.

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Teacher's guide

Learning objectives. By the end of the lesson, the student can: understand the main findings of a short research report; describe change with the present perfect and finished time with the past simple; use trend vocabulary; discuss AI at work with reasons.
Total time: approx. 60 minutes — Warm up 6 · Vocabulary 7 · Main input 10 · Comprehension 14 · Speaking 18 · Wrap-up 5. The extension is optional homework.

▶. Main input: about the resource

Resource: *About 1 in 5 U.S. workers now use AI in their job, up since last year*, Pew Research Center (Luona Lin, 6 October 2025). Free; no login. https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2025/10/06/about-1-in-5-us-workers-now-use-ai-in-their-job-up-since-last-year/

What to read: the whole article (about 330 words, 2 minutes).

Copyright: the text is not reproduced in this guide; open it on screen from the official page.

Key information: 21% of US workers say at least some of their work is done with AI (survey in September 2025), up from 16% roughly a year earlier. 65% say they don't use AI much or at all. All or most work with AI: 2%, unchanged; some work: 14% → 19%. Workers who haven't heard or read about AI at work: 17% → 12%. Workers under 50 and those with a bachelor's degree or more are among the most likely users; the increase is mostly driven by the second group (20% → 28%, vs 13% → 16% for some college or less). Among non-users, 36% say at least some of their work can be done with AI (up from 31%); 46% say not much or none (45% last year).

1. Warm up

6 mins.

Show the pictures. Ask the questions; encourage concrete examples ("I use it to write emails").

Possible answers: "The pictures show a person working on a laptop and data on a screen — the article is about AI and data."
Support: give a list of tools (email, Excel, chat, AI assistant). **Challenge:** ask "What are the risks of AI at work?"

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2. Vocabulary preparation

7 mins.

The student completes Part A and Part B alone. Check together, say the words aloud and ask the student to repeat the difficult ones.

Part A

1. survey
2. share
3. workplace
4. tool
5. unchanged
6. degree

Part B

1. rose 2. fell 3. stayed the same 4. rose 5. stayed the same / rose slightly

British and American English: the article is American: *college* in the US often means university; British English says *university*. US *bachelor's degree* = UK *undergraduate degree*. Percentages: say "twenty-one per cent" (British) or "percent" (American).

3. Main input and language focus

10 mins.

Open the page on screen. The student reads the first three paragraphs for the gist questions, then the rest. **Answers:** 21%; 16% roughly a year earlier.

Present the language focus in 1–2 minutes: elicit the rule from the examples, then move to the practice.

Practice

1. has increased
2. has fallen
3. hasn't changed
4. said
5. Has ... started

Common mistakes: "Last year it has increased" → "Last year it **increased**" (finished time = past simple); "increased of 5%" → "increased **by** 5 percentage points / **from** 16% **to** 21%"; "the 21% of workers" → "21% of workers".

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4. Reading comprehension

14 mins.

The student reads again and works alone. Check together and ask the student to point to the evidence.

Part A

1. T (21%) 2. F (65% don't use AI much or at all) 3. F (unchanged at 2%) 4. T 5. T (17% → 12%) 6. T

Part B

all workers: 16% → 21% · bachelor's or more: 20% → 28% · some college or less: 13% → 16% · non-users: 31% → 36%

Part C

1. Workers with at least a bachelor's degree. 2. Open answer, e.g. "Their jobs have more computer tasks, and they learn new technology faster." 3. Open answer with reasons.

Accept: numbers with or without the % sign; answers in the student's own words. **Support:** underline all the percentages in the text first. **Challenge:** the student presents the findings as a 30-second news report.

5. Speaking practice and discussion

18 mins (cue cards 6 · questions 12).

The student chooses two cards and speaks for 1–2 minutes on each. Then ask the five questions one by one. Let the student finish, then ask follow-up questions: "Why?", "Can you give an example from your job?", "What could change?"

Model answer (Q3): "AI could write the first draft of my monthly reports, but it couldn't talk to my clients, because they need someone they trust."
Evaluate: present perfect vs past simple; trend vocabulary; concrete examples; balanced opinions with reasons.
Correction: note mistakes while the student speaks and correct 2–3 of them at the end, so you don't interrupt fluency.

6. Lesson takeaway and wrap-up

5 mins.

The student completes the sentences and says them aloud. Ask: "How will you measure if AI helps you?"

Possible answers: "has increased from... to..., up from, unchanged"; "21% of US workers use AI in their job, up from 16%."; "In my job, AI use has grown a lot this year."

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+. Optional extension / homework

Check: 80–100 words; present perfect for change up to now; past simple with finished time; trend vocabulary (*rise, fall, up from, unchanged*).

✓. Did the student reach the objectives?

- Can the student explain the main numbers in the article?
- Does the student choose present perfect or past simple correctly?
- Can the student describe a trend with *from… to…, up from, unchanged*?
- Can the student discuss AI in their job with examples?

✔. Resource verification log

Resource	Institution / URL	Type · length	Checks (21 Oct 2026)	Result
About 1 in 5 U.S. workers now use AI in their job, up since last year	Pew Research Center (independent research organisation) https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2025/10/06/about-1-in-5-us-workers-now-use-ai-in-their-job-up-since-last-year/	Short article · about 330 words (2 min)	Page loads; content matches the exercises; free, no login; suitable for B1; research organisation, not a language school	**Approved**

Photos: credits listed in the references (Unsplash). No image links are included in the worksheet.

References

Lin, L. (2025, October 6). *About 1 in 5 U.S. workers now use AI in their job, up since last year*. Pew Research Center. https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2025/10/06/about-1-in-5-us-workers-now-use-ai-in-their-job-up-since-last-year/

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