

Voices Of Work Answer Key

For the four-day workweek:

- Workers would have more rest, which can improve focus and happiness.
- Shorter weeks can reduce burnout and promote work-life balance.
- Studies in some companies show productivity stays the same or even increases.

Reflection Example: Labor Day celebrates workers' rights, and this debate continues that spirit by asking how jobs can support both health and fairness.

Against the four-day workweek:

- Some jobs, like healthcare or retail, can't easily reduce days without hurting customers or patients.
- It might cost small businesses more money to adjust schedules.
- Longer daily hours could cancel out the benefits of having an extra day off.

Teacher's Guide

- **Purpose:** Develops persuasive writing, argument organization, and critical thinking through the lens of Labor Day's focus on fairness and progress in the workplace.
- **Differentiation Tips:**
 - *Grades 8-9:* Provide sentence starters (e.g., "I believe..." or "One reason is...") to scaffold argument building.
 - *Grades 10-12:* Challenge students to research statistics or quotes from real labor studies.
 - *Struggling learners:* Offer a simplified debate topic, like "Should students have shorter school weeks?" to build confidence.
- **Extension Ideas:**
 - Have students explore other modern labor debates (e.g., remote work, fair pay for gig workers).
 - Encourage reflective essays on how modern workers can continue improving fairness in today's economy.