

ACTIVITY:

1. Read the text and find the French equivalent of the words in bold letter in the following list.

embaucher / employer – malgré – mince – nuire à/exclure – nécessiter – labeur/travail – faire son chemin – couverture/présence – souple – obstiné / tenace – l'état d'esprit – start-up financière valorisée à + d'1 milliard de \$ en bourse – promouvoir – difficile – le manque d'adhésion

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| a. dogged | obstiné / tenace |
| b. to crowd out | nuire à/exclure |
| c. zeitgeist /'zaitgaɪst/ | l'état d'esprit |
| d. toil | labeur/travail |
| e. fintech unicorn | start-up financière valorisée à + d'1 milliard de \$ en bourse |
| f. to tout | promouvoir |
| g. tough | difficile |
| h. nimble | souple |
| i. slim | mince |
| j. to trickle down to | Faire son chemin |
| k. coverage | Présence / couverture |
| l. require | nécessiter |
| m. hire | embaucher |
| n. despite | malgré |
| o. the lack of traction | Le manque d'adhésion |
| p. ingrained | enraciné |

2. Read the text from line 1 to line 47. Take notes (not full sentences) to answer the following questions.

WHO ? WHAT ? WHERE ? WHEN ?

3. What information is given on the following time periods?

1800s	100-hour week over 6 or 7 days a week was the norm for manufacturing
1920s	Henry Ford transitioned his employees from working a six-day week to a five-day week.
1940	Fair Labor Standards act: 40-hour week

1956	Vice-President Richard Nixon suggested working time could be reduced
2022	4-day work week experimented

4. Read from line 48 to the end and take notes (not full sentences) to answer the following questions.

- **What is it about? It is about the 4-day workweek vs the culture of busyness.**
- **Who is it about? It is about office workers vs frontline and service workers in the US but also about Henry Ford's revolutionary reduction of worktime.**
- **Who could be concerned by this? Office workers are the ones who are the more likely to benefit from this new organization. 20 percent / A fifth of them could get a shorter workweek.**
- **What are the obstacles mentioned? Any sector where coverage is essential (for instance, restaurants, retail, and hospitals) could find it hard to adapt to it because it entails hiring more workers while it is currently difficult for restaurant owners to find enough employees.**

