



**1** Work in pairs. Look at the photos and discuss the questions.

- 1 Where do you think these people work? What kinds of jobs do you think they have?
- 2 What is their daily routine like?
- 3 What are the positive and negative aspects of working in an office?
- 4 Do you/Would you like to work in an office? Why/Why not?

**2 a** You are going to watch a video about a businessman called Ricardo Semler and the way he runs his company. Before you watch, try to complete what Ricardo says with the words from the box.

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It went into things like, you know, how could we possibly tell people that we (1) \_\_\_\_\_ them completely and then search them when they leave? So we started going from the very (2) \_\_\_\_\_ issues of, for example, getting people to choose what (3) \_\_\_\_\_ they wanted to use, if at all, and what (4) \_\_\_\_\_. We went from there, and I think we started with all the very small things, as (5) \_\_\_\_\_. But then people started saying, 'Well, but if we can (6) \_\_\_\_\_ our own this and that, why can't we choose what (7) \_\_\_\_\_ we work?' And slowly we started going through a (8) \_\_\_\_\_ which said that ... we applied a tool, it's a mental tool, to everything, which was really what we called the three 'whys', which was to ask three 'whys' in a row about (9) \_\_\_\_\_. And almost nothing stands up after that. When you say, 'Why are we wearing (10) \_\_\_\_\_ and ties?' and people say, 'So we'll look more like each (11) \_\_\_\_\_' and so, 'Why do we want to look more like each other?' and these things suddenly start going (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

**b** Now watch the video and check your answers.

**3** Work in pairs and discuss the questions.

- 1 Do you agree with what Semler says about treating people as adults?
- 2 Do you think ideas like this would work in companies you know?
- 3 In general, do you think traditional ideas or innovative ideas are more important in business? Give some examples.
- 4 What is your idea of the 'ideal office' or working environment?