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Vocabulary: *personality* 词汇: 性格

Are you the kind of person whose desk is always **spick and span**? Or is it a bit of a mess? How you organise your working space can say a lot about you. In fact, environmental psychologist Lily Bernheimer developed five distinct “desk personality types” in a study commissioned by UK co-working firm Headspace Group. Which of them best reflects you?

First up: are you “the clutterer”? **Clutter** means mess – and Bernheimer says a clutterer’s desk is likely to be colourful, chaotic and covered in trinkets. These people are usually more **extroverted** and **welcoming**, and love being at the “crossroads” of the office. The **hitch** is that they’re often too busy to tidy up after themselves!

Or perhaps you’re “the **minimalist**”? A **polar opposite** to the clutterer, the minimalist has nothing unnecessary on his or her desk. These workers are often highly **conscientious** and **disciplined**, if a little cautious. But Bernheimer says this does not necessarily mean they’re **introverts** – they just love structure.

Type three is “the expander”. Personal space is very important to them, and it **creeps** ever outwards, even if this is not a consciously **aggressive** act. Bernheimer says: “They may try to claim more and more **territory** for themselves by moving their coffee cup and their sandwich out further and further.”

“The personaliser” is our fourth type, and it’s quite self-explanatory. These people customise their space with photos, mementos and personal objects. “A simple, stylish or unusual workspace tells people that you’re high in the **trait** called ‘**openness**’, which means you’re likely to be high in creativity, intellectuality and openness to new experience,” says Bernheimer.

And finally, there’s “the surveyor”. These people feel **insecure** in the middle of the office, and seek out the quieter corners. From an evolutionary perspective, looking for well-protected spots from which to **keep an eye out** for potential threats makes sense. Surveyors are often introverted, but also highly **productive** and creative, if given the space and support they need.

Whichever type you are, making personal statements through presentation is deep in our nature, says Sam Gosling, professor of psychology at the University of Texas: “One of the reasons physical spaces, including one’s office desks, can be so **revealing** is that they’re essentially the **crystallisation** of a lot of behaviour over time.”

词汇表

spick and span	整洁清爽的
clutter	杂乱不堪的物品、凌乱的环境
extroverted	性格外向的
welcoming	热情好客的
hitch	小问题
minimalist	简约主义者
polar opposite	完全相反的一面，对立面
conscientious	一丝不苟的，非常认真的
disciplined	守规矩的、有纪律性的
introvert	性格内向的
creep	悄然移动
aggressive	咄咄逼人的，气势汹汹的
territory	地盘
trait	个人品质，特征
openness	坦率
insecure	不自信的、没有安全感的
keep an eye out (for)	留意，留心
productive	有成效的
revealing	暴露真相的
crystallisation	缩影

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. Which desk personality type is most likely to found in the middle of the room?
2. Why does Prof Gosling believe desks can tell us a lot about personality?
3. Why do surveyors sit at the edge of an office?
4. Which word means 'inexpensive, small decorations'?
5. How do expanders increase their personal space?

2. 请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. Mark and Mary are _____. They can never agree about anything.

extroverted	introverted	expanders	polar opposites
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2. Looking at a person's wardrobe can be very _____. You can learn a lot about someone from their clothes.

revealing	insecure	welcoming	crystallising
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3. Susie is incredibly _____. She gets up at 6am every day for a swim, without fail.

introverted	hard working	disciplined	conscientious
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4. The meeting wasn't _____ at all. We achieved absolutely nothing in three hours.

welcoming	revealing	productive	aggressive
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5. My room is always _____. I clean it every single morning.

chaotic	spick and span	cluttered	a mess
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答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. Which desk personality type is most likely to found in the middle of the room?

Clutterers love being at the “crossroads” of an office. You’re more likely to find them in the middle of the room.

2. Why does Prof Gosling believe desks can tell us a lot about personality?

Prof Gosling believes desks allow us to see the results of how a person behaves in a working environment over a long period of time.

3. Why do surveyors sit at the edge of an office?

Surveyors are introverted and feel insecure when they are at the centre of an office.

4. Which word means ‘inexpensive, small decorations’?

Trinkets.

5. How do expanders increase their personal space?

Expanders move their personal belongings further and further outwards from their own desk space.

2. 请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. Mark and Mary are **polar opposites**. They can never agree about anything.

2. Looking at a person’s wardrobe can be very **revealing**. You can learn a lot about someone from their clothes.

3. Susie is incredibly **disciplined**. She gets up at 6am every day for a swim, without fail.

4. The meeting wasn’t **productive** at all. We achieved absolutely nothing in three hours.

5. My room is always **spick and span**. I clean it every single morning.