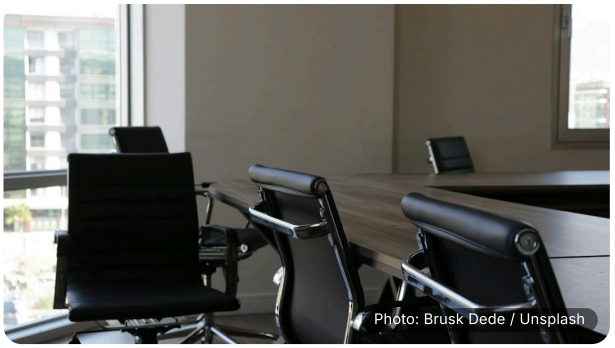
Netflix to cut 1,000 jobs worldwide

LEVEL B1


Photo: Brusk Dede / Unsplash

I. WARM-UP

1. Which streaming platforms do you use most? Why?
2. What makes you stay with or leave a service?
3. How do adverts affect your viewing choices?

II. KEY VOCABULARY

streaming
playing video or audio over the internet without downloading

workforce
all the employees who work for a company

competition
rival businesses that try to win the same customers

merger
two companies joining to become one business

revenue
money a company receives from its business

subscription
a regular payment to use a service

adverts
short videos or messages that try to sell something

subscribers
people who pay regularly to use a service

III. READING

Netflix will cut 1,000 jobs globally, about 6% of its workforce, as it faces rising competition in streaming. The steepest cuts since 2022 will mainly hit human resources, legal, product and technology teams.

Co-chief executives Ted Sarandos and Greg Peters said Netflix will keep investing in high-impact areas to improve the service, and managers will tell staff "soon" if roles are cut. The industry is consolidating after Paramount's $110bn merger with Warner Bros, which owns HBO.

Netflix had agreed a deal with Warner Bros but was outbid by Paramount. Free platforms such as YouTube and TikTok continue to attract viewers. Investors are watching user engagement as Netflix expands into gaming and allows adverts.

The company still depends on subscription revenue, and its most popular show now is Below, an underwater mystery starring Josh Hartnett. In 2022 it cut about 450 jobs after losing subscribers.

Reading text adapted from reporting by **BBC News***: "Netflix to shed 1,000 jobs in steepest cuts...". Original article linked at theenglishwire.com.*

IV. COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. How many jobs will Netflix cut?
2. What share of its workforce will be affected?
3. Which teams will be hit the most by the cuts?
4. Who are Netflix's co-chief executives?
5. What does Netflix still depend on for income?

V. DISCUSSION

1. Why are streaming companies facing more competition now?
2. Is showing adverts on streaming a good idea? Why or why not?
3. How do you choose which platforms to subscribe to?
4. What could help Netflix keep users watching longer?

VI. GRAMMAR FOCUS

May / might (probability)

Use may/might to show something is possible but not certain. Forms: may/might + base; may/might be + -ing; may/might have + past participle.

*"Investors **may watch** engagement closely."*
*"Free platforms **might attract** more viewers."*

VII. GRAMMAR EXERCISE

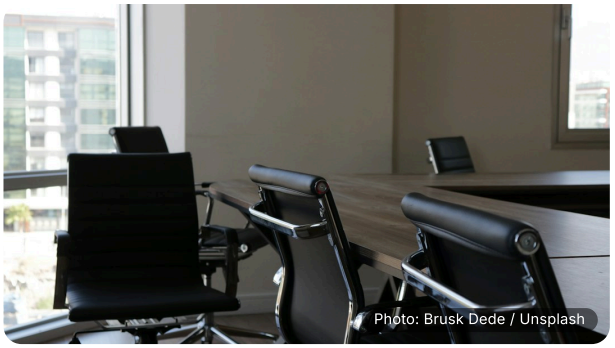
Complete each sentence with may or might + the verb.

1. Netflix (cut) ___ more roles if costs rise. _____
2. The industry (consolidate) ___ further this year. _____
3. Teams (be) ___ testing new games now. _____
4. Advertisers (shift) ___ budgets toward shows with ads. _____
5. Investors (have) ___ reacted to the news already. _____

Teacher's Notes

TEACHERS ONLY

These notes are designed to help you get the most out of this lesson. Please do not share this page with students.


Photo: Brusk Dede / Unsplash

I. LESSON GUIDE

- Timing: 8–10 minutes warm-up, 10 minutes vocabulary, 12–15 minutes reading and comprehension, 8–10 minutes grammar, 12–15 minutes discussion.
- Pre-teach or check key terms: workforce, merger, revenue, subscription, adverts, subscribers. Highlight numbers and names for scanning practice.
- Run the reading in two passes: first for gist (what happened), then for detail (who, how many, which teams). The topic involves job losses, so keep discussion general and allow students to speak about the news rather than personal experiences.
- Differentiation: stronger students summarise one paragraph in one sentence; others underline evidence for each answer before speaking.

II. DISCUSSION FACILITATION TIPS

1. Elicit examples of rivals first, then ask which factors matter most (price, content, ads).
2. Split the room into for/against pairs, then swap partners to hear a new reason.
3. Have students list three personal priorities, then compare lists in small groups.
4. Ask for two practical ideas per pair and a reason each would raise engagement.

III. EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

Debate: In teams, prepare and deliver a 90-second pitch for or against adverts on Netflix.

Writing: Write a 70–90 word company note to staff explaining why the 1,000 cuts are happening.

IV. ANSWER KEY OVERVIEW

Comprehension questions: short factual answers from the text.

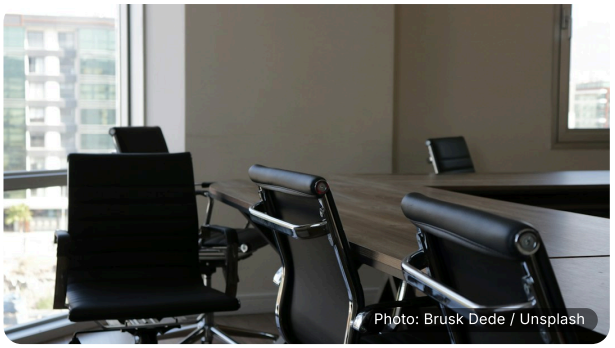
Grammar exercise: May / might (probability)

Discussion: open-ended. Accept any reasonable ideas supported by examples and reasoning.

Answer Key

TEACHERS ONLY

These answers are for teachers only. Please do not share this page with students.


Photo: Brusk Dede / Unsplash

IV. COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. How many jobs will Netflix cut?
   1,000 jobs.
2. What share of its workforce will be affected?
   About 6%.
3. Which teams will be hit the most by the cuts?
   Human resources, legal, product and technology.
4. Who are Netflix's co-chief executives?
   Ted Sarandos and Greg Peters.
5. What does Netflix still depend on for income?
   Its subscription revenue.

V. DISCUSSION

Open answers. Accept any reasonable ideas supported by examples and reasoning.

VI. GRAMMAR FOCUS

Key point: Use may/might to show something is possible but not certain. Forms: may/might + base; may/might be + -ing; may/might have + past participle. (Examples constructed.)

"Investors **may watch** *engagement closely."*

"Free platforms **might attract** *more viewers."*

VII. GRAMMAR EXERCISE

Complete each sentence with may or might + the verb.

1. Netflix ___ more roles if costs rise. **may/might cut**
2. The industry ___ further this year. **may/might consolidate**
3. Teams ___ testing new games now. **may/might be**
4. Advertisers ___ budgets toward shows with ads. **may/might shift**
5. Investors ___ reacted to the news already. **may/might have**