



National University of Computer & Emerging Sciences, Karachi  
Fall 2022, CS-Department  
Final Exam



28<sup>th</sup> December, 2022; 11:00 am to 12:00 pm

Course Code: SL1004	Course Name: English Composition & Comprehension Lab
Instructor Name: Nazia Imam, Sameera Sultan, Faiza Mumtaz, Javeria Ali Wadho, Syeda Atifa Batool, Madiha Rehman, Sabeen Amjad, Wasif Khan, Hubra Razi, Khadija Shereen, & Aisha Khan	
Student Roll No:	Section No:

**Instructions:**

- Return the question paper. Answer all the questions in the answer copy.
- Write only the answers in your answer copy after putting the correct question number.
- The paper has 3 questions and six printed sides.

Time: 1 hour

Max Marks: 50

**(Q1) CLO2: Total Marks-20**

**1) Read the passage and answer the questions that follow:**

**Cultural behaviour in business**

Much of today's business is conducted across international borders, and while the majority of the global business community might share the use of English as a common language, the nuances and expectations of business communication might differ greatly from culture to culture. A lack of understanding of the cultural norms and practices of our business acquaintances can result in unfair judgements, misunderstandings and breakdowns in communication. Here are three basic areas of differences in the business etiquette around the world that could help stand you in good stead when you next find yourself working with someone from a different culture.

*Addressing someone*

When discussing this topic in a training course, a German trainee and a British trainee got into a hot debate about whether it was appropriate for someone with a doctorate to use the corresponding title on their business card. The British trainee maintained that anyone who wasn't a medical doctor expecting to be addressed as 'Dr' was disgustingly pompous and full of themselves. The German trainee, however, argued that the hard work and years of education put into earning that PhD should give them full rights to expect to be addressed as 'Dr'.

This stark difference in opinion over something that could be conceived as minor and thus easily overlooked goes to show that we often attach meaning to even the most mundane practices. When things that we are used to are done differently, it could spark the strongest reactions in us. While many Continental Europeans and Latin Americans prefer to be addressed with a title, for example Mr. or Ms. and their surname when meeting someone in a business context for the first time, Americans, and increasingly the British, now tend to prefer using their first names. The best thing to do is to listen and observe how your conversation partner addresses you and, if you are still unsure, do not be afraid to ask them how they would like to be addressed.

*Smiling*

A famous Russian proverb states that 'a smile without reason is a sign of idiocy' and a so called 'smile of respect' is seen as insincere and often regarded with suspicion in Russia. Yet in countries like the United States, Australia and Britain, smiling is often interpreted as a sign of openness, friendship and respect, and is frequently used to break the ice. In a piece of research done on smiles across cultures, the researchers found that smiling individuals were considered more intelligent than non-smiling people in countries such as Germany, Switzerland, China and Malaysia. However, in countries like Russia, Japan, South Korea and

Iran, pictures of smiling faces were rated as less intelligent than the non-smiling ones. Meanwhile, in countries like India, Argentina and the Maldives, smiling was associated with dishonesty.

### *Eye contact*

An American or British person might be looking their client in the eye to show that they are paying full attention to what is being said, but if that client is from Japan or Korea, they might find the direct eye contact awkward or even disrespectful. In parts of South America and Africa, prolonged eye contact could also be seen as challenging authority. In the Middle East, eye contact across genders is considered inappropriate, although eye contact within a gender could signify honesty and truthfulness.

Having an increased awareness of the possible differences in expectations and behaviour can help us avoid cases of miscommunication, but it is vital that we also remember that cultural stereotypes can be detrimental to building good business relationships. Although national cultures could play a part in shaping the way we behave and think, we are also largely influenced by the region we come from, the communities we associate with, our age and gender, our corporate culture and our individual experiences of the world. The knowledge of the potential differences should therefore be something we keep at the back of our minds, rather than something that we use to pigeonhole the individuals of an entire nation.

### **A. Choose the best answer. Write just the option alphabet in your answer copy. [6]**

- 1) The British trainee felt that people who want to be addressed as 'Dr' must be ...
  - a. hard-working.
  - b. conceited and self-important.
  - c. doing a medical degree.
  - d. from Germany.
- 2) If you are not sure how to address someone, you should ...
  - a. use the title you see on their business card.
  - b. make your decision based on cultural stereotypes about their country.
  - c. address them the way you'd like to be addressed.
  - d. ask them what they would like you to call them.
- 3) There might be a misunderstanding if an American smiles at a Russian business associate because the Russian might think that the American is ...
  - a. being fake.
  - b. challenging their authority.
  - c. trying to break the ice.
  - d. disrespectful.
- 4) The Japanese, South Koreans and Iranians might interpret a smiling face as being ...
  - a. friendlier.
  - b. less open.
  - c. not as intelligent.
  - d. dishonest.
- 5) Americans and British people sometimes use eye contact to show that they ...
  - a. like the speaker.
  - b. are really listening to what is being said.
  - c. are honest and truthful.
  - d. are attending to every need of the speaker.
- 6) The last paragraph warns the reader not to ...

- a. engage in international business.
- b. let national cultures shape the way we behave and think.
- c. let miscommunication damage our business relationships.
- d. overgeneralise using our knowledge of cultural stereotypes.

**B. Are the sentences true or false? Write the answer (True or False) in your answer copy.**

**[4]**

- 1) To the German trainee, having a PhD is equivalent to being a medical doctor.
- 2) Sometimes, the smallest things can trigger a huge emotional response in us, especially when they are things we are not used to.
- 3) In the research done to the perceptions of smiles, people from different countries were asked to rate photos of smiling faces and non-smiling faces.
- 4) The writer recommends keeping possible cultural differences in the forefront of our minds when doing business with people with different cultures.

**II) You are going to read four different opinions from leading scientists about the future of fuel. For questions 1-10, choose from the writers A-D. The writers may be chosen more than once. [10]**

**A: Howard Bloom, Author:**

Even though most people are convinced that peak oil has already passed, to me, peak oil is just a hypothesis. There is a theory that carbon molecules can be found in interstellar gas clouds, comets and in space ice, and if this is the case, our planet could ooze oil forever. And even if we stay earthbound, those who say we have raped the planet of all its resources are wrong. There's a huge stock of raw materials we haven't yet learned to use. There are bacteria two miles beneath our feet which can turn solid granite into food. If bacteria can do it, surely we creatures with brains can do it better. As far as the near future of energy is concerned, I believe the most promising alternative fuels are biofuels, such as ethanol. It's an alcohol made from waste products such as the bark of trees, woodchips, and other 'waste materials'. And that's not the only waste that can create energy. My friend in the biomass industry is perfecting an energy-generation plant which can run on human waste. We produce that in vast quantities, and it's already gathered in centralized locations.

**B: Michael Lardelli, Lecturer in Genetics at The University of Adelaide**

Nothing exists on this planet without energy. It enables flowers and people to grow and we need it to mine minerals, extract oil or cut wood and then to process these into finished goods. So the most fundamental definition of money is as a mechanism to allow the exchange and allocation of different forms of energy. Recently, people have been using more energy than ever before. Until 2005 it was possible to expand our energy use to meet this demand. However, since 2005 oil supply has been in decline, and at the same time, and as a direct result of this, the world's economy has been unable to expand, leading to global recession. With the world's energy and the profitability of energy production in decline at the same time, the net energy available to support activities other than energy procurement will decrease. We could increase energy production by diverting a large proportion of our remaining oil energy into building nuclear power stations and investing in renewable forms of energy. However, this is very unlikely to happen in democratic nations, because it would require huge, voluntary reductions in living standards. Consequently, the world economy will continue to contract as oil production declines. With energy in decline, it will be impossible for everyone in the world to become wealthier. One person's increased wealth can only come at the expense of another person's worsened poverty.

**C: Jeroen van der Veer, chief executive of Royal Dutch Shell**

People are understandably worried about a future of growing energy shortages, rising prices and international conflict for supplies. These fears are not without foundation. With continued economic growth, the world's energy needs could increase by 50% in the next 25 years. However, I do not believe

that the world is running out of energy. Fossil fuels will be able to meet growing demand for a long time in the future. Taking unconventional resources into account, we are not even close to peak oil. The priority for oil companies is to improve efficiency, by increasing the amount of oil recovered from reservoirs. At present, just over a third is recovered. We can also improve the technology to control reservoir processes and improve oil flow. However, these projects are costly, complex and technically demanding, and they depend on experienced people, so it is essential to encourage young people to take up a technical career in the energy industry. Meanwhile, alternative forms of energy need to be made economically viable. International energy companies have the capability, the experience and the commercial drive to work towards solving the energy problem so they will play a key role. But it is not as simple as merely making scientific advances and developing new tools; the challenge is to deliver the technology to people worldwide. Companies will need to share knowledge and use their ideas effectively.

**D: Craig Severance, blogger**

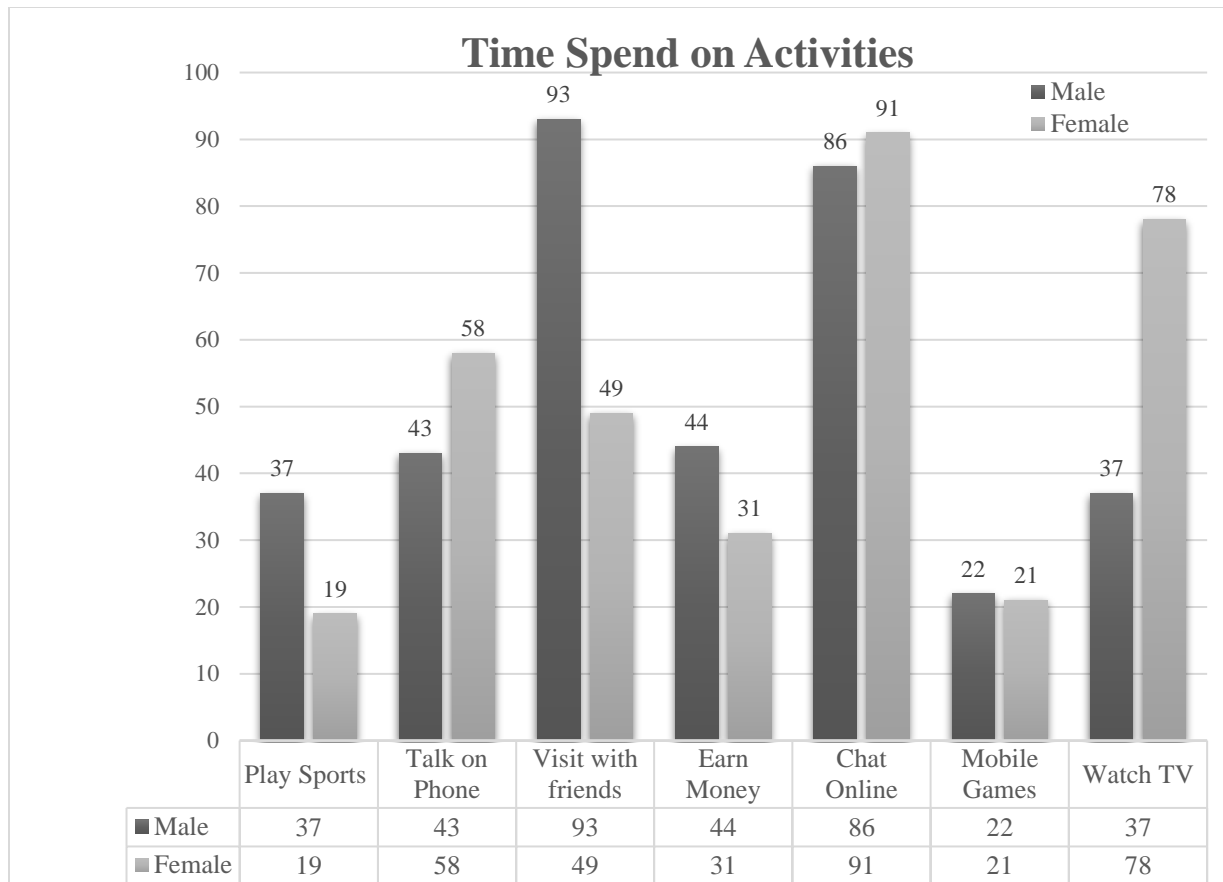
What will it take to end our oil addiction? It's time we moved on to something else. Not only are world oil supplies running out, but what oil is still left is proving very dirty to obtain. The Deepwater Horizon oil spill occurred precisely because the easy-to-obtain oil is already tapped. If we don't kick oil now, we will see more disasters as oil companies move to the Arctic offshore and clear more forests. The cheap petroleum is gone; from now on, we will pay steadily more and more for our oil — not just in dollars, but in the biological systems that sustain life on this planet. The only solution is to get on with what we will have to do anyway - end our dependence on it! There are many instances in which oil need not be used at all. Heat and electricity can be produced in a multitude of other ways, such as solar power or natural gas. The biggest challenge is the oil that is used in transportation. That doesn't mean the transportation of goods worldwide, it's the day-to-day moving around of people. It means we have to change what we drive. The good news is that it's possible. There are a wide range of fuel efficient cars on offer, and the number of all-electric plug-in cars is set to increase. For long distance travel and freight, the solution to this is to look to rail. An electrified railway would not be reliant upon oil, but could be powered by solar, geothermal, hydro, and wind sources. There is a long way to go, but actions we take now to kick our oil addiction can help us adapt to a world of shrinking oil supplies.

**Which writer:**

1. believes oil will be available for many more years
2. believes that from now on, less oil is available
3. believes there are ways to obtain energy that we have not yet discovered
4. sees a great potential in natural fuels
5. believes the fuel crisis will cause the poor to become poorer
6. sees energy and the economy as intrinsically linked
7. believes we should reduce our dependence on oil immediately
8. believes that people need to be attracted to working in the energy industry
9. believes that it is unlikely that governments will invest a lot of money into alternative energy
10. believes that future oil recovery will lead to more environmental disasters

**Q2 (CLO3): Total Marks-15**

**Study the graph below and answer the questions that follow. Just write the option alphabet in your answer copy. [15]**



- On the graph which axis shows the independent variable?
  - x-axis
  - it changes
  - neither
  - y-axis
- How much is the difference between males and females that play sports?
  - 56
  - 19
  - 18
  - 37
- In total, how many males watch TV and talk on phone?
  - 80
  - 37
  - 6
  - 43
- Which particular activity least like by both males and females?
  - Play sports
  - Earn money
  - Mobile games
  - All of them
- Which ONE activity is liked almost equally by both males and females?
  - Talk on phone
  - Visit with friends
  - Chat online
  - Mobile games

6. In which activity is the ratio of males and females almost equal?  
 A: Mobile games                      B: Chat online  
 C: Earn money                      D: None of them
7. Which is the second least liked activity by females?  
 A: Play sports                      B: Earn money  
 C: Mobile games                      D: All of them
8. According to the graph, it can be concluded that males tend to
  - a. Spend more time on mentally challenging activities compared to the females
  - b. Spend more time in outdoor activities compared to the females

**Q3 (CLO1): Total Marks-15**

**a) Fill in the blanks by putting the verbs in correct tense. Write only answer in your answer copy. [3]**

1. I would not have been so upset if Judy (write) \_\_\_\_\_ to me earlier.
2. If we offered him more money, (he stay) \_\_\_\_\_ here?
3. The children always (get) \_\_\_\_\_ frightened if they watch horror films.

**b) Identify the dangling modifier in each sentence & rewrite the correct version in your answer copy. [3]**

1. To be successful students, good study habits need to be developed.
2. The evening passed contentedly, reading and listening to music.
3. Falling asleep often in the class, the final exam proved difficult for Sarah.

**c) Identify the misplaced modifiers and rewrite the sentence putting them in the correct place. [3]**

1. You can call your mother in London and tell her all about George's taking you out to dinner for just two dollars.
2. I used a bag for picnic which was spacious.
3. We gave the old clothes to a local charity that had been piled up in the basement.

**d) Paraphrase the following sentences using the techniques taught in the course. [6]**

1. Of the more than 1000 bicycling deaths each year, three-fourths are caused by head injuries. Half of those killed are school-age children.
2. One study concluded that wearing a bike helmet can reduce the risk of head injury by 85 percent.
3. Niagara Falls is visited by thousands of people every year.

-----The End-----