****

**Expository Writing– LAB**

**Course Code: SL1014**

**Instructor: Ms. Huma Hafeez**

**Assignment 1:**

*Conversational Skills Deadline: 15th February 2024*

**Total Marks:20 Weightage: 2 CLO:2**

*“Small talk and overall conversational skills are the key to bonding, networking, and building*

*support groups in not just the professional world but everywhere in life.”*

**Small talk:**

**Record yourself having a small talk in pairs or trios (3), where you can create dialogues or refer to the lab manual Pg# 15-20.**

Here are three professional scenarios for small talk that students can use to practice their small talk skills:

**Scenario 1: Networking Event**

You're at a computer science networking event, surrounded by professionals from various tech companies. You spot someone who works at a company you admire, and you want to make a connection. Start a conversation by complimenting their recent project or asking for advice on breaking into the industry. From there, discuss common programming languages or emerging technologies that interest both of you.

**Scenario 2: Hackathon Team Formation**

You're at a hackathon, and it's time to form teams. You see a group of students discussing project ideas nearby. Approach them and strike up a conversation about their thoughts on the hackathon theme or their past coding experiences. Share your ideas or ask if they're open to collaborating. Building rapport early can lead to a more cohesive team dynamic during the competition.

**Scenario 3: Casual Office Interaction**

You're grabbing coffee in the break room at your internship, and you bump into a senior developer from another team. This is your chance to make a positive impression. Start by asking about their current project or any interesting challenges they've encountered lately. Keep the conversation light and upbeat, maybe mentioning a recent tech article you found interesting or a new coding technique you've been experimenting with.

**Tips for Small Talk Preparation:**

* Research recent industry news or trends to have relevant topics at your fingertips.
* Be mindful of non-verbal cues, such as maintaining eye contact and a friendly demeanor.
* Practice active listening to respond thoughtfully to the other person's comments.
* Aim for a balance between professionalism and friendliness in your conversation.

***Note: The video recording should be five minutes for pairs and seven to eight minutes for trios (a 10-second margin is acceptable); make sure it is audible enough so that it can be marked. Save your file with your student IDs and upload accordingly to avoid any inconvenience.***