**ANG208 – Interview 2**

**TED TALK: THE ART OF ASKING**

Ted Talk is a famous nonprofit show which spreads the ideas in the form of short and power talks. Ted Talk covers almost all topics from science to business to global issues. In 2013, Amanda Palmer, a musician and also a blogger, had delivered a speech in order to express her opinion of sharing the music for free online. By narrating the past through several turning points, she had successfully inspired her audiences which could be also demonstrated by more than seven millions views online.

After graduating from an arts university, Amanda began her first job as a “white muted bride” in the street. By asking strange people for money, she learnt to interact and understand other people’s feelings. Meanwhile, she also wrote the songs, toured locally, and played in the nightclubs. Furthermore, she faithfully maintained her sense of direction connection with people by asking for their supports during her tours. By doing that, Amanda had the chances to learn, experience, and share her feelings with her fans, her people. Moreover, she provided an example of the expected profits between selling her previous albums and asking for donation. Concretely, the previous album with the assistant of a major label was sold about 25000 copies which was considered as a failure while the next free project achieved more than 1.1 million which was the biggest music crowdfunding project to date. This example allowed her to amplify her ideal on the relationship between trusting, asking, and exchanging. Particularly, asking may create our vulnerability but it is capable of creating faith, reliance, and entrustment.

In my opinion, Amanda had successfully delivered her ideal. By showing the pictures during the presentation, Amanda had provided the interesting and trustful visions of her true life to the eyes of the audiences. Although the inspiration is impressive, this ideal comes up against several difficulties. Amanda’s speech concentrated mostly on personal experience of a musician and also her characteristics which does not totally compatible with all levels of society. Personally, Amanda had exceptionally gathered three necessary elements including the fortune, the moment, and her special personality which authorized her to be acknowledged but her life may not be the general case of all of us.

**VOCABULARY**

* **Blasé** (adj): (Uncountable) unimpressed with or indifferent to something because one has experienced or seen it so often before.
* Example: After getting bad score for so many times, I am blasé with the feeling of being disappointed.
* **Philanthropic** (adj): connected with the practice of helping the poor and those in need, especially by giving money.
* Example: Mr. Zuckerberg will give away 99% of his stake of Facebook as his new philanthropic plan.
* **Welfare** (n): The health, happiness, and fortunes of a person or group.
* Example: Parents are responsible for the welfare of their children.
* **Activist** (n): A person who works to achieve political or social change, especially as a member of an organization with particular aims.
* Example: Gay activists marched in London today to protest against the new law.
* **Woe** (n): the troubles and problems that somebody has.
* Example: Poverty, illness, and other woes have killed millions of people in Africa every year.
* **Sequel** (n): a book, film/movie, play, etc. that continues the story of an earlier one.
* Example: This book is the sequel of/to the author’s last novel
* **Impending** (adj): (usually of an unpleasant event) that is going to happen very soon.
* Example: An impending storm is coming.
* **Demise** (n): the end or failure of an institution, an idea, a company, etc.
* Example: The war will bring about the industry and society’s demise.
* **Depletion** (n): the reduction of something by a large amount so that there is not enough left.
  + Example: The depletion of water contributes to the desertification.
* **Abundant** (adj): existing in large quantities, more than enough.
  + Example: Helium is the second most abundant element in our universe.