

HKDSE Examination 2014: English Language Paper 4

Question 3.1 : Urban Dictionary

Group Discussion Demonstration (recorded in Aug 2015):

<i>Candidate</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Level attained in DSE Eng Lang Paper 4</i>
A	2013	5**
B	2013	5**
C	2013	5**
D	-	-

Transcript (verbatim)

Examiner:

You may start now.

A:

Good afternoon! We have to do a project to compile a dictionary of English words commonly used by teenagers. So, ... let's discuss how to carry out this project. So, first, I think we can begin with ... some useful sources of collecting words commonly used by teenagers. Do you have any ideas in mind?

C:

Well, I think the first source that we can collect the words commonly used by teenagers is we can conduct a survey. We can ask our classmates what are the ... common words they use and then we can use this scientific method to find out the popular words that're used among teenagers.

B:

Yeah, and as we're talking about teenagers, the best way of course is to ask opinions from our friends. Another convenient way of collecting words commonly used for teenagers can also include the internet because it's widely accessible. And maybe you can look for existing pages containing those slangs word or simply just look for new words in internet such as facebook or Twitters, etc.

A:

Yes, I think you two raised a really good point. Er, I think ... using a survey and asking our friends would be a ... allow us to collect like ... opinions in our close circle, but then ... collecting like ... resources from the social media or the web would allow us to collect the data from a larger social ... circle, say, the teenagers from all worldwide. Erm, because we can also see that like, social media and web is a very ... common way where teenagers express their thoughts. For example, ... hashtags on Instagram or some comments on facebook, etc. So, I think these two would be really good methods in collecting ... the words commonly used by teenagers.

C:

Yeah, I think candidate B also raised a very good point that ... we can use those ... facebook, or Instagram or Twitter to collect ... the popular words used by teenagers. Er, actually it's very convenient. We can just ... go to our facebook home page and then we can use Ctrl F, and then we can just type in some common words and then we can see the frequency of those

words. And then we can look for what other common words that are ... that appear on our friends' ... status or photo captions, etc. And then, these are ... are probably the ... also the common words used by teenagers in the society.

B:

Yeah, and apart from the internet, we can also look for some, for example, magazines directed mainly for teenagers and many of a times, these magazines would contain some ... newer slangs words commonly used by teenagers. So, it may also be a good way for us to collect ... this information. Er, perhaps, maybe we can also ... talk about like, how we should decide on the, what words to include in our dictionary. And I think ... the best way maybe, is to collect ... to have voting because it will be the most direct and it'll be most representative of the actual situation like, how people actually feel the words as being the most popular.

A:

Yeah, that's a really good point. I agree that ... popularity would be our main, like, first priority in assessing which words we should include in our dictionary because as it was mentioned, like, our task is to ... compile a dictionary of words "commonly" used by teenagers. So, the word "commonly" would ... definitely be very like, key in the task. And ... another way ... I have another thought to decide like, what words to include or not include in our dictionary. I think ... if the word happens to be something personal or invading someone's privacy, then it should definitely not be included in our dictionary because I think ... it'd be like, it can lead to cyber bullying, or really ... important consequences.

And we should eliminate these words before we ... actually compile it.

C:

Erm, I agree with you. Er, I think you're ... very careful of not ... abusing other's privacy. And so, ... besides we should avoid ... putting in these words, we can also ... we should also keep out those offensive words because after all, this is a project and we have to present it to our classmates ... in our school. So, probably we should leave out those ... offensive words. So, ... to make it a ... appropriate and harmonious presentation.

B:

And perhaps, a better way to like ... to decide on the words to include in our dictionary is perhaps to first screen off those those words of ... offensive or malicious intent, then we ... those words for voting by others. So, maybe it'll be easier to us, for us to collect those words. And, ... talking about how to present the information in the dictionary in an interesting way, perhaps ... like ordinary dictionary, we can also have some example sentences like how do we use those words in an actual context, and so people will be more easier to understand like, what the true meaning of the words and when we use them.

A:

Erm, showing examples is definitely a really good way of demonstrating how the words should be used, what form it is, and in what occasion it should be used. And, I have also another idea to elaborate on this, for example, we can ... crop screen or

capture the origin of the word, like, where it begins from, like, for example, it's a picture on facebook, or it is a picture from 9GAG, or whatsoever. So, people would actually get to see the origin and how it begins. And it would also ... be easier for us to present its origin.

C:

Erm, I think besides limiting our project to a presentation, I think ... we can actually ... present the information in a way ... for example, we can use the website. We can make a website that's ... called maybe "a dictionary of our group name", and then we can list those ... popular words used by ... teenagers from A to Z, and then ... like what just ... candidate A and B said, ... we can put some ... photos and different examples to illustrate how to use these ... English popular words in our daily lives.

B:

Or another way may be, perhaps we can do a drama to actually act ... act out the words in actual context. So, people will be more easily to ... understand what we're talking about. And this will ... make our project more successful in the long term.

A:

Yup, so, ... all in all, we have discussed like, some ... what ... which ways to collect that from, ways to decide what words to include and also how to present it.

[End of discussion]