

Group discussion (Marks: 10)

Instructions:

- Step 1: Read the role play task given below.
- Step 2: Choose the character
- Step 3: Individually prepare for the group discussion
- Step 4: Prepare in group for the group discussion
- Step 5: Video/Audio record your group discussion
- Step 6: Submit your video/audio in the google classroom

Criteria for evaluation

- 1) Your understanding of the character (3 marks)
- 2) Your participation in the group discussion (3 marks)
- 3) The way you agree, disagree, restate, clarify, expressing your opinions and taking turns in the discussion. (4 marks)

Role Play

Introduction

The role play given below requires the use of both language and critical aptitude. Participants are requested to pick from the given roles and enact the assigned characters keeping in mind the set of phrases given, and also developing arguments to allow for a critical discussion on the topic.

Background Information

The company, FORWARD security systems manufactures defense and personal surveillance systems. In an investors' meeting, the company is invited to discuss the performance of the previous year and its plans for the forthcoming fiscal year. The year has been a jagged one, while the company has made considerable innovations in state defense systems; their personal surveillance has been lagging for several reasons. The company invites investors to discuss everyday security concerns and devise techniques for improving the uneven profits of FORWARD security systems.

Characters Description

W is the CEO of the company. S/he facilitates the discussion and reassures the investors of the need to keep the company's funds flowing. S/he is generally of the view that the system currently in place is quite profitable and is not interested in excessive innovation.

V is the under secretary to **W** and undertakes the presentation of the meeting on the company's past performance and also engages the investors in order to come up with a solution on how to improve the company's performance.

B is a new joiner at the company who is eager to present his/her ideas and willingly offers pieces of advice and, sometimes absurd, methods for improving the company's profits.

F is an investor and the head of a social organization that works towards women's safety and raises the question of improving the safety of public spaces while being concerned about not controlling the lives of women through intrusive technologies such as CCTV cameras that watch their every movement.

These views may be countered by another investor **R** who opposes the very idea of surveillance and security, and is quite unhappy with the company's profit believing them to be a threat to personal freedom and privacy and sign of state repression. **R** believes that the company can improve profits by restyling itself as a company that provides private security rather than public or state-based defense.

Task Objective

The participants should successfully highlight the current performance of the company validating it with particular reasons that may have led to uneven performance. They must also manage the meeting and successfully develop a strategy justifying how it could lead to better profits.

Rules

The participants are requested to observe the etiquettes of meeting and presentation that have been discussed in class as well as creatively use phrases from the ones given below or develop similar vocabulary to discuss the performance of FORWARD.

For Fiscal Year

The rise/ fall in turnover to date

The current year or upto April

First/ Second/ Final Quarter- when discussing specific periods within the year.

Up and Down

Past

The chart clearly shows that the company's profit rose **By** 8.3% in the areas of

The overall profit of the company has seen a hike of 5% in the last quarter

As we can see, there was a substantial rise in the sales

The sales recovered/ have picked up

The sales peaked/ reached their highest point

There was some one- off/ one-time (American) profit due to the popularity of the new publicity manager

As seen in the graph, our performance has been steady all year.

There has been little change in the organization's profits over the last year.

The fall in sales is largely *due to* the bad reputation the company acquired

The lack of publicity *accounts for* the drop in sales

The sales continue to decline

There has been a substantial decline in our performance which needs to be our urgent attention

Future

We're *looking at* a substantial rise in profits over the next year

We are expecting the sales to pick up by the final quarter

There will be an *upturn* in the company's profits in the six-month period following our upcoming campaign.

We hope that no *downturn* will occur due to the closure of one of our plants.

The chart *forecasts* a considerable loss due to the ill-repute of the company's last products

The graph gives the wrong picture of the company's performance in the coming quarter.
We expect that there will be very slight change in our profits.