



International English Olympiad
“Formula of Unity” / “The Third Millennium”
Year 2023/2024. Final round
Tasks for grade R11



1. Write the word using transcriptions.

- [1] [ˌɒntɹəprəˈnɜː]
- [2] [jɒt]
- [3] [ˈhæɪəɹɑːrki]
- [4] [kwɪˈzɪn]
- [5] [prəˌnʌnsɪˈeɪf(ə)n]

2. Find the beginning and the end of the sentences. Write a number and a letter..

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| 1) If you heat water | A) some new information on the Internet. |
| 2) If you heat this water in two minutes | B) important things. |
| 3) If you heated the water | C) it boils. |
| 4) If you want to break up with your boyfriend | D) valuable employees. |
| 5) If you need any help | E) count on me. |
| 6) Never put off | F) it will boil. |
| 7) Never lay off | G) this service. It's deception. |
| 8) Never sign up for | H) it would boil in 6 minutes. |
| 9) Look after | I) don't do it too violently. |
| 10) Look for | J) the kids. I'm going on a business trip. |

3. Answer the questions about the article "Cultural behaviour in business": decide if the statements are true/false/not stated. Write a number and a letter..

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 so-called 'smile of respect' is seen as insincere and often regarded with suspicion in Russia. A famous Russian proverb even states that 'laughing without reason is a sign of idiocy'. 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.

- 1) Trainees from Britain and Germany misunderstood each other due to different cultural background.
A) True B) False C) Not stated
- 2) The British use their first names more often than Americans.
A) True B) False C) Not stated
- 3) In some countries a smile is a sign of insult.
A) True B) False C) Not stated
- 4) Our personal background doesn't influence our perception of business partners. It's only about nationality.
A) True B) False C) Not stated
- 5) In the author's opinion smiling and eye contact traditions are connected.
A) True B) False C) Not stated

4. Find synonyms for these words in the text above ("You and your data"). Write only ONE word.

- 1) people that we have met but do not know well
- 2) too serious/full of importance
- 3) very ordinary/not interesting
- 4) mean
- 5) to classify (often unfairly)

5. There are 10 explanations of idioms. Complete them. Choose the best answer for each situation from the list. Write a number and a letter..

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| 1) When something has _____ and whistles on it, it means that it has lots of great features. | A) wires |
| 2) If your relationship with close people is good, you are in _____ with them. | B) rocket |
| 3) If a group of people work well together, we call them "a well-oiled _____". | C) button |
| 4) If something is easy to do or understand, it's not _____ science. | D) tune |
| 5) Something innovative and advanced is called "cutting _____". | E) edge |
| 6) If we stop something, we say "to pull the _____". | F) phone |
| 7) If we misunderstand somebody, we get our _____ crossed. | G) bells |
| 8) When we are right, it means that we are right on the _____. | H) plug |
| 9) When we want someone to stop and wait, we say "hold the _____". | I) machine |
| 10) When a person gets angry easily, he/she blows a _____. | J) fuse |

6. Complete the sentences with ONE missing word.

- 1) _____ all your wishes come true!
- 2) She takes _____ her father. Their eyes are so similar!
- 3) Should she continue learning English she _____ be able to move to the USA.
- 4) I wish I _____ come to the station on time. But I missed my train.
- 5) She is always kind but today she is _____ very rude.

7. Match the author to his/her creation/invention. Write a number and a letter..

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|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1) Herman Melville | A) "The Catcher in the Rye" |
| 2) Theodore Dreiser | B) "Moby Dick" |
| 3) J.D. Salinger | C) "Of Mice and Men" |
| 4) John Steinbeck | D) "An American Tragedy" |
| 5) F. S. Fitzgerald | E) "Tender Is the Night" |

8. You have to write an article «FOMO: a social disease or new reality» (200–250 words, articles and contractions are counted as ONE word each).

***The fear of missing out, or FOMO, refers to the feeling or perception that others are having more fun, living better lives, or experiencing better things than you are. It involves a deep sense of envy and affects self-esteem.**

Don't forget to write:

- **Why this problem is actual and important for readers**
- **Roots of the problem/ways to solve it**
- **Your personal opinion**
- **Conclusion**