



From: Rick

To: IELTS Prep Group

Subj: IELTS Reading lesson 2-21-2018

Lesson Objective

The student shall be able to use “power words” as part of their oral vocabulary, read and comprehend both social and business language and demonstrate effective oral communication skills

Section One

Vocabulary

Match the correct word in column A with the definition in column B, then use in a sample sentence

Evaluation Criteria: Ability to understand definitions of English vocabulary

Column A	Column B
VOCABULARY	DEFINITION
1. PHILOSOPHY (noun)	A. According to or agreeing with the principles of logic.
2. TOPOGRAPHY (noun)	B. The political principle of centralized social and economic control, especially of all means of production.
3. UNITY (noun)	C. A theory that there is more than one basic substance or principle.
4. PLURALSIM (noun)	D. The state of being one; oneness.
5. HOLISTIC (adjective)	E. The state of one's ideas, the facts known to one, etc., in having a meaningful interrelationship.
6. PERSPECTIVE (noun)	F. Incorporating the concept of holism, or the idea that the whole is more than merely the sum of its parts, in theory or practice.
7. PAROCHIAL (adjective)	G. The detailed mapping or charting of the features of a relatively small area, district, or locality.
8. LOGICAL (adjective)	H. Of, relating to, or financially supported by one or more church or parishes.
9. COLLECTIVISM (noun)	I. The rational investigation of the truths and principles of being, knowledge or conduct.

Section Two

Reading Comprehension and Pronunciation skills.

Evaluation Criteria: Ability to effectively read and comprehend written English in a social or business environment.

ARTICLE A

Difference Between Eastern and Western Philosophy

Source

- Have you ever wondered about the differences between Eastern and Western philosophies? Apart from geographical locations, these two parts of the world have differences in their way of life and the approach to life in general. These ways of living are not only brought about by topography and physical circumstances that play crucial factors in living, but also the school of thought that governs the major societies in the Eastern and Western part of the globe.
- Let us take a look first at what “philosophy” is in general and how it affects and makes differences on Western and Eastern society. Generally, “philosophy” is universally defined as “the study of the wisdom or knowledge about the general problems, facts, and situations connected with human existence, values, reasons, and general reality.” It seeks reasons, answers, and general





explanations to life and its factors. Thus, if we talk about philosophy, we talk about a school of thoughts. And if we connect it with our topic, it differs and comes with the realities, problems, and situations of certain people like, in this case, the East and the West.

3. Basically, Western philosophy is referred to as the school of thought from Greek philosophy that influenced the greater part of Western civilization. In contrary, the Eastern philosophy is based mainly in Asia, more specifically the Chinese philosophy. Moreover, Western philosophy takes its roots from Rome and Christianity, specifically Judeo-Christianity. Eastern philosophy, on the other hand, is from Confucianism, Mahayana Buddhism, and Taoism. Thus, is it safe to say that Eastern philosophy is classical Chinese, while Western philosophy is more Latin in its roots.
4. The main differences between the school of thought or the philosophies of the East and West are the West's Individualism and the East's Collectivism. The Eastern philosophy is drawn much more into groups or society or people's actions and thoughts as one in order to find meaning in life as they try to get rid of the false "me" concept and find meaning in discovering the true "me" in relation to everything around them, or as part of a bigger scheme. In contrast, the Western civilization is more individualistic, trying to find the meaning of life here and now with self at the center as it is already given and part of the divine.
5. Let us take a deeper look into more of the aspects or problems or issues these two philosophies try to make sense of. The main principle of the Eastern philosophy is unity. This cosmological unity is the main point in the journey of life as it goes towards the eternal realities. Life is round, and the recurrence with everything around it is important. Ethics is based on behavior, and dependence is from the inside to the outside. In order to be liberated, the inner self must be freed first in accordance to the world around it.
6. Western philosophy, on the other hand, is based on self-dedication to be of service to others. Life is service to God, money, community, and so on. Due to its Christian influence, there has to be a beginning and end to find meaning. Linear as it seems, Western philosophy is logical, scientific, and rational compared to the East's concept of eternal and recurring.
7. Eastern philosophy also thrives on virtues. This would be explained with the selfless approach to life. Satisfaction with what one has is the key. Meanwhile, Western philosophy focuses on ethics. As individuals, one must do what is supposed to be done without causing ill to others. Success is based on how much one walks his path without hurting others. Eastern philosophy is also more about the spiritual while Western philosophy is more of a hands-on style. The difference is the "I" of the West, and the "We" of the East, as one focuses on finding truth and meaning.

ARTICLE B

Major Difference Between Eastern and Western Thought on Education

Source

1. Confucius said, "Education breeds confidence. Confidence breeds hope. Hope breeds peace." For centuries, the Chinese viewed the child as a miniature adult who should behave according to the expectations of the adult world. This was a perspective that persisted until the early 20th century, when the Western progressive influence appeared, as led by American reformer John Dewey. Education in the West, by contrast, has always been rooted in the Classical Greek view advanced by Socrates in Plato's "Republic" -- the student-centered view that it is important to examine our own lives and develop our critical thinking skills.
2. Conformity vs. Rugged Individualism
Asian societies have generally been more focused on the needs of the group or the "collective" than Western ones, which means that conformity is important in Asian life. It's also important to avoid criticism, ridicule and rejection and to win approval and acceptance. In contrast, someone from a Western individualistic society such as the U.S., Canada or Australia, will generally be more likely to risk criticism or rejection when the goal is important enough. This means that students in Asian classrooms will speak less because they tend to fear voicing views that the teacher or fellow students will find unacceptable.





3. Moral Education

Moral education enjoys a special status in Japanese schools, for example, and permeates the daily activities of Japanese elementary and junior high school students. The emphasis is on "kimochi" or "kokoro," which translate to feeling or heart, and daily activities are structured to not only teach academic subjects, but to develop a student's sense of right and wrong. In the West, with perhaps the exception of parochial and religious schools, the curriculum is almost invariably subject-specific. Reading, language skills, math and geography, for example, are taught separately and at specific times, with no ethical or moral components.

4. The Role of Struggle

Another interesting contrast involves the role of intellectual struggle. When American graduate student Jim Stigler visited Japan in 1979, he noticed a striking difference in the way that Asian teachers and parents framed difficulty. Struggling with a math concept in class, for example, is simply an opportunity and not a sign of a possible learning disability or deficit. "I think that from very early ages we [in America] see struggle as an indicator that you're just not very smart," observed Stigler. "It's a sign of low ability - people who are smart don't struggle, they just naturally get it, that's our folk theory."

5. "Kiasu" or Competition

Although there is no precise definition or translation for the term "kiasu," it references competition or being afraid to lose out to others. The term is currently popular in Singapore, and parents there frequently are labeled kiasu parents when they push hard to make certain that their children are at the top of every class. Parents in South Korea seek out "cram schools" for their children, with the average South Korean family spending over ten percent of its income on such after-hour schools.

http://www.1000ventures.com/business_guide/crosscuttings/cultures_east-west-phylosophy.html

Buddhism, Confucianism, Hinduism, Integral Yoga, Islam, Taoism, Zen	Christianity**, Rational, Scientific, Logical schools	
Main Principles	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cosmological unity 2. Life is a journey towards eternal realities that are beyond the realities that surround us 3. Circular view of the universe, based on the perception of eternal recurrence 4. Inner-world dependent 5. Self-liberation from the false "Me" and finding the true "Me". The highest state is believed to be a state of 'no-self', where neither self-worth nor self-importance have any real meaning. 6. Behavioral ethics 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Feeling oneself as an element of the Divine 2. Life is a service (to the God, money, business, etc.) 3. Linear view of the universe and life, based on the Christian philosophy where everything has its beginning and the end. 4. Outer-world dependent 5. Self-dedication to the goal (life vision, success, happiness, etc.)
The "Me" concept	Eternal reality of the universal truth: self-liberation through getting rid of the false "Me" and discovering the true "Me"	"Me" is here and now. The true "Me" in every human being is a part of the Divine that need to become apparent. True "Me" is given and doesn't have to be cognizable.
Relationship with Religion	Integration	Opposition



Search for Absolute Truth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systemic approach – all events in the universe are interconnected • Searching inside yourself – by becoming a part of the universe through meditation and right living <i>"Though he should live a hundred years, not seeing the Truth Sublime; yet better, indeed, is the single day's life of one who sees the Truth Sublime." ~ Buddha</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More focused on individual events and the role of the person • Searching outside yourself - through research and analysis <i>"The truth that survives is simply the lie that is pleasantest to believe." ~ H.L. Mencken</i>
Search for Truth & Fundamental Research	The truth is given is does not to have be proved. The philosophic base for and culture of fundamental research is weaker .	The truth needs to be proved . The philosophic base for and culture of fundamental research is stronger .
Future	Your future is determined by your deeds today . <i>"Study the past if you would like to divine the future."</i> ~ Confucius	Your future is unknown, it was predetermined by God and is not much influenced by your deeds. <i>"You can never plan the future by the past."</i> ~ Edmund Burke
Beliefs and Values	The true key is inside . The inner world of a human being and his or her ability to control and develop it is of the highest value. The way to the top is inside yourself, through self-development. <i>"The superior man understands what is right; the inferior man understands what will sell."</i> ~ Confucius <i>"By chasing desires, you will meet only the outer surface."</i> ~ Lao Tzu	The main values are success and achievement. These that can be achieved in many ways, but rarely through developing inner strength. The majority of success and achievement criteria have an external nature (money, faith, popularity, etc.). The way to the top is through active outside intervention. <i>"Happiness lies in virtuous activity, and perfect happiness lies in the best activity, which is contemplative."</i> ~ Aristotle
Justice	Spiritual practice <i>"There is a higher court than courts of justice and that is the court of conscience. It supersedes all other courts."</i>	Cerebral practice <i>"At his best, man is the noblest of all animals; separated from law and justice he is the worst. " ~ Aristotle</i>



Individualism / Collectivism	~ Mahatma Gandhi	
	A human being is an integral part of the universe and the society. People are fundamentally connected. Duty towards all others is a very important matter. Collectivism is stronger.	A human being has an individualistic nature and is an independent part of the universe and the society. Individualism is stronger.
	Cyclic development, hence improvement is a never ending journey that has no limits.	Linear development, hence improvement has a goal. Development stops when the goal is reached.
Improvement / Evolution		
Radical Innovation / Revolution	The fundamentals of the status quo should not be questioned. The culture of considering and introducing radical changes is weaker .	The fundamentals of the status quo can – and often should – be questioned. The culture of considering and introducing radical changes is stronger .
Passion & Venturing	Entrepreneurial creativity and venturing is contained by the habit to control one's passions. <i>"Desires are the cause of suffering. If desire, which lies at the route of all human passion, can be removed, then passion will die out and all human suffering will be ended."</i> ~ Buddhism <i>"Vain indeed is all overweening pride in the conquest even of the entire universe if one has not conquered one's own passions."</i> ~ Sri Aurobindo	Entrepreneurial venturing is encouraged emotionally. <i>"Nothing is ever achieved by reasonable men."</i> – J Fred Bucy of Texas Instruments <i>"Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm... Always do what you are afraid to do... Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."</i> ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson <i>"If you want to succeed, you have to forge new paths and avoid borrowed ones."</i> ~ John Rockefeller
Achievement & Winning	Winning is inside yourself. >>> <i>"Though he should conquer a thousand men in the battlefield a thousand times, yet he, indeed, who would conquer himself is the noblest victor."</i> ~ Buddha <i>"He who conquers others is strong; he who conquers himself is mighty."</i> ~ Lao Tzu <i>"The most excellent Jihad is that</i>	→ Winning is outside yourself. <i>"You're not a star until they can spell your name in Karachi."</i> ~ Roger Moore <i>"Life affords no higher pleasure than that of surmounting difficulties, passing from one stop of success to another, forming new wishes and seeing them gratified."</i> ~ Samuel Johnson



	<p><i>for the conquest of self."</i> – Mohammad</p>	<p><i>"It is not because things are difficult that we do not dare; it is because we do not dare that they are difficult."</i></p>
Implementation	<p>Spiritual and missionary approach.</p> <p><i>"To create and develop without any feelings of ownership, to work and guide without any expectation and control, is the best quality" ~ Lao Tzu</i></p> <p><i>To achieve self-liberation and nirvana you need to perform your duties without expecting any reward for it. ~ Vedanta, Hinduism</i></p> <p><i>"Action can be achieved by inaction, where the result is achieved by "Not-Me" ~ Zen</i></p>	<p>Pragmatic and emotional approach.</p> <p><i>"The supreme accomplishment is to blur the line between work and play." ~ Arnold Toynbee</i></p> <p><i>"Since most of us spend our lives doing ordinary tasks, the most important thing is to carry them out extraordinary well." ~ Henry David Thoreau</i></p> <p><i>"Every minute you spend in planning saves 10 minutes in execution." ~ Brian Tracy</i></p>
Goals & Key to Success	<p>Spiritual</p> <p><i>"Virtuous life and adherence to performing your duties."</i> ~ Confucianism</p> <p><i>"The Three Armies can be deprived of their commanding officer, but even a common man cannot be deprived of his purpose." ~ Confucius</i></p> <p><i>"If you really want everything, then give up everything."</i> ~ Lao Tzu</p> <p><i>"He is able who thinks he is able." ~ Buddha</i></p>	<p>Materialistic</p> <p><i>"The secret of success in life, and subsequently of making money, is to enjoy your work. If you do, nothing is hard work – no matter how many hours you put in." ~ Sir Billy Butlin</i></p> <p><i>"Success is that old ABC – ability, breaks and courage."</i> ~ Charles Luckman</p> <p><i>"Flaming enthusiasm, backed by horse sense and persistence, is the quality that most frequently makes for success."</i> ~ Dale Carnegie</p>
Living Principles	<p>Virtue</p> <p><i>"Be satisfied with whatever you have, and enjoy the same. When you come to know that you have everything, and you are not short of anything, then the whole world will be yours." ~ Lao Tzu</i></p> <p><i>"The thought manifests as the word; The word manifests as the deed; The deed develops into habit; And habit hardens into character. So watch the thought and its ways with care,</i></p>	<p>Ethic</p> <p><i>"Refrain from doing ill; for one all powerful reason, lest our children should copy our misdeeds; we are all to prone to imitate whatever is base and depraved."</i> ~ Juvenal</p> <p><i>"There is no real excellence in all this world which can be separated from right living."</i> ~ David Starr Jordan</p>



	<p><i>And let it spring from love born out of concern for all beings."</i> ~ Buddha</p>	
Establishing Control Over Your Emotions	<p>Through meditation <i>A man can separate his/her mind from his/her emotions and control them. ~ Taoism</i></p>	<p>Through analysis <i>"I can control my passions and emotions if I can understand their nature." ~ Spinoza</i></p>
<u>Leadership</u>	<p>Spiritual; walking behind people; silence is golden. <i>"In order to guide people, the leader must put himself behind them. Thus, when he is ahead they feel no hurt." ~ Lao Tzu</i></p>	<p>Hands-on; walking ahead of people; speech is golden. <i>"Leadership is done from in front. Never ask others to do what you, if challenged, would not be willing to do yourself." ~ Xenophon</i></p>