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New student contributors
We love getting new ideas and articles from students that will appeal to our readers. Whether you are an experienced writer or are contributing for the first time, we would like to hear from you. We cannot promise to publish what you send us, but we will read it carefully!

Submitting articles
Any article you wish to be included in a future edition of the newsletter must be submitted to your English teacher. Please make sure you include your full name and section number within the document.

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FEATURES

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What we've been up to!

Common First Year celebrating the Kingdom's 88th National Day

ELSD Game World prove to be a great success with CFY students
Cruising to Fallout

Mission:Impossible - Fallout is one of the best movies of the year, and the best the series has ever seen! Incredible from the beginning to the end. The action scenes are breathtaking, entertaining, action-packed, and the best that the cinema has been able to offer. Tom Cruise returns to put absolutely everything in this role: run, jump, climb, fight, and everything. The twists that are in the plot are utterly unexpected and you do not know where everything is going to go. The landscapes, the choreography, and the plot make it a totally enjoyable movie.

Ethan Hunt and the IMF team join forces with CIA assassin August Walker to prevent a disaster. Ethan is put through his paces with the most “edge of your seat” action yet. Fallout takes you on a journey weaved through exotic locations where he and his loyal team navigate the world of sabotage and trust- This time on a whole new level. Happy watching!

WWE Smackdown in KSU

King Saud University hosted the first WWE Crown Jewel with a live event at the King Saud University stadium on Friday, 4th Nov 2018.

Fans had the chance to see their favorite Superstars live for the first time in more than two years. The show was part of a 10-year partnership in support of Vision 2030, an ambitious plan led by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to modernize Saudi Arabia's economy.
NETFLIX has been around for a while now. Many people have gravitated to watching their favourite shows and movies on the popular streaming app. So what is so great about it? Well, the subscription cost is only SAR 142 – (Priced on 17th November 2018) a month. This gives you unlimited access to a myriad of content. The best thing? It is tailored to your taste.

We asked our KSU students what they watched the most, and here is the top three list:

- Stranger Things
- Black Mirror
- House of Cards
Meet Dr. Mukhlad
Through Pictures
Vice Dean of Student Services
Students got to engage with Dr. Mukhlad at the Game World event. These activities have proven to be a breath of fun and excitement for everyone in attendance. The life-sized board and solving games help students to develop their cognitive and fine-motor skills.
Studying is something we all have to do. The thing is that what method you use that works best for you determines whether or not you will attain your goals. When I was asked to write an article about my method I realised I never really thought about it in a formal way. So I’ve broken down the steps below that might help someone to study better or to have a better understanding of the process.

I am by no means an expert but I hope this helps:

1) Plan: plan your day in its entirety. This means to plan right down to the time you will shower, eat, sleep and sit upright for an intense study session.
2) Don’t overdo it. Take a break of 30 minutes after every 2 hours of studying. If this seems too long, take a shower so minute break after every hour. [confusing phrasing]
3) Notes: I am sure you’ve heard your teachers and siblings always going on and on about notes. There is a reason for this. Notes help your brain to segment the information you are feeding it better.
4) Detail vs. Short: Your notes can have images to help you memorize the text beside it, and it can, at times, have detail- it depends on the subject. For example, when studying English I usually draw a timeline with a stickman to show the grammar in a visual form.
5) Don’t lose your notes. Keep a notebook that has many different parts. These can be found at any bookstore and costs only SAR 20- It helps to keep all the information in one book.

Planning for exam week

Ask Tariq

Your trustee student helper
Podcasts are digital audio files that are shared and heard to suit your content. There are millions of live streamed and archived files featuring discussions, critical context analysis and even interviews with your favourite celebrities. KSU has initiated a new podcast channel that we are calling "POD STU".

We welcome your contributions and want to hear your ideas for new podcasts. To show your interest or share your ideas, please visit office 2327. See you there!
Student Creativity

Recently, we had the opportunity to sit down and talk with an interesting person. He is a student here at KSU CFY, and he is an animator for Misk Group. His name is Mazen Ali Al Musaed. I asked him four questions related to how he got where he is as an artist, and I would like to share our talk with you because I think it could prove to be instructive. What is Misk Group? A brief intro to the company would be helpful.

ME: Mazen, can you tell us what you currently do for the Misk Group?
MAZEN: I do workshops for them, during which I stand on stage. As I do so, I demonstrate methods of developing characters in an animated story.

ME: In what ways have you been able to improve your talents over the years?
MAZEN: Practice and perception have played a big role in improving my talents. Further, contact with other artists has served to help me improve.

ME: What value do you think there is in being talented at something?
MAZEN: Well, aside from the obvious answers that being talented at something can get you recognition, can make money for you, and can give you an excellent hobby, there is another response that I would like to add. Being talented at something can serve to broaden and vary your viewpoints, which can be very helpful for you in life.

ME: How has being creative influenced your life?
MAZEN: It has made me a happier person, and as I mentioned, it has improved my life in some ways, such as by broadening my viewpoints. I really take pride in and feel thrilled about my creativity.

Well, there you have it! Now, I have a question for you: Do you think there could be a hidden message in Mazen’s answers? I definitely feel that Mazen could be telling us all to find what it is that we are talented at, and to work to maximize that talent.
Judo Champion

Faisal Hesham

He is a student at King Saud University. Also He’s a Judo professional and has represented Saudi Arabia in many international tournaments. Faisal has won many tournaments in Saudi Arabia and at the international level. I sat down with him for an in-depth interview about his Judo career and his future goals at King Saud University. What is Judo? It would be helpful to define what it is and to give a brief history of the sport.

What do you like about Judo?
Firstly, Judo is a very good sport for self-defence, unlike other martial arts, Judo can be practiced by all ages and it can really develop your mental patience. [The] physical side of Judo can be really fun. I have learnt the throwing and grappling techniques which have really helped me to win major competitions in Saudi Arabia. I found Judo to be a fun sport to learn; there are so many techniques in Judo I am learning and really want to master them. I am very enthusiastic to become a professional Judo athlete. Overall, Judo is a fun sport, and I like the spirit of fighting in the international tournaments. Judo is a competitive sport and I practice regularly to learn new defence and attacking moves; this is one of the many challenges that attracted me to this sport.

When did you start learning Judo?
Ever since 2012 I started learning Judo. At the time I was 12 years old. In Saudi Arabia, [the] government is trying to expand Judo. Nowadays, there are lots of young children learning Judo. Judo can help the children improve their self-confidence, they can take part in tournaments and get higher belts, [and] they can learn self-defence techniques to defend themselves in a fight.
In Saudi Arabia, is Judo a famous sport?
In Saudi Arabia, Judo is [a] growing sport. Most Saudis like watching and playing football. There are many initiatives to attract Judo to young people. Many initiatives to make it appealing to young people.

Tell me about your experience of taking part in Judo tournaments?
It was [an] amazing experience. I won the Judo tournaments in Saudi Arabia. I was part of the Saudi Judo team to participate in the tournaments in Russia [and] Tunisia. It was challenging to compete with athletes from Russia and Japan. Japan is famous for inventing the sport of Judo and there are many top Judo champions from Japan. It was a great achievement to compete at international tournaments.

What are your future goals in Judo and at King Saud University?
In Judo I hope to be a world champion and take part in the Olympic games. I realise it’s a big challenge but I do like to set goals for myself. One of the ways I can become [a] champion is to continue taking part in more international tournaments and win more belts. This will help me to gain more experience I need to become [a] world champion. As for King Saud University after graduating from university, I hope to become [a] biomedical engineer.
University - The New Frontier

By Mosaab Omair Beni Ali, Student, Diriyah male Campus

My first year at university has begun, and I am happy to be here at KSU. I must say, however, that there are a significant number of differences between school and university.

The first difference I noticed on my first day at KSU was that the buildings here at university are much bigger than those at school. That's because universities are generally bigger than schools. Another difference I noticed is that at school, our schedule was pretty much mapped out from the start of the year, whereas at university, there are many more special events which are announced with short, but quite sufficient, notice. Looking back at school, I think I was expected to recall “simple” facts, especially for tests and exams. At university, I find myself expected to do higher-order problem solving and critical thinking. My teachers and professors at university often give me problems which I have never seen before and ask me to use what I know to work my way through to solutions to them. This can be very challenging! Finally, I have noticed that at university, I have more freedom than I did at school. However, with this freedom comes a great deal of responsibility! I must remember this.

I enjoyed my days at school, and am enjoying my time at King Saud University, in spite of all the differences. I foresee some challenges, but good times as well, in the coming academic year.
Interview with the Vice Dean Dr. Hessa Al Talassi
By Sara Ahmed Al Tamimi, Student, Olaysha Female Campus

Could you share with us some background information about yourself before becoming the Vice Dean of CFY?
"After getting my Ph.D..., I started working at KSU, teaching chemistry to students from the medical track. At the time, I'd been nominated to become the coordinator of the College of Science in KSU's Common First Year, therefore, teaching and coordinating at the same time. After that, I became the Assistant of the Vice Dean of the College of Science for Student Affairs, where I supervised the courses. Later on, I became the Vice Dean of the Chemistry Department, and in a year, I got nominated to become KSU CFY's Vice Dean."

How do you manage to look after the different departments at KSU - CFY?
"Tasks are distributed among the entire team, and my responsibility is to supervise and follow-up on these tasks. To guarantee that the task has been perfectly completed, I check the work myself, and at the end I receive reports that clarify the mechanism of the action."

What do you think makes this program unique from any other programs?
"The ELSD is like a beehive in their cooperation and ability to work in sync towards achieving the same goal; they're always improving in creative and surprising ways. Their cooperation and management during tests is perfect, and I haven't seen anything like it in any other courses. The ELSD staff's harmony is what distinguishes them and contributes to their department's improvement."

Is there any advice that you could share with our students?
"The resources that KSU is offering aren't available in any other university. Students should benefit from all the resources that the CFY provides to them to achieve their goals."

What resources, in particular, make KSU stand out from other institutions?

What is your personal vision for our students at KSU-CFY?
"Students are the country's future; they should nurture their creativity in order to be a part of the country's vision. Great talent is seen here at KSU, and hopefully the students will create a great future for our country."
Dr. Hessah Aldayel is a hard working woman with no dreams, but plans. She insists on teaching even with her busy schedule as she believes that it is what she does best. She loves it and feels so passionate about it.

As the current Vice Chair of the ELSD, she feels that making the right decisions and suggesting creative ideas to encourage students to learn more is essential for her role.

During the interview, Dr. Hessah stated, “I always tell my students that their positivity inspires me, knowing what inspires us is one thing, but continuing what we started is a whole new thing”.

**Interviewer:** Could you share with us some information about yourself before becoming the Vice Chair of the ELSD?

**Dr. Hessah Aldayel:** “I started my career as a teacher at the Language Center for Girls straight after graduating from Imam University in 2007. From the start, I was deeply interested in the English language, particularly, pronunciation that I went to the extent of creating a booklet on pronunciation to help students with their language proficiency. I do believe that we have to make people aware of pronunciation as a concept because once we speak a foreign language, we apply a pattern that we know from our native tongue into the English language. We don’t do it consciously but it just comes out naturally. The problem is that the native tongue pattern is not always applicable to the English language. For example, let’s say you stress the beginning of the sentence as you would do in Arabic and when you speak in English, you apply this pattern but it turns out that it is inapplicable because in the English language, you need to stress the end of the sentence, as opposed to Arabic. The result is that the stress is unclear and the message is not clearly communicated because we have applied intonation and stress that are alien to this language”.
I joined the Common First Year which was then called the Preparatory Year in 2008. Then subsequently in 2010, I was accepted for a scholarship sponsored by KSU for the United States of America at Murray State University where I completed my MA in TESOL and my PhD in English Language at Texas A&M University.

**Interviewer:** As the current Vice Chair of the ELSD, is there anything that you would like to improve in the programme?

**Dr. Hessah Aldayel:** “My aim is to use technology in every single opportunity there is to maximize edu-tech resources and utilize quality class time”.

**Interviewer:** What do you think makes this program unique from any other programs?

**Dr. Hessah Aldayel:** “I was honestly so impressed by the operation and the structure of the program. The ELSD is considered as one of the largest English programs in the Middle East. Our Curriculum is also based on the European standards so our students don’t have to go abroad to study outside the country. We facilitated all this for students as if they are in a foreign country”.

**Interviewer:** Are there any advice that you would like to share with our students?

**Dr. Hessah Aldayel:** “There is an inspirational speech that I heard which I would like to share with our students, and it goes like this - Everyone has something to share and you get to learn something from every one. Don’t put limit to your ability and no matter what the circumstances are always do your best and don’t be afraid of failure because that's what you do when you’re chasing your dreams. Don’t look at failure as an obstacle but rather treat it as something that will help you become a successful person”.

**Interviewer:** What is your personal vision for our students at ELSD?

**Dr. Hessah Aldayel:** “To achieve the goal of preparing students for the different demands of their academic studies, as well as succeeding in the future in their own chosen fields of expertise.

In closing, Dr. Hessah also added, “As I also teach alongside my role as the Vice Chair, I feel that this connection with students and their positivity inspire me to do well with my passion and my work”.
A New Start

By Huda Al Anazyi, Student, Olaysha Female Campus

These past few weeks, students at King Saud University have started taking their mid-term examinations. Doing well on these exams is not only important to keep a student’s grade up, but also to move on to the next stage of their educational journey.

Students have submitted the first assignments of this semester and started working on course projects. Through this entire buzz, some are forgetting the reason they are at KSU in the first place. At KSU, the main goal is for students to learn from their mistakes and to acquire skills that set them on the path to success.

One of the most important tips for students is not to give up after a failure. An exam mark shows how well the student understands the subject at that point in time, but it does not demonstrate the student’s learning abilities. Students should look at exams and assignments as learning opportunities and not hurdles on their path to success. They should look at them as chances to boost their grade. Most importantly, students at KSU should always have faith in Allah and depend on Him in all of their endeavors.

“We (the younger generation) think in a very different way. Our dreams are different.”  (Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman)
Prep for your writing exam

By Balkis Al Nachi, Teacher Olaysha Female Campus

In this article, you will find tips and advice to help you develop your writing focusing on the needs of your readers. Here are the five top tips:

1. Think About Your Readers' Needs
To keep your reader’s attention, you should:
   • Make your text clear
   • Avoid long sentences
   • Use simple words and avoid repeating the same words (use synonyms)
   • Use grammar and punctuation correctly

2. Basic Rules for Good Written English
It is important that you pay attention to the basic rules for good written English: accurate spelling and correct use of grammar and punctuation.

3. Write Regularly to Develop Confidence and Quality
Students who make a routine out of writing about anything in their daily lives find that it helps them to concentrate on their work. This also helps them feel more comfortable putting their thoughts into words. As a result, writing an assignment will not be new to them nor that difficult. So, WRITE, WRITE, AND WRITE.

4. Drafting and Re-Drafting
It is important to remember in the early stages of your writing that you are working on a draft, not the finished thesis. Keep writing even if you know that you can do better; leave the improvements until you come to write the next draft. This will give you time to reflect and think more carefully about anything that you might need to change.

5. Get Feedback on Your Writing and Use It
Getting feedback from your teachers as your writing progresses should already be a part of your work plan and your strategy for managing your writing. Your teachers may structure their feedback in a way that brings out the positives before going on to talk about any weaknesses. You will need to take a balanced approach. Be pleased with the positives, but take seriously any weaknesses and listen to and act on any comments your teachers might have for addressing these.
By Aisha Al-Jabri, Student Olaysha Female Campus

The lobby is free for all the activities.

Using smart classes and educational technology are making learning more fun.

Sometimes all what we need is just relaxing with nature to get back stronger than before.

The university library is a source of important information for students. Therefore, everyone should benefit from this treasure.