Session 21

Study this information about some programming languages. Be ready to use this information in the discussion with other students.

Java	Developed by Sun Microsystems in the mid-1990s, Java is widely used for developing interactive applications for the Internet.
Ada	Named after Countess Ada Lovelace (one of the first programmers); it is a superset of Pascal. Ada is a structured language developed and used by the US Department of Defense. It is now used not only for military applications, but also in air traffic systems (UK), on high-speed rail system (TGV, France), the metro suburban trains in Paris and London.
Logo	Logo is an easy-to-use language that is primarily used to teach children how to program.
LISP	Stands for LISt Processor; LISP is designed to process nonnumeric data - that is, symbols such as characters or words. It is used to develop applications in the field of artificial intelligence.

Prolog	Stands for PROgramming LOGic; Prolog is used to develop applications in the field of artificial intelligence. It is a popular tool for natural-language programming.
Perl	Its name comes from Practical Report and Extraction Language. It first appeared in 1987 as a Unix-based tool for producing reports but is now widely used for creating interactive webpages.
HTML	Stands for HyperText Markup Language; HTML is a page description language used to prepare a text for display in a browser program.

XML	Stands for extensible Markup Language; XML is a metalanguage for creating webpages with meaningful data that can be used by a variety of programs.

C++	C++ is an object-oriented superset of C which combines the best features of a structured high-level language and an assembly language - that is, it's relatively easy to code and uses computer resources efficiently. C was originally designed to write systems software but is now considered a general purpose language.
Visual Basic	BASIC stands for Beginners' All-purpose Symbolic Instruction Code; Visual Basic is a simple-to-use language that has a graphical interface. It makes it particularly easy for an inexperienced programmer to create database programs.

Pascal	Pascal, named after the mathematician Blaise Pascal, was created primarily to fill the need for a teaching vehicle that would encourage structured programming. It is often used in college computing courses.
COBOL	Stands for COmmon Business-Oriented Language; it has been around for a long number of years but is still an important transaction-processing language used to process the records of large organizations on mainframe computers.
FORTRAN	Stands for FORmula TRANslator; FORTRAN was designed by scientists in 1954 and is oriented toward manipulating formulas for scientific, mathematical, and engineering problem-solving applications.

2. Together decide what the most appropriate language would be to use for each of these situations and explain why you think so.

a. A schoolteacher wants his young pupils to learn some basic mathematics by controlling a simple robot.

b. The owner of a small business wants to create a simple database program to keep track of his stock.

c. An engineer wants to develop a program for calculating the stresses in a mechanical device.

d. A student wants to create webpages for a personal website.

e. A systems programmer wants to add some new modules to an operating system.

f. A programmer working for the US army wants to create a program for controlling a new type of weapon.

g. A finance company needs to process data from its branch offices on its mainframe computer.

h. A website designer wants to enable the data on his website to be easily processed by a number of different programs.

i. A student studying artificial intelligence wants to write some programs for a course project.

j. A college lecturer wants his students to learn the principles of programming.

k. A website designer wants to password-protect a section of a website.

Make use of the below mentioned phrases of certainty and uncertainty to help you express your point of view.

Certainty	Uncertainty
I'm absolutely convinced that…	I'm not sure about it…
I'm sure that…	I doubt it…
There's no doubt that…	I'm not really sure about…
I think…	I don't know for sure…
I feel that…	It's very unlikely…
In my opinion…	I don't think so…
I suppose that…	I don't believe this is true…
It seems to me that…	There's some doubt in my mind that …
As far as I know…	I'm not a hundred percent sure…
As far as I understand…	I am not sure / certain, but…

1. **Before listening to the conversation between Lucy and Anna, match the phrases (1–6) with the definitions (a–f).**

1. to cancel a meeting	a. to change the time or date of a meeting
2. to confirm a meeting	b. to have a meeting at a later time or date
3. to bring a meeting forward	c. to say that a meeting will happen
4. to postpone a meeting	d. to have a meeting at an earlier time or date
5. to move a meeting	e. to say that you will go to a meeting
6. to accept an invitation to a meeting	f. to decide that a meeting will not take place

Choose the correct option

- 1. The meeting time was first planned for _____.
- a. 9 a.m.
- b. 11a.m.
- c. 1 p.m.
- 2. Moving the meeting
- a. Lucy wants to cancel the meeting.
- b. Lucy wants to bring the meeting forward.
- c. Lucy wants to postpone the meeting.
- 3. The new meeting time is _____.
- a. 9 a.m.
- b. 11a.m.
- c. 1 p.m.

- 4. The agenda
- a. Anna has already sent the agenda.
- b. Anna is sending the agenda now.
- c. Anna will send the agenda later.
- 5. Lucy's presentation
- a. Lucy is nervous about her presentation.
- b. Lucy is looking forward to her presentation.
- c. Lucy isn't ready to give her presentation.
- 6. Telling the other people
- a. Lucy will tell the others about the time change.
- b. Sven will tell the others about the time change.
- c. Anna will tell the others about the time change.

4. Complete the sentences with the words from the box.

accept, bring, agenda, forward, postpone, invitation, cancel, change

1. I sent an _____ with the topics for the meeting.
2. Could we _____ the meeting to a later date?
3. Could we _____ the meeting _____ to a nearlier time?
4. The project has been stopped. So, we need to _____ the meeting.
5. I'll tell everyone about the time _____ .
6. I'll send a meeting _____ with the time and place.
7. I'll _____ the invitation when I get it.

5. Work with your partner. Discuss the meeting time. Useful language box might help you.

Useful language

Do you have a minute to talk about the meeting ...?

I have a bit of a problem with the time.

Would it be possible to move it?

What would suit you?

Could we make it 10 o'clock?

Letter of Invitation

Start-up

A letter of invitation basically contains the following information:
1. **the event** you are inviting to;
2. **the reason** of invitation (why you are inviting them) (although this is not always necessary)
3. **the place and the time** of the event (when and where it is)
4. **asking for confirmation** if they can attend.

1. Read the two examples of business emails (letters) of invitation. Decide which one is formal and which one is less formal.

Email 1

Hi Ian,

We're holding a meeting on the current problems with the computer systems and **I'd appreciate it if you could come**. Having somebody like yourself there from the legal department is important because of the problems we've had with the loss of customer data. The meeting **will take place** next Thursday at 2 p.m. in meeting room 3 in the Corley Building in Leeds.

If there's anything you would like to discuss in the meeting, send it to me by email and I'll include it in the meeting's agenda.

Let me know as soon as possible if you can attend.

Regards,

David Mitchell

IT Project Manager

Email 2

Dear Mr. Smith,

My name is Sue Jenkins and **I am writing on behalf of** Reef Technologies PLC.
We are pleased to announce that we are sponsoring a series of presentations on the future of renewable energy. The presentations are going to be performed by world-renowned experts in the field and will consider future advances in the technology of renewable energy.

Due to your company having worked with Reef Technologies PLC in the past, **we would like to invite you to** the event. **The event will be held** at the Randalls Conference Centre in Leeds between 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. on the 12th of April. **If you require directions to the venue, please let me know**.

If you would like to attend, please confirm your attendance by replying to this email by the 18th of March.

If you have any questions about the event, please do not hesitate to contact me by email (on sjenkins@reeftech.com) or by mobile/cell (on 07867 7433123).
I look forward to receiving your reply.

Yours faithfully,

Sue Jenkins

PR Manager

Reef Technologies PLC

2. Complete the sentences with one of the phrases in bold from the above emails.

1. A formal way of saying *'will take place'*, is …
2. A polite way of saying *'I want you to come'* or *'you should come'*, is …
3. A formal phrase which is used to say which company you work for / represent, is …
4. An informal phrase used to ask somebody to confirm quickly if they can attend / go to the event / meeting, is …
5. A less formal way of saying where the event *'will be held'*, is …
6. A formal phrase used to ask somebody to confirm if they can attend / go to the event / meeting, is …
7. A formal phrase used to ask somebody to attend / go to an event, is…
8. A not very formal phrase used to introduce what type of event / meeting you are going to have, is …
9. A phrase used to offer to send the person directions to get to the place / location, is…
10. A very formal phrase used to introduce what type of event you are inviting the person to, is …

3. Look at the phrases in italics in another email below. One phrase in each pair is more formal, the other phrase – more informal. Choose all the formal phrases.

(1) *Dear Mary,* / *Hi Mary,*

(2) *I'm writing to invite you* / *We would be very pleased if you could come* to a meeting here on the 14th of May. (3) *It has been arranged* / *I've arranged it* to bring together all our colleagues working in Central Europe (4) *to* / *in order to* share experience about working in this market. (5) *Your attendance will be very welcome* / *It'd be great to see you.*

The meeting will last all day and will have an informal agenda – (6) *you won't need to* / *it will not be necessary to* write a report for it or make a presentation. (7) *Refreshments will be provided* / *There'll be plenty to eat and drink* during the day.

(8) *Hope to see you in May!* / *Your presence at the meeting will be very useful.* Please let me know if you (9) *will be able to attend* / *can make it,* (10) *asap* / *as soon as possible.*

Best regards,

(11) *John Saunders* / *Stephanie*

4. Complete the phrases with one word in each gap. Use the emails above. Several answers may be possible.

1. We _____ be very pleased if you _____ come to a meeting here on the 28 July.
2. Your _____ at the meeting will be very _____. I hope you can _____ it.
3. Please _____ me _____ if you can attend, _____ soon as possible.
4. It has been _____ to share experience.
5. _____ will be provided.
6. Your _____ will be very _____.

5. Match the English and Russian equivalents:

1. We have the honour to invite you …

2. Allow us to invite you …

3. It would give us great pleasure if you could visit …

4. We would like to invite you to …

5. We would be grateful (to you) if you could visit …

6. We are pleased to announce that …

7. Please confirm your attendance

8. The event will be held

9. I look forward to receiving your reply

a. С удовольствием сообщаем, что …

b. Мы были бы признательны (Вам), если бы Вы смогли посетить …

c. Нам было бы очень приятно, если бы Вы смогли посетить …

d. Мероприятие пройдет в …

e. Имеем честь пригласить Вас …

f. Приглашаем Вас …

g. С нетерпением ожидаем ваш ответ

h. Разрешите пригласить Вас …

i. Подтвердите, пожалуйста, ваше участие.

6. Read the following invitation from the German Chamber of Commerce and choose the best words from the options in brackets.

Dear Mr. Bond,

We (wish / want / would like) to invite you to our annual dinner on the 15th of February and (wonder / ask / demanded) if you would consider being one of our guest (announcers / speakers / talkers). The theme we are promoting this year is the Single European Currency, and we would (admire / like / appreciate) a contribution from your field of manufacturing how this would (afflict / affect / alter) you and your colleagues' enterprises.

Please (leave / let / make) us know as soon as possible if you are able to (arrive / assist / attend). (Inside / Enclosed / Within) you will find a formal invitation (to / of / for) yourself and a guest.

All the best,

Mark Pitch Chairman

ACTIVATING VOCABULARY

Match the English words (phrases) with their Russian equivalents.

1.	downside	a.	в сочетании с чем-либо
2.	to care about	b.	сбивающий с толку
3.	honorable	c.	согласовать с чем-либо
4.	in conjunction with sth / sb	d.	отрицательная сторона
5.	confusing	e.	иметь значение
6.	to matter	f.	уважаемый
7.	to align with	g.	заботиться о чём-либо

- 1. Choose the best answer to these questions. Sometimes more than one correct
- option is possible.
- 1. What is the biggest factor that is taken into consideration by IT companies when
- they're looking for a new employee?
- a. Your education
- b. Your personal projects
- c. Your work experience
- 2. What kind of companies tend to care a lot about which specific language you
- know?
- a. IT giants
- b. Start-ups
- c. Non-governmental organizations
- 3. The given list of top five programming languages to learn is based on _____.
- a. the job market information
- b. personal experience
- c. the ease of learning
- d. the job market information and ease of learning
- 4. Ruby is a programming language from _____.
- a. the USA
- b. Finland
- c. Japan
- d. Denmark

- 5. If you are interested in making an iPhone application you should learn_____.
- a. JavaScript
- b. Python
- c. Swift
- d. Ruby
- 6. It's not easy to create an iOS app with Swift if you_____.
- a. have a Mac
- b. have a PC
- c. don't have a Mac
- 7. What is the main downside of Swift?
- a. It isn't easy to get a job for those who know Swift.
- b. It is not cross-platform.
- c. It isn't an easy language to learn.

- 8. Python is a good choice for those who are interested in _____.
- a. machine learning
- b. mobile app development
- c. data science
- 9. What is easier to learn?
- a. JavaScript
- b. C++
- c. Not stated
- 10. JavaScript is used to create _____.
- a. front-end code
- b. back-end code
- c. front-end and back-end code as well
- 11. Front-end code means the code that runs on _____.
- a. your device
- b. your server
- c. your browser

- 12. Put the programming languages in the same order as they are listed in the video,
- starting with the first top language:
- a. Java
- b. JavaScript
- c. Swift
- d. Ruby
- e. Python
- 13. Go programming language is known for its _____.
- a. popular frameworks
- b. efficiency and simple syntax
- c. popularity in many companies
- 14. Kotlin is considered to become the primary language for developing _____.
- a. Android apps
- b. iOS apps
- c. Linux apps
- 15. What is the correct way to pronounce the word "SQL":
- a. [ˈɛs kjuː ˈɛl]
- b. [ˈsiːkwəl]
- c. All above
- 16. SQL is _____.
- a. easy to learn
- b. similar to other programming languages
- c. used in conjunction with other programming languages
- d. used to build Android apps

2. Match the words that go together in the video.

1.	to look for	a.	used in conjunction with other languages
2.	problem-solving	b.	cross-platform
3.	to apply	c.	mentions
4.	to align	d.	choice
5.	job	e.	a job at Google
6.	to be	f.	ability
7.	optimal	g.	with smb's interests
8.	to be	h.	market
9.	honorable	i.	for a job
10.	to get	j.	coding skills

3. Watch the video one more time and talk over the advantages and downsides of the programming languages being discussed.

4. Discuss the following questions.

1. Does it matter for you which programming language to learn? Why?
2. Does the language you are learning align with your interests?
3. How do you find your problem-solving skills and algorithms knowledge? Are these skills important for getting a job?
4. Have you ever tried to apply for a job? If yes, did you get the job?
5. Have you got any idea what questions are asked at a job interview?
6. What kind of company are you planning to get work experience?