UNIT 1: WHAT IS LINGUA FRANCA?

1. A Lingua Franca (or working language, bridge language, vehicular language) is a language systematically used for communication, possibly among people who do not share a common language. Generally, a lingua franca is a third language that is distinct from a native or mother language. On the other hand, when two people communicate with each other, they can choose a different language out of their native one as their lingua franca among their conversations. The term of ‘Lingua Franca’ is functionally defined beyond the boundaries of its original community, the linguistic history, or structure of the language. It was first used during the Middle Ages for cross-boundaries trading in the Mediterranean, as the combination between French and Italian.

2. Arabic was another EARLY lingua franca in the other hemispheric of Asia continent—the Islamic Empire in the Arabian Peninsular. The Arabic became a lingua franca in this region to serve its expansions of science, diplomacy, and written records or books through the cross-cultural communication as a common language in China, India, parts of Central Asia, the Middle East, Northern Africa, and parts of Southern Europe. The Romance and the Chinese language were also used as lingua francas along with worldwide communication among diverse groups of people in different countries to communicate.
3. During the AGE of EXPLORATION, lingua francas also played an enormous role to conduct trade and other important communications among European explorers. For instance, Portuguese was the lingua franca of diplomatic and trade relations in areas like coastal Africa, portions of India, and even Japan. Malay became the lingua franca of Southeast Asia that the Arab and Chinese merchants used for communication among the native peoples in this continent. Even the Dutch and British spoke Malay—the lingua franca during their international trading.

4. TODAY, lingua francas play an important role in global communication as well. The United Nations defines its official languages as Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish. The most obvious current lingua franca is ENGLISH language, which becomes an official language of international business, science, technology, and aviation. There are many other lingual francas along with the multilingual places like Asia and Africa define several unofficial lingua francas to facilitate easier communication between ethnic groups and regions.

Source: http://www.Wikipedia.org
http://taejunomics.blogspot.com/2011/01/lingua-franca.html
http://geography.about.com/od/culturalgeography/a/linguafranca.htm
A) VOCABULARY

Activity 1 A: Look at the words in each paragraph below.
How many words do you know the meaning?
Put each word in the correct type:
- noun (n.)
- adjective (adj.)
- adverb (adv.)
- verb (v.)
Write the meanings of each word in your language.
Ex:  big = ใหญ่
Add more synonyms of each word:
Ex:  big = large, huge
Use a dictionary to help you find the meaning of each word.

Paragraph 1
- bridge
- vehicular
- systematically
- define
- common
- generally
- distinct
- native
- functionally
- possibly
- among
- beyond
- boundary
- original
- trading
- community
- linguistic
- history
- structure
- middle
- combination

Paragraph 2
- hemispheric
- continent
- empire
- peninsular
- region
- serve
- expansion
- science
- diplomacy
- record
- diverse
- different

Paragraph 3
- exploration
- enormous
- role
- conduct
- explorer
- for instance
- diplomatic
- relation
- coastal
- portion
- merchant

Paragraph 4
- global
- official
- obvious
- current
- aviation
- multilingual
- facilitate
- ethnic
- region

Suggested resources: 1. Any English-Thai dictionary
3. Online dictionary: www.dict.lonodo.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORDS</th>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>SYNONYM</th>
<th>MEANING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bridge</td>
<td>(n.)</td>
<td>flyover, overpass</td>
<td>สะพาน, ตัวเชื่อม</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vehicular</td>
<td>(v.)</td>
<td>connect, join, link</td>
<td>ข้าม, เชื่อมต่อ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>systematically</td>
<td>(adj.)</td>
<td>automotive</td>
<td>เกี่ยวกับพาหนะ, ยวดยาน</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>define</td>
<td>(adv.)</td>
<td>orderly, methodically</td>
<td>อย่างเป็นระบบ, อย่างมีระเบียบ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(v.)</td>
<td>describe, explain</td>
<td>กำหนด, ระบุ, นิยาม</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Activity 1B: Identifying a topic

- A ‘topic’ of a paragraph is a general concept that can describe or give an overall content idea of the paragraph.
- Topic is usually written in a phrase or group of words.

Match a correct topic in each paragraph. Write the answer in the blank.

Paragraph 1: ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
Paragraph 2: ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
Paragraph 3: ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
Paragraph 4: ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

i. Lingua franca at the old age
ii. The discovery age of Lingua franca
iii. Lingua franca at present
iv. Meaning of lingua franca

Activity 2B: Finding the main idea

- The ‘Main Idea’ is a topic sentence that represents a key concept of the paragraph.
- When reading a paragraph, a reader should get, at least, the topic sentence that give a preview content of the paragraph.
- Then, this main sentence or main idea leads the reader to the details or supportive contents throughout the whole paragraph.
- Generally, the main idea of a passage is the first sentence of the paragraph.
- The main idea of a paragraph is, sometimes, a rewritten sentence from the key concept of the whole paragraph or, even, the first sentence of the passage.
**Example:** Paragraph 1

Main Idea: A *Lingua Franca* is a language systematically used for communication, possibly among people who do not share a common language.

Read the passages and write the **Main Idea** of each paragraph

Paragraph 2: .................................................................

.................................................................

Paragraph 3: .................................................................

.................................................................

Paragraph 4: .................................................................

.................................................................

Activity 3B: Getting the supportive content of the reading

I. Write the best answer of the following questions.

1. Find another 3 terms that define the same meaning as ‘Lingua Franca’

.................................................................

2. What were the first 2 languages used as lingua francas in the Middle Ages?

.................................................................

3. Why did people use the Arabic language as a lingua franca in the Islamic Empire in Asia?

.................................................................

4. Which region was the Arabic language used as a common language in the early age?

.................................................................

5. What were another 2 languages used as a lingua franca in Asia during the early age?

.................................................................
II. Read the statements below. Write **T for True** or **F for False** according to the reading passage.

____1. The Portuguese language was used to communicate for trading in Japan long time ago.
____2. The Malay language was used as a lingua franca in Asia continent.
____3. To express some political issue among international ambassadors, the African and the Indian needed to use Portuguese as a common language to communicate.
____4. Merchants in Malaysia usually spoke English with foreigners when talking about business.
____5. The English language becomes a lingua franca in South East Asia.

III. Look as the topic word and its word group in each item.

Circle a word that does NOT belong to its group according to the reading passages.

Example: Lingual Franca: common working **communicative** third bridge (language)

1. **UN Official Languages**: Arabic Chinese Spanish Japanese French
2. **Lingua Franca’s roles**: business technology education science aviation
3. **Arabic expansions**: science diplomacy records ethnics books
4. **Arabian peninsular**: Russia Central Asia China Middle East India
5. **Common languages**: English Dutch Malay Portuguese Italian

C) GRAMMAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Adjective (Adj.)</th>
<th>Adverb (Adv.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* words used to describe nouns.</td>
<td>* words used to describe or modify verbs.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* give more information about a noun.</td>
<td>* give more information about a verb.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* make your writing more interesting.</td>
<td>* make your writing more interesting.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forms</th>
<th>* Adjective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>* Noun (as an Adj.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Put in a sentence</th>
<th>* Adj. + N.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>* Be + Adj.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Put in a sentence</th>
<th>* Adv. + V.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>* Adv., Sub + V.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>* Sub + V, Adv.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Samples**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjective (Adj.)</th>
<th>Adverb (Adv.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| * Asian people speak **different** languages.  
  * Arabic language was used to serve the expansion of written **recorded** books during the old time.  
  * English language is **important**. | * Lingua franca is **systematically** used as a common language.  
  * **Generally**, lingual franca is a third language.  
  * Arabic was a lingua franca in some parts of Asian continent, **commonly**. |

**Activity 1C:** Read the statements below and underline the adjectives and the adverbs.

**Example:** People in Thailand speak Thai as their **native** language.  (**Adj.**)

1. Lingua franca was firstly used during the middle age in Mediterranean.
2. Lingua franca plays an enormous role in global communication.
3. English language is functionally promoted to be a lingua franca in ASEAN working language.
4. Singapore people use English and Mandarin as their official languages.
5. Chinese language may become a common language to communicate in international trading.

**D) WRITING**

**Activity 1D:** Write down the correct form of the word in brackets (adjective or adverb).

**Example:** Tom is **slow**. He works **slowly**.  (**slow**)

1. Sue is a ******** girl. She climbed up the ladder ********.  (**careful**)
2. The dog is. ******** It barks ********.  (**angry**)
3. He acted ********. He's an ******** actor.  (**excellent**)
4. They learn English ********. They think English is an ******** language.  (**easy**)
5. The little boy looked _______. I went over to comfort him and he looked at me _______.  (**sad**)
Activity 2D: Complete the following passage by putting adjective or adverb in the blank.

Harry Handforth was a 1) ________ (nice) person, but he was not a 2) ________ (careful) driver. When he got into the car, he was a 3) ________ (different) man. He drove very 4) ________ (fast), and he opened the car window and shouted 5) ________ (loud) at other people on the road.

One day a police officer stopped him. Harry Handforth was very 6) ________ (angry), but the police officer smiled at him 7) ________ (nice). “Can I see your driving license?” she said. “Of course,” Harry said and looked for it 8) ________ (nervous). He couldn’t find it. “I’m afraid you’ll have to leave the car here then,” the police officer said. Harry Handforth got 9) ________ (slow) out of the car. “Come to the police station tomorrow,” the police officer said. “Alright,” Harry said 10) ________ (angry). Then he walked home. Five long miles!