The Majlis -Lemon and Herb

Learning Outcome: Read an article about the Majlis and answer detailed questions and about the text.

The Majlis is a central part of Middle Eastern life. The concept of the Majlis dates back to the days of Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) and beyond. It is an ancient tradition which key functions are to develop a sense of community, and to create a place that is welcoming and hospitable to visitors.

In the GCC countries, this ancient tradition holds great significance and it is generally focused on family and friendly gatherings. It is also of great importance to business, especially family businesses who use them to connect and interact with their community and customers.

Kuwait has its own form of Majlis – the Diwaniya. Similar to the Majlis, it is an area where guests, neighbours and friends are received in order to discuss current events, exchange views and share good-natured banter. The Diwaniya is a key part of Kuwaiti life and tradition. It has played a crucial role in the development of the country, as it was in many Diwanyias that major issues were discussed and agreed. The modern Diwaniya has a relaxed atmosphere and is often equipped with televisions, computers and the Internet.

The Majlis is also a form of informal education. It welcomes all age groups, and it is through observing elders in the Majlis that young people learn the manners and ethics of their community. They can also observe key leaderships skills in action, such as dialogue, listening skills and respect for the opinion of others.

1. List three functions of the Majlis.

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2. What subjects do people generally discuss in the Majlis? (2 Points)

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3. Question How do young people learn in the Majlis? (2 Points)

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4. What kind of majlis would you like to have in your home?

LIVEWORKSHEETS