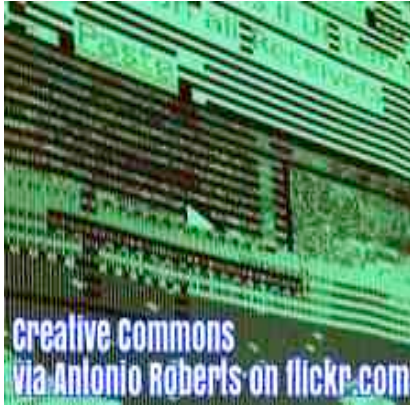## UAE will train a million people in coding

27th October, 2017

The United Arab Emirates is starting a new programme to teach people computer coding. One million people will receive free training to learn how to code apps and computer software. The new initiative was launched by the UAE's Prime Minister, and ruler of Dubai, Sheikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum. It is called the One Million Arab Coders initiative. Sheikh Mohammad wants young Arabs in the Middle East to have the skills to develop the digital economy in their countries. Sheikh Mohammad said: "Coding will create many job opportunities for young people to compete. It will pave the way for them to participate in the global economy online, from home."

The new initiative will encourage the large number of young people living in the Middle East to get into coding. Studies show that 50 per cent of the Arab population is under 25 years old, and that 40 per cent of these hope to own their own business within the next five years. Sheikh Mohammad said: "This project is part of [our] mission to spread hope in the region, create employment opportunities and give our youth the skills needed for them to successfully lead our region into the future." He added that: "From the world's leading companies to the global economy itself, programming is the future." The top ten students will receive $50,000, while the top student will win a $1 million prize.

Sources: *gulfnews.com / thenational.ae / stepfeed.com*

Writing

We must all learn how to code. Coding is the most important skill for the future. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

programme / coding / apps / initiative / develop / digital / economy / pave / global / encourage / population / business / project / mission / opportunities / future / prize

True / False

a)   A million people will pay a dollar each for a coding training programme. T / F

b)   The new initiative was launched by Dubai's leader. T / F

c)   The initiative is not just for people living in the UAE. T / F

d)   The coding programme will mean people will be able to work at home. T / F

e)   Around 25% of people in the Middle East are under 50 years old. T / F

f)   About 40% of young people in the Middle East want their own business. T / F

g)   It is hoped the project will lead the Far East in the future. T / F

h)   The top student in the coding programme will win $50,000. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

1.	**receive**	a.	started
2.	**initiative**	b.	chances
3.	**launched**	c.	persuade
4.	**develop**	d.	inside
5.	**participate**	e.	plan
6.	**encourage**	f.	guide
7.	**within**	g.	take part
8.	**opportunities**	h.	get
9.	**lead**	i.	award
10.	**prize**	j.	grow

Discussion – Student A

a)   What do you think coding is?

b)   Would you like to learn coding?

c)   How lucky are the people to get free coding training?

d)   What is your country doing to train people in coding?

e)   What kind of job opportunities are there for coders?

f)   How important is the digital economy?

g)   What would it be like to work from home?

h)   How good are your computer skills?

Phrase Match

1. learn how to code
2. ruler
3. the skills to develop the digital
4. create many job
5. participate in
6. get into
7. part of our mission
8. give our youth the skills
9. successfully lead our region
10. the top student will win a

a. into the future
b. the global economy
c. coding
d. apps
e. economy
f. $1 million prize
g. opportunities
h. to spread hope
i. needed
j. of Dubai

Discussion – Student B

a) What do you think about what you read?
b) How useful do you think coding is?
c) What are the bad things about coding?
d) Should coding be taught at all schools?
e) Would you like to own your own business?
f) Hope much hope do you see in the next five years?
g) Would you like to take this coding course?
h) What questions would you like to ask the project leaders?

Spelling

1. reeeciv free training
2. lerur of Dubai
3. the One Million Arab Coders etvitiniai
4. have the skills to vdeleop
5. pave the way for them to pcipittraae
6. in the global oyoenmc
7. ecgoeranu the large number of young
8. the Arab niapoutolp
9. part of our iiomssn
10. successfully lead our noiegr
11. the world's nagilde companies
12. win a $1 million izrep

Role Play

Role A – App Developer
You think an app developer is the best coding job. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their jobs. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these jobs (and why): a games designer, a website designer or a security analyst.

Role B – Games Developer
You think a games designer is the best coding job. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their jobs. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these jobs (and why): an app developer, a website designer or a security analyst.

Role C – Website Designer
You think a website designer is the best coding job. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their jobs. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these jobs (and why): a games designer, an app developer or a security analyst.

Role D – Security Analyst
You think a security analyst is the best coding job. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their jobs. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these jobs (and why): a games designer, a website designer or an app developer.

Speaking – Coding jobs

Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- operating systems
- social network design
- photo software
- website designer

- apps developer
- games developer
- blog designer
- security software

Answers – Synonym Match

1. h	2. e	3. a	4. j	5. g
6. c	7. d	8. b	9. f	10. i

Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	T	d	T	e	F	f	T	g	F	h	F

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.