



Unit 3

The Culture And Traditions Of The UAE

Lessons 9-10

Modern literature and traditional poetry in UAE

CB pages: 36 /37



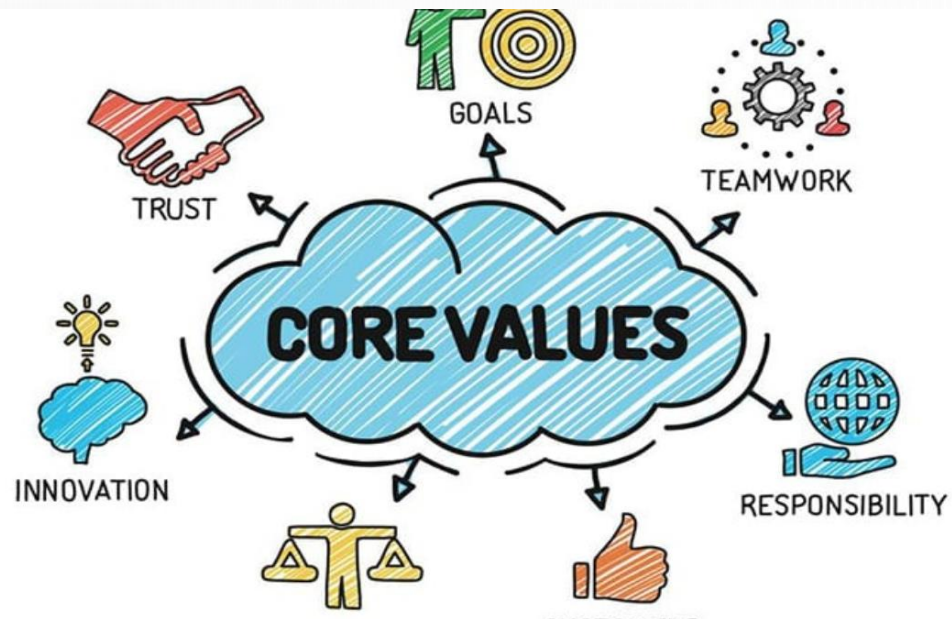


• Learning Objectives

- **To use the new vocab in correct sentences**
 - Use **qualifiers** in sentences correctly.
 - **To read a text for specific information.**
- 

Key Vocabulary

values, balance, respect, knowledge,
traditional, modern, casual, serious,
respectful, fascinating, international



values



balance



respect

respectful



international



knowledge



traditional



modern



fascinating



casual

Speaking

3 21st Discuss this question in pairs.

- Talk about famous poets in the UAE.

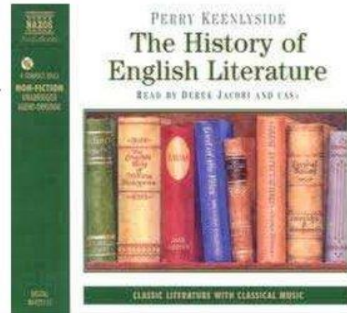
- **And the famous poetry competitions in UAE**

What is Literature?

Poems, plays, novels and short stories in a given language collectively make up a national literature.

It is never static.

For the reader literature is simply beautiful, meaningful writing.



We can learn different facts about “Literature”

What is literature???



Literature is any piece of writing that is valued as work of art.

For example novels, poems, short stories, plays...

WHAT IS LITERATURE?

Literature is a “performance in words”. It has an element of entertaining display, we expect literature to be in some sense entertaining, or, to afford pleasure.

Reading

- 1 Read the text. What developments have taken place in UAE literature since the last century?

The traditional Arab world placed emphasis on poetry. However, in modern times, new generations of writers have started writing other forms of literature such as short stories, novels and plays. There are many reasons why this has happened.

Firstly, education in the UAE expanded and improved from the 1950s. More secondary schools and universities opened, which meant that more students had an academic training. This encouraged an interest in writing and literature.

Secondly, some individuals or families helped students to follow a course of academic study by helping them financially. Sultan Al-Owais, a merchant and a poet, was the first of his family to help others in this way. Today, the Al-Owais Cultural Prize is a highly respected literary award.

The custom of visiting intellectuals travelling throughout the UAE started in the early 20th century. They encouraged and inspired others to follow their example. This tradition continues today, with the UAE regularly inviting authors and university professors to literary gatherings, seminars and book festivals.



2 Find the words in the text that have the following meanings.

- 1** special importance given to something **emphasis**
- 2** increase in size **Expand (v)**
- 3** connected with higher education generally **academic**
- 4** someone who is involved in trade **merchant**
- 5** a person on his or her own **individual**
- 6** having a connection with literature **Literary**

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Use of English: Qualifiers

Qualifiers are words that make an **adverb** or **adjective** stronger. For example:

*Today the Al-Owais Cultural Prize is a **highly** respected literary award.*

Qualifiers + Adverb



More + truthfully = He tell me **more truthfully** than his brother Elsa.

Almost + Beautifully = The painting was done **almost beautifully** than I am expecting.

Indeed + sorrowfully = Ben's story was **indeed sorrowfully**.

Qualifiers + Adjectives



Very + Bright = Very bright. The sun was shining **very bright**.

Pretty + Cool = Pretty cool. His idea to hitch a bus is **pretty cool**.

Quite + Delicious = Quite delicious. The bread that was baked by mom is **quite delicious**.

Use of English: Qualifiers

Qualifiers are words that make an adverb or adjective stronger. For example:

*Today the Al-Owais Cultural Prize is a **highly** respected literary award.*

1 Circle the qualifiers in the following sentences.

- 1** In modern times, quite a few writers have started writing other forms of literature.
- 2** Sultan al-Owais is a very popular poet.
- 3** Education in the UAE has greatly expanded and improved.
- 4** Today, even more students in the UAE finish university.
- 5** The museum had a great deal of fascinating Arabic art.

2 Write a descriptive sentence using the adjectives provided. Add a qualifier.

exotic beautiful

1 The date gardens were very exotic and beautiful.

difficult challenging

2 The life in desert was difficult and challenging

friendly amusing

3 Camels races were held in a friendly and amusing way.

hot interesting

4 We played the match in hot weather, but it was interesting.

educated intelligent

5 I met that educated and intelligent professor.

interesting enjoyable

6 The class was interesting in an enjoyable way.

cool refreshing

Plenary

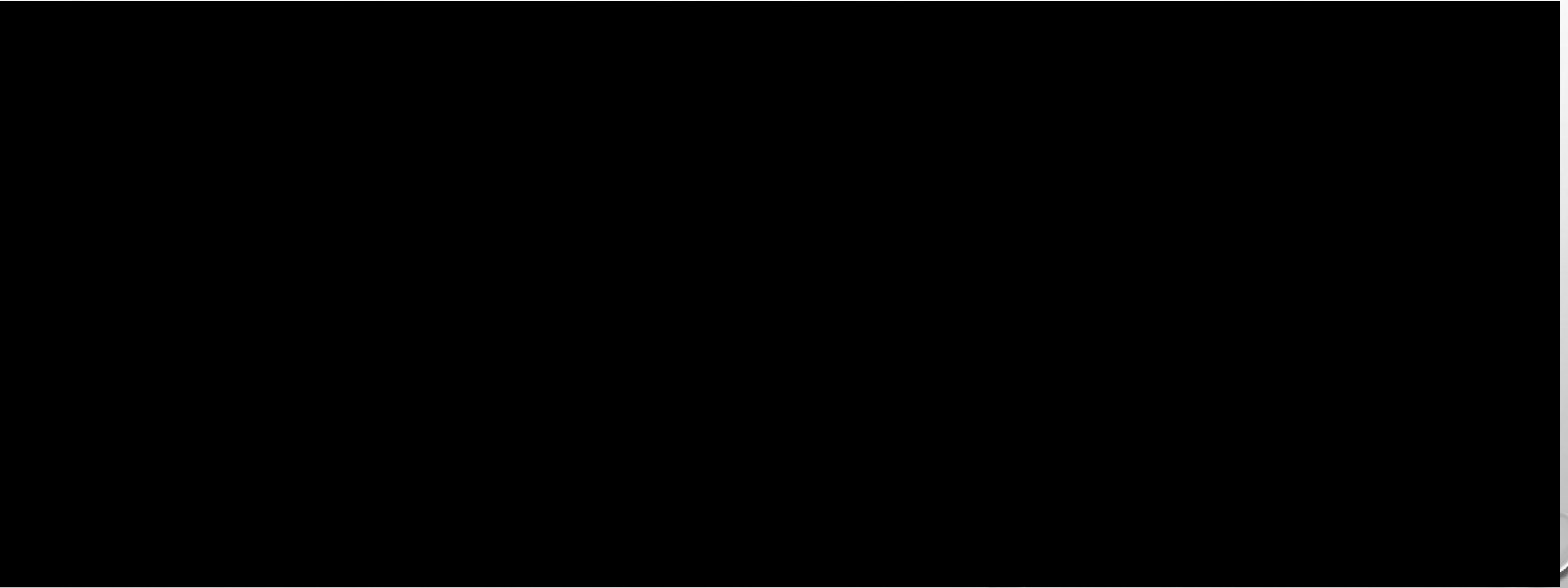
Describe the education in UAE during this pandemic using qualifiers.



Learning objectives

- **Read and understand the overall meaning** of simple extended texts on familiar and concrete topics..
- **Infer the meaning of unknown words** when reading simple texts on familiar and concrete topics

Let's watch this video about traditional poetry in UAE



Reading

- 4 Quickly read the text. What is Al-Taghrooda?

The tradition of chanting poetry

Al-Taghrooda

For centuries, the Bedouins have shared the tradition of chanting poetry known as Al-Taghrooda. The poetry was chanted between two groups of men when they rode on their camels in the desert. A tribesman from one group chanted the first verse and the other group replied.

The poems had a few verses of seven lines or fewer.

Families and tribal leaders have been retelling their past history and passing down their traditions in this way for generations.

The Bedouins believed that chanting poetry was entertaining and made the camels walk in time to the rhythm. They recited the poems around campfires. Women also chanted the poetry to each other when they worked together. They used the poetry as a way to send messages to family and friends. Sometimes, the Bedouins used the poetry to send messages to tribal chiefs or to settle disputes between people or tribes.

Al-Taghrooda has played an important social and cultural role in the UAE. Nowadays, people chant the poems at weddings and national festivities such as the Al Wathba Camel Race Festival.

Reading strategy

A topic sentence summarizes the main idea of the paragraph. The topic sentence usually is the first sentence in the paragraph.

For example: **What was the common belief about chanting poetry?**

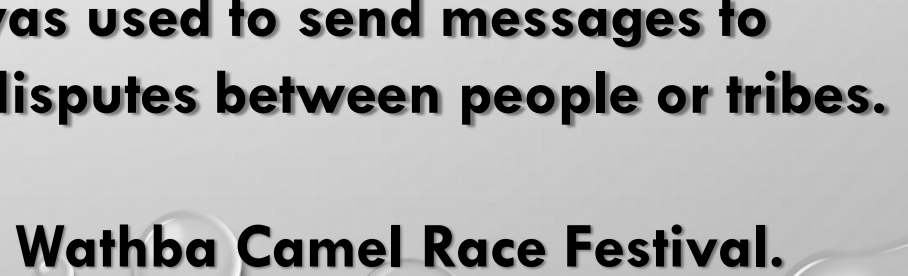
The answer is in paragraph two:

The Bedouins believed that chanting poetry was entertaining.

- 1 What was the Bedouin tradition of chanting poetry called?
- 2 How long were the poems?
- 3 How were the poems chanted?
- 4 What did the Bedouins believe about the poetry?
- 5 Name two places where Al-Taghrooda poetry was chanted.
- 6 Name one thing the poetry was used for.
- 7 What role has Al-Taghrooda played in the UAE?
- 8 Where would you hear Al-Taghrooda nowadays?

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Al-Taghrooda

- 2 **Seven lines or fewer**
 - 3 **A tribesman from one group chanted the first verse and the other group replied.**
 - 4 **It was entertaining and it made the camels walk in time to the rhythm.**
 - 5 **In the desert and around the campfire.**
 - 6 **It was used for re-telling history and traditions. It was used to send messages to loved ones, family and friends. It was used to settle disputes between people or tribes.**
 - 7 **An important social and cultural role.**
 - 8 **At weddings and national festivities such as the Al Wathba Camel Race Festival.**
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4 Write the verbs in the appropriate past tense to complete the sentences.

- 1 The Bedouins (recite) **Recited** their poetry around campfires.
- 2 Al-Taghrooda (play) **has played** an important social and cultural role in the UAE.
- 3 The tribesmen (pass down) **Have been passing down** their poetry for generations.
- 4 They (use) **used** Al-Taghrooda poems to send messages to loved ones.
- 5 When the Bedouins (chant) **Chanted** their poems, the camels (walk) **walked** to the same rhythm.
- 6 Al-Taghrooda (often be) **has often been** part of national ceremonies in recent years.
- 7 Bedouin women (find) **found** their domestic work less tiring if they had Al-Taghrooda to help them.
- 8 Emirati people (teach) **tought** new generations about their traditions for many years.

- 5 Use the word box to write a summary about Al-Taghrooda. Remember to use the correct tense: past simple, present perfect or present perfect continuous.

• share • chant • re-tell • believe • play

- 1 Bedouins have shared the tradition of chanting poetry for centuries.
- 2 The tribesman chanted poetry around the campfire.
- 3 Bedouins have been retelling their past history in this way for generations.
- 4 The Bedouins believed that chanting poetry made the camels walk into rhythm.
- 5 Al Taghrouda has played an important cultural role in the UAE.

Plenary

<https://wordwall.net/resource/5582799>