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CODE of CONDUCT

Activity One – read the short text paying particular attention to intonation and stress. At the end, briefly explain the words in **bold**.

Many jobs require a certain commitment to a particular moral **framework** which **governs** decisions you make, information you **disclose**, the way you **carry out** your work. In some professions this is established according to a national or international standards, in the medical profession for example, the code of medical ethics, in others it's a simple internal document or part of your contract. Most of these ethical rules are just **common sense**, some are a question of personal integrity and honesty. It's a little like religion. Many people who are not religious still have integrity and are capable of doing good things and respecting other people, in the name of their humanity, even if they don't follow the ten commandments.

Again, like religion, people's final decisions are often made according to their own personal set of values rather than any imposed code of ethics or rules. Often people will decide at some point that the end justifies the means and they will compromise on their own values at times when face with certain decisions. Ultimately our personal values will be put to the test at some point in our lives.

Activity Two Answer the following questions and ask your teacher or partner for their opinion.

1. Does your school or company have a code of conduct?
2. Are you familiar with all the rules?
3. Did you have to sign an agreement about them?
4. Do you follow them strictly?
5. Do you have your own values which determine your conduct, decisions and the way you work?
6. What are those values ?
7. Do your values correspond well with those of your company or school?
8. Do you know the ten commandments?
9. Do they correspond well with your personal values?
10. Which are you more likely to follow, your own rules, or your companies rules, if you had to make that difficult decision?

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Activity Three – Expressing your opinion – Read through the expressions.

Personal Point of View

- In my experience…
- As far as I'm concerned…
- Speaking for myself…
- In my opinion…
- Personally, I think…
- I'd say that…
- I'd suggest that…
- I'd like to point out that…
- I believe that…
- What I mean is…

General Point of View

- It is thought that...
- Some people say that...
- It is considered...
- It is generally accepted that...

Agreeing with an opinion

- Of course.
- You're absolutely right.
- Yes, I agree.
- I think so too.
- That's a good point.
- Exactly.
- I don't think so either.
- So do I.
- I'd go along with that.
- That's true.
- Neither do I.
- I agree with you entirely.
- That's just what I was thinking.
- I couldn't agree more.

Disagreeing with an opinion

- That's different.
- I don't agree with you.
- However…
- That's not entirely true.
- On the contrary…
- I'm sorry to disagree with you, but…
- Yes, but don't you think…
- That's not the same thing at all.
- I'm afraid I have to disagree.
- I'm not so sure about that.
- I must take issue with you on that.
- It's unjustifiable to say that...

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'Sorry...it just slipped!'

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Activity Four **Debate** - In two teams or simply, you against your teacher, debate the following point. Each side has to express their case for being for or against the following point (one for and one against). If you are in a team, discuss ideas and designate a speaker. Both speakers, for and against have the same amount of time to get their point across.
A discussion of various points will follow the two speeches. Each side can disagree with a certain point raised and explain why. The other side can do the same, they have to each take turns to respond to points made by the opposing side (members of the team) At the end vote to see who is still for, or against.

Do you believe that a company, profession or institution should have a code of conduct, does it really make a difference to the way that people behave and the decisions they make when faced with an urgent situation or difficult choice?

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Activity Five Modal verbs and levels of obligation (**Have to / Should - Modal Verbs of Obligation.)**

There are many ways to give advice, express obligation or give opinions in English. We usually use modal verbs, such as, **should, ought to, must, have to, may, can, had better**.

Have / has to
Have/has to expresses a strong obligation to do something.

For example: School children in England often have to wear a uniform (It is the school rule).

The form have / has to is followed by the **infinitive** of the verb, in this case 'wear'.

Must has a similar meaning to have/has to, but it expresses the feelings of the speaker.
Have/has to expresses the feelings of another person.

Compare these 2 sentences:
I must stop smoking (= I want to stop smoking)
He has to work tomorrow (= His boss wants him to work. He doesn't want to!)
Both have/has to and must are followed by the infinitive of the verb.

Should - Should is used for suggestions, advice and opinions.

It **is less strong** than. Have / has to, it can be used as a polite way to give instructions/orders.

Ought to is similar to should.
Both should and ought to are followed by the infinitive of the verb.

For example: You look terrible. You (should / ought to) go home.

Nagatives
The negative form of these modal verbs is a little more complex!

Compare these sentences:
You have to wear a seat belt when the plane takes off.
You do not have to wear a seat belt when you are eating your lunch on the plane.
You should buy travellers cheques for your holiday, they are safer than cash.
You shouldn't drink too much alcohol when flying.

Be careful! **The negative forms have different meanings**:
Shouldn't = means you are advised not to something (the opposite of should)
Don't have to = means it is not necessary to do something, only if you want to.

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Activity Six **Present your latest work project to the group** or to your teacher.

Explain the **subject**, the **objectives** and the way it relates to company or work or school values or priorities. Then give a list of rules related to it using the following modal verbs.

- You must
- You should
- You have to
- You really ought to
- You shouldn't
- You don't have to

Activity Seven: **The Rappers Code of Ethics** – ***Read the text and find out the meaning of the underlined words.***



Do you understand the hip hop culture, rap music and the **thug** life ?

Rap star Camron gave us a deeper peek into the game, when he went on 60 Minutes and announced that he adheres to the NO **SNITCHING** code of ethics!

We're sure that the show host, Anderson Cooper and the millions of viewers were most likely shocked when Camron revealed that he wouldn't notify the police even if he learned that a serial killer was living in the house next to his.

Think about it, if Camron held true to his code of ethics, and we believe that he would, serial killers like: Ted Bundy, John Wayne Gacy, Coral Eugene Watts, Jeffrey Dahmer and Randy Kraft would have continued to get away with cold blooded murder had the hip hop rapper known about their criminal ways.

He told 60 Minutes, that even if he discovered that he had a serial killer for a neighbor, he would not alert the police; at worst, he said he'd **relocate**. Some of you are wondering, "Whatever happened to civic duty, social compassion and a moral **compass**? The answer is simple, in the hip hop culture, those things DO NOT exist!

Camron was just stating a truth; if you are going to be in the rap game, you must have water in your veins and an ice-cold conscience. In the hip hop culture, assisting police in **ANY shape,or form** is **akin** to a Christian blaspheming the Holy Spirit. If you in the rap game and the hip hop world, you DON'T SNITCH **no matter what!**

Here are some examples of the power of the "Don't Snitch Campaign" that has **swept through** the Black community.

Family Member Witnesses Murder But Won't Snitch on Shooters
You witness your brother, son, daughter, sister, mother, father or other relative killed in a drive-by shooting. You recognize the two shooters to be some of the homies you grew up with. However, due to the hip hop culture code of ethics, you DON'T SNITCH! I know what you're asking, (WWCD) What would Camron do? According to the rapper, he would not snitch.

Teen Girl Raped Eyewitness Won't Talk
You walk in on a teen girl raped. You get a perfect look at the rapist's face as he dashes into the night. The investigators run a rape test kit and find the rapist's DNA on eight other rape murder cases. The problem is, he's never been arrested and he forces his victims to keep her eyes shut. You are the only one who can identify this barbaric monster. Guess what, if you are truly representing the hip hop culture, you WON'T SNITCH!

Gunman Kills Boss And Coworkers Lone Eyewitness Refuses To Speak
As you're heading into work, a gunman who you recognize as a disgruntled coworker, barrels out the door with a smoking 9mm Glock in his hand. He boastfully tells you that he just shot and killed the owner and some coworkers. You walk into and witness the horrific blood bath of people you work with and care for. Do you tell the police what you saw and what he told you? NO! Not even if they name you as a suspect!

Drug Dealer Gets Away With Sexual Assault of Teen
A seedy drug dealer moves next door to you in your apartment complex and starts slingin crack, weed and Ecstasy to the high school that your son and daughter attend. Your daughter's best friend is slipped mickie and sexually assaulted by the seedy drug dealer and contracts the HIV virus. One evening he confides in you that he is HIV positive and gives you details of how he drugged and then raped your daughter's best friend. Camrom says he would remain silent, would you?

That's the power of the hip hop culture and the Don't Snitch Campaign. Do you agree with Camron and the hip hop community?

Activity Eight – With your partner invent the entire rapper/ thug code of ethics and explain the rules to the class using model verbs.