



An Introduction to Employability Skills

Teamwork, reflection...and getting out of your comfort zone...

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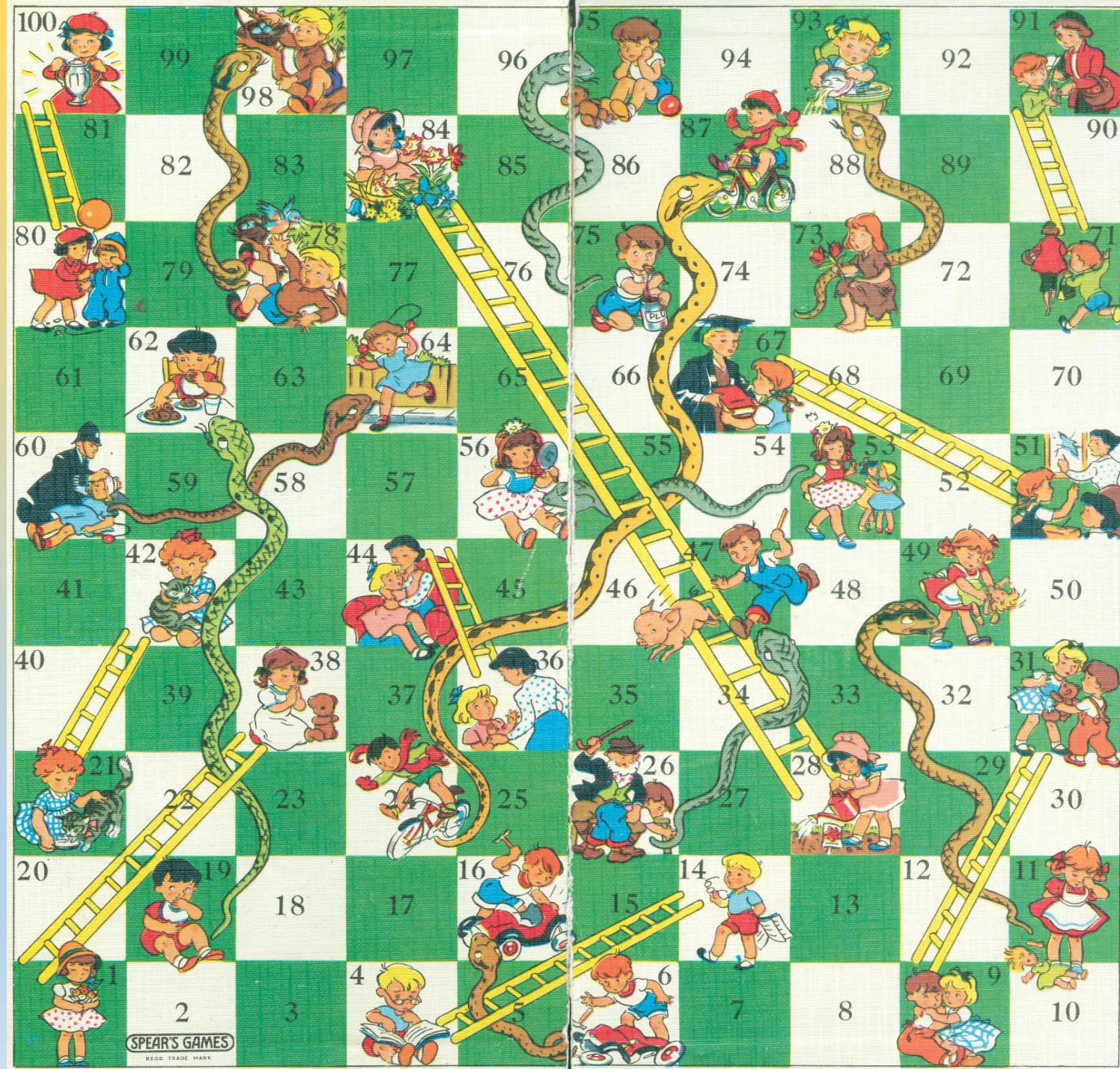
Today

- Just a brief introduction to employability skills.
- Get you thinking and reflecting about the skills that you have, and the skills that you will need to use and / or develop at this conference.
- Introduce a group activity to you...

How can you help yourself get the most benefit out of this conference?

What are the snakes to avoid?

Discuss in your working groups for 30 seconds.



Teamwork: Cross-cultural capability

- At this conference you are going to meet and be working with people of different genders, religions, ages, ethnicities and nationalities.
- Be aware of the impacts that your personal and professional actions might have on other people (and theirs on you) so that we can all make our way as professionally and ethically as we can.
- Different cultures behave differently – and ‘my’ way of doing it is no better or worse than the other way of doing it.

(Hind and Moss, 2011)



Teamwork: The attitude

It is good to get along with people if we can.

It is good to *try* to get along with people if we can.

The onus is on *you* – and that means *everybody*.

Effective Teamwork

- Communicate effectively, have you all introduced yourselves and spoken to each other?
 - Do you know everybody's name in your working group?
 - Do you have each other's phone numbers, emails, Facebooks?
 - Have you connected on the conference app?
- Nominate a team leader right now...this can change each day if you wish.
- Identify who has which roles and responsibilities within your team.
- As a team, set yourself clear goals for the conference.

What nobody here wants to see...

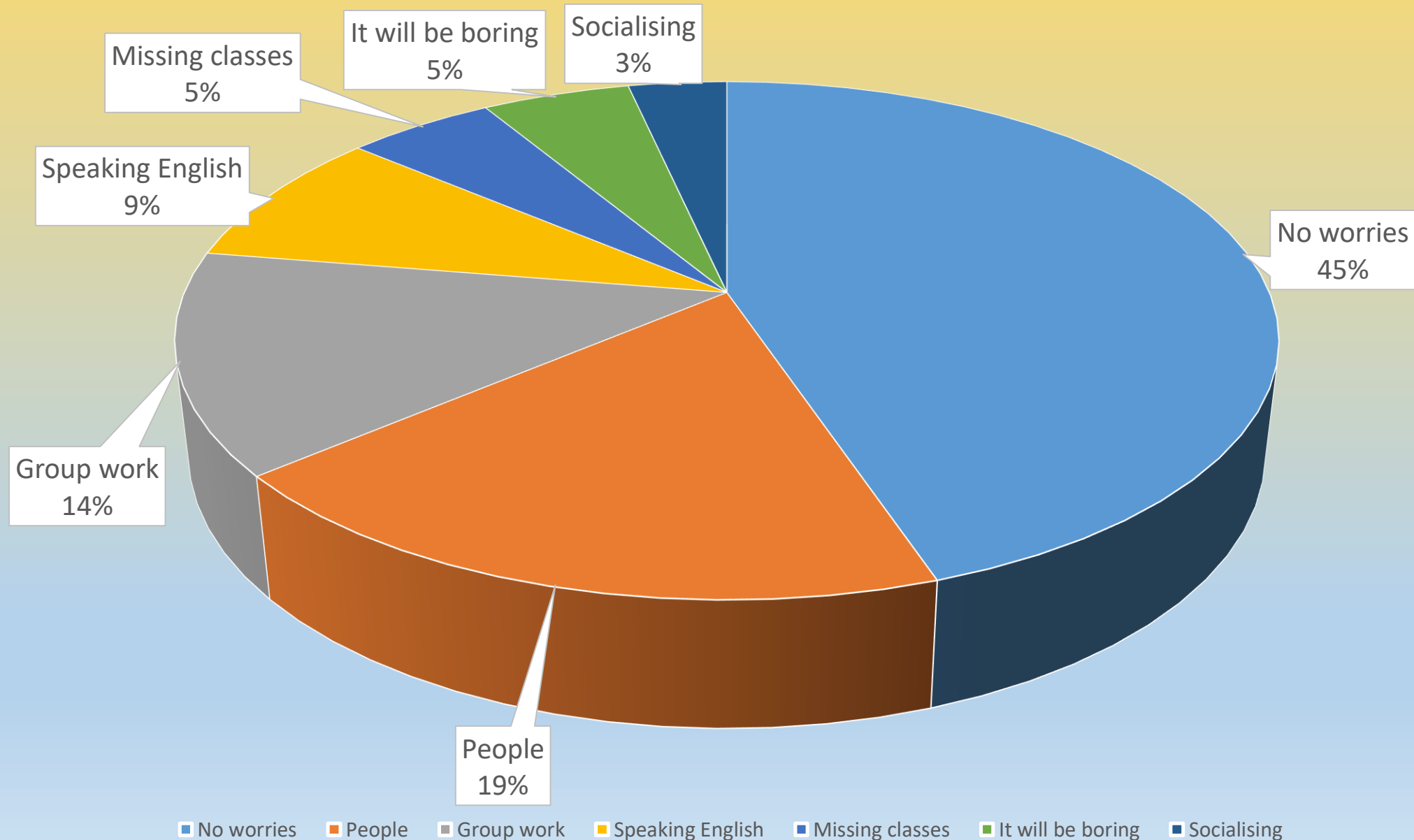
*'There were four people named EVERYBODY, SOMEBODY, ANYBODY and NOBODY.
There was an important job to be done and EVERYBODY was asked to do it.
EVERYBODY was sure that SOMEBODY would do it.
ANYBODY could have done it, but NOBODY did it.
SOMEBODY got angry about that, because it was EVERYBODY'S job.
EVERYBODY thought ANYBODY could do it but NOBODY realised that EVERYBODY
wouldn't do it.
It ended up that EVERYBODY blamed SOMEBODY when NOBODY did what
ANYBODY could have done.....'*

(Denny, 1993, p.89)

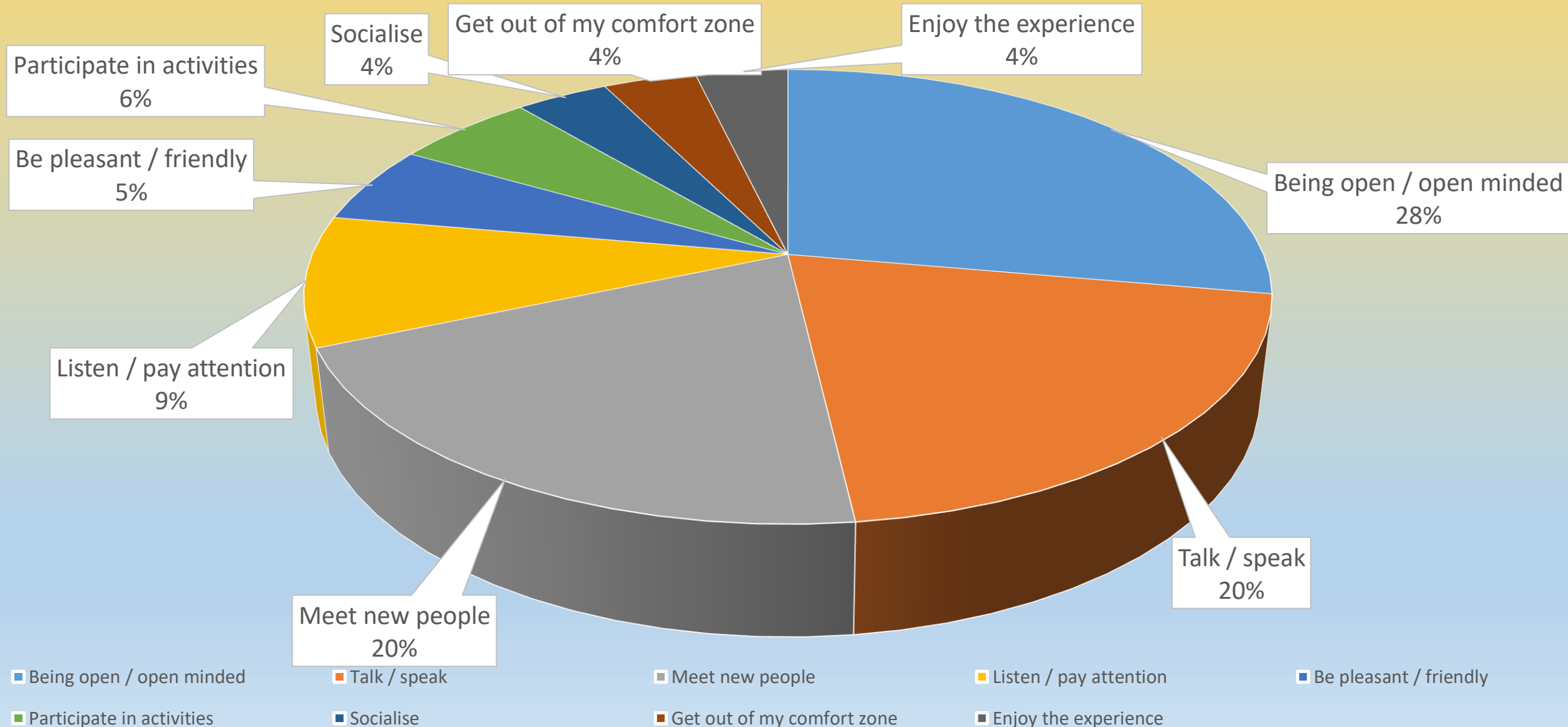
I think it would be safe for me to presume five things

- Most of you haven't been to a conference before (although I acknowledge that some of you will have).
- Most of you won't know Edinburgh that well apart from yesterday's 'treasure hunt' activity.
- Most of you won't know most other people in this room.
- Most of you have at least some concerns about language barriers.
- Most of you have felt at least *some* stress since arriving in Edinburgh yesterday.

Is there anything that worried you about the conference before arrival?



What did you do to minimise your worries and maximise your chances of successfully achieving your conference goals?



Employability skills and attributes

Ultimately skills and attributes that make you more employable



Personal Skills



Interpersonal Skills



Study Skills



Entrepreneurship



Management



Career Management Skills

Consider how this conference can help you to both use and develop these skills.

Your WORKING GROUP Task

It's time to take you out of your comfort zone...



The Ed-Factor

YOUR GROUP TASK...

Your Task

- In your working groups, you will form a band or ensemble – give your band a name!
- Create a rhyme in English that may be a poem, song or rap (you decide which)
 - The rhyme that you create will be about your experience of attending this conference.
 - You will perform this on Wednesday evening, and the best one will win a prize.
 - When performed by your group, this must be between 60 and 90 seconds long.
 - Everyone in your group must have a vocal part.
 - No swear words may be used in your rhyme.

The Rhyme

- The rhyme must contain the following words and terms:
 - Businet
 - Christmas
 - Conference
 - Edinburgh
 - Emotional Intelligence
 - Employability
 - Experiential Learning
 - Friends
 - Fun
 - Future
 - Haggis
 - Scotland



Your Task

- This is intended to be a FUN task, that will get you working together and communicating with each other in a social way.
- It IS intended to take you out of your comfort zone, but please DO NOT STRESS about it!
- We want you all to engage with this.
- We are not judging you on your singing ability!
- Good luck!!

The Grading Criteria

- 50% - Teamwork (evidence of commitment to the task, practice, rehearsal, good handovers and everyone contributing to this)
- 30% - Entertainment value (a song / rhyme / poem that is fun, original, and performed with passion)
- 20% - The Ed-Factor (anything else that you can bring to your performance to make it stand out from the others...think theming, dance moves, impromptu instruments etc...)

Any Questions?



You can also ask questions in the Facebook group, contact me directly on Facebook Messenger / the conference app or by using any of these details:

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