IELTS NOTE: a cup of coffee in a batik motif glass

#IELTS - The Batik Day is today! We, the Indonesian, commemorate October 2 as the anniversary of when the UNESCO recognize batik as a Masterpiece of Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity in 2009. Batik is a noun which has a meaning of a method (originally used in Java) of producing colored designs on textiles by dyeing them, having first applied wax to the parts to be left undyed. It can also be described as a cloth that has been dyed using the batik method. These descriptions are provided by Google. As part of the celebration, I wear my precious batik combined with jeans and participate in a special class to celebrate the International Coffee Day. Oh, wait!

Wiki said that "International Coffee Day is an occasion that is used to promote and celebrate coffee as a beverage, with events now occurring in places across the world. The first official date was 1 October 2015, as agreed by the International Coffee Organization and was launched in Milan."

YAS! We are having a late International Coffee Day celebration!

ITB American Corner invited us to join the celebration of International Coffee Day held in the ITB Library couples of days before. Mr. Zack, a linguistic researcher currently studying Bahasa in ITB, presented a history of the Starbucks which is an opening section to celebrate the day today. Next, we were challenged to represent his presentation in one minute and pak Karne and pak Fachry accepted the summon. The team of pak Karne and pak Fachry then allowed to make some coffee and drink it prior to the other participants.

Pina, a graduate student in urban planning, also made her presentation retold the tale of Kopi Aroma located in Banceuy Street Bandung. It indeed is an interesting story where the owner of Kopi Aroma directly take a part in the whole business process, for instance, selecting, sorting, and drying coffee beans, until involved in the roasting process. Pina also told about the owner uniqueness which is he only
has 3 colors of shirts: black, brown, and a color that I cannot recall. "The brown then declared as the national color of Kopi Aroma", Pina added.

When the coffee party celebrated, some of us took a Speaking Simulation Test examined by Ms. Alina. Our longest individual turn record was broken by pak Mahadi when he answered the question and did some discussion in about a half of
hour. He made an alibi that he discussed not only about the speaking simulation but also his plan to go to the Old Trafford.

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Stop the coffee things and let's go to the IELTS class. Today we learned modal and Task 2 of Writing Test. We were forced to remember our high school particularly in how the V2 of a modal can be used as a more polite expression. For example:

**Could** you lend me your book?

In fact, we can also write as '**Can** you lend me your book?'

The first sentence is used by Britains most while the second is an American style, certainly, the Britains used it to make a degree of politeness.

In addition to using modal, it has been said by our modal tutor that Indonesian often make mistakes by translating Bahasa **directly** to English as well as it intonation. Subsequently, he told as a story which is the foreigner explained to him the Bahasa is easy as simply as answer a question by using its first word:

"Mau makan?" You can answer "Mau".

"Sudah makan?" You can answer "Sudah".

When it comes to English question sentences, Indonesian also tend to make more mistakes. For a sentence of "I am supposed to practice today" can be changed into a question sentence, with different intonation, **as the crow flies** of "I am supposed to practice today?".
No! It must be "Am I supposed to practice today?".

Writing Class, next session, is the most interesting when we are having a nice discussion about how to make an outline of cause and problem-solving type test. The most I remember about it is that you are not allowed to betray your outline. Once you plan your outline, your writing must stick to the outline or you will be destroyed by a monster named the 60 Minutes of Heart Race!

Note: as the crow flies = directly