



MRITTIKA ANAN RAHMAN

Host: Hello, and welcome to another edition of *TAILORS OF DOOM!* [Audience claps and screams out name of the show in unison.]

Host: Friends, our tailors do amazing work, making all our clothing dreams come true and for that we are truly grateful. However, sometimes they mess up so bad they fabricate themselves a spot on our game show.

Today, we have two groups from rivalling tailoring shops in Habib Super Market. On the left, we've got four gentlemen from Rupa Ladies Tailoring. And on the right, the four tailors of Priya Ladies Fashion.

Let's begin Round 1! Our topic for Round 1 is "Anxiety".

[Audience goes "Ooohhhh"]

Host: What is the most anxiety-inducing stunt you've pulled on a client?

Contestant 1 [hits buzzer]: One time a client wanted an outfit made for her brother's wedding. She called the day before the wedding. Did I have it ready? No, I didn't. She called on the morning of the wedding. Did I have it ready? Of course not. Hours before the wedding the client leaves for the parlour to get ready and who does she see waiting for her at the entrance? My right hand Mojnu with her stitched dress. Bam! Delivered right on time.

Host: I wouldn't exactly call that "on time." You get 5 points for that!

Contestant 2 [hits buzzer]: I went missing on the day of Eid with six of my client's dresses. They called and texted but I switched off my phone and left Dhaka. What was I supposed to do? I didn't have them made. Plus, I was already in Sirajganj — so Eid Mubarak, nitwits!

Host: Contestant 2, you are literally the worst. You get 10 points!

Let's move on. Our topic for Round 2 is "Betrayal".

[Audience gasps]

Host: How badly did you ever betray a client?

Contestant 4: A client ordered a new dress she was really excited about so I accidentally made it to her sister's measurements!

Host: Of course, you did. 5 points!

Contestant 3: A client ordered a three-piece *kameez* but I had to stitch it on the last moment. So I made pants out of the *kameez* fabric, a *kameez* out of the *orna* fabric, and an *orna* with the pants' fabric!

Host: If that isn't a mild form of dyslexia I don't know what is.

10 points! Snip-snip, folks. When we come back after the break, it's Round 3 — "Revenge".

[Audience cheers]

Mrittika Anan Rahman is a daydreamer trying hard not to run into things while walking. Find her at mrittika.anan@gmail.com

The perks of learning a musical instrument



SYEDA ERUM NOOR

We all consider learning musical instruments. After deciding, however, we have to weigh the cons and the pros, wondering whether this new hobby would be something worth investing our precious time in.

Here, I attempt to help you make the decision by informing you of a few benefits that learning an instrument may have.

BRAIN CELLS HARD AT WORK

For those of you whose parents have objected to you "wasting your time" on learning instruments, this one's for you. It has been said that playing musical instruments stimulates your brain. Playing regularly results in good development of memory and ability to focus, which in turn may help your studies.

It is also known to help with coordination skills that will also help you in sports. If your parents still have trouble, just let them know that Einstein was really into music.

JUST ANOTHER WAY TO RELAX

Music has been proven to lower heart rate, blood pressure, and stress-inducing hormones. It has a huge effect on moods and emotions which can be nice after a long, hard day at work. You can now kick back with a cold drink and an instrument of your choice, after which you can go to bed a happier, more relaxed person.

Learning an instrument result in making

people comfortable with self-expression. Which means you become somewhat comfortable with who you are. You start becoming more and more comfortable having an audience, which will grow in size eventually, which in turn will help your confidence grow in size too.

And come on, imagine being the cool kid who can play sick tunes on their instruments. You'd be turning heads left, right and centre.

PATIENCE, PATIENCE, PATIENCE

Mastering an instrument takes lots of practice. There will be days where you feel like you've forgotten what you learned yesterday, or you just can't seem to pick up the song you want. Well, you'll soon learn that it takes tons of patience. Stick to it, and you'll get it eventually. This then helps build your patience for other situations in life.

DISCIPLINE

If you really want to learn an instrument you need to regularly spend time learning it. You have to make time for it in your daily routines in a disciplined manner. It's hard to learn anything without discipline.

In the end, you have so much to learn from choosing to play an instrument, that you might as well just try it. Have fun learning and acquiring all these benefits that come with it!

Syeda Erum Noor is dangerously oblivious and has no sense of time. Send help at erum.noor1998@gmail.com



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