

English for Data ScientistsQ+ IMC&DS M2-S3



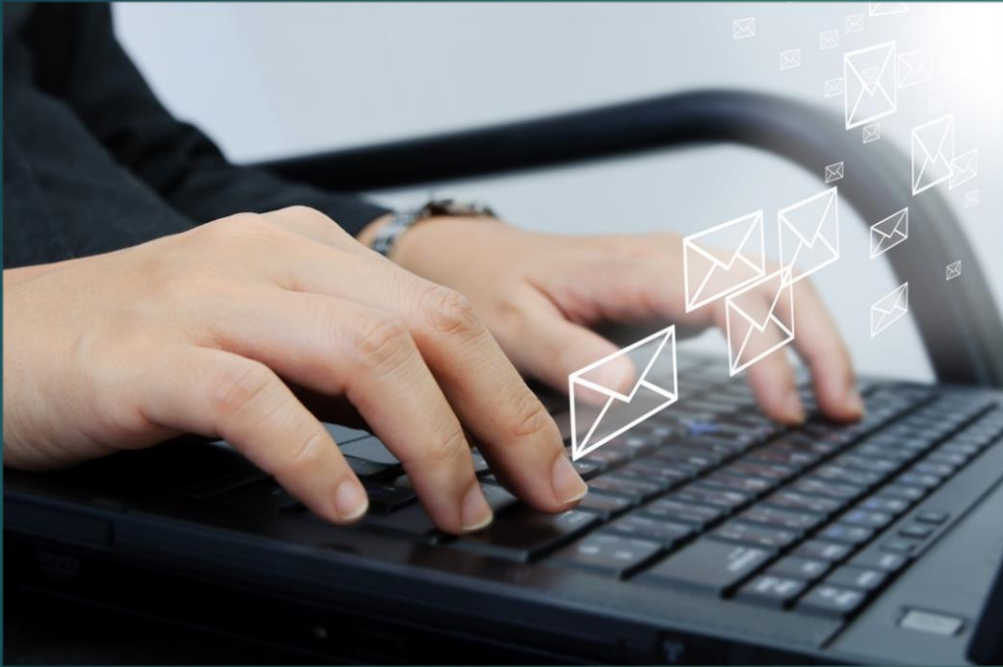
***WELCOME!
AND HAVE A NICE
DAY(-TAH)!***

COURSE INTRO and ASSESSMENT RULES 2025-2026

Université Paris 1 – Panthéon-Sorbonne

Contact info / Email address:

Cyril.Selzner@univ-paris1.fr



**In English (preferred)
or in French...**

**NB: I usually reply within 48
hours, in the same language
as the original message**



**OBVIOUS RULE n°1 : You are now entering
an English-speaking area**

Specific Course EPI:

EPI NAME:

Anglais M2 IMC & Data Science 2025-2026 S1 C. Selzner

Basically, all the information you need to know about will be posted there:

- *Announcements, course rules and grading principles*
- *Oral presentation + Breaking news/Sales Pitch details and schedule*
- *Texts and docs we study in class in pdf format + potential homework assignments*
- *Several additional documents and teaching materials and links.*

Please check access as soon as possible

Timetable for first term/semester (dates)

Week 1: Thursday 11 September 2pm-5pm (**now**)

Week 2: Thursday 18 September 2pm-5pm (**next week**)

Week 3: Thursday XXXXXXXXXXXX 2pm-5pm (**TBD**)

Week 4: Thursday 27 November 2pm-5pm (Incl. Oral Pres.)

Week 4: Thursday 11 December 2pm-5pm (incl. Oral Pres.)

Week 6: Thursday 15 janvier 2pm-5pm (incl. Oral Pres.)

Final Exam ('partiel'): To be determined, possibly on 15 Jan



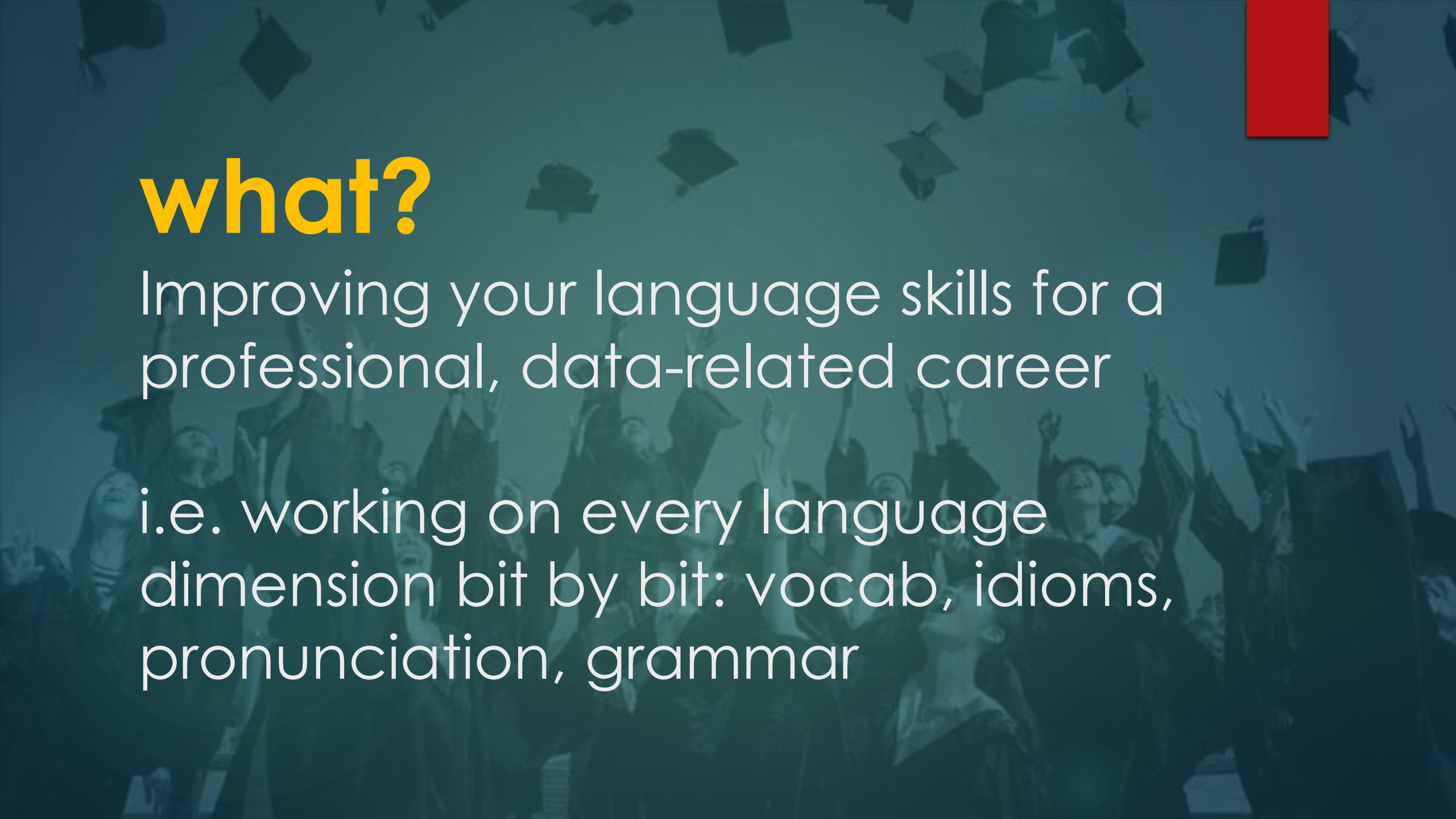
**Time to
study!**

**But what
and how?**

A background image of a graduation ceremony with graduates in caps and gowns, many with their arms raised in celebration. The image is overlaid with a dark teal gradient. A solid red rectangle is located in the top right corner.

what?

Improving your language
skills for a professional, data-
related career

A background image of a graduation ceremony with graduates in caps and gowns, some throwing their caps. A solid red rectangle is in the top right corner.

what?

Improving your language skills for a professional, data-related career

i.e. working on every language dimension bit by bit: vocab, idioms, pronunciation, grammar

how?

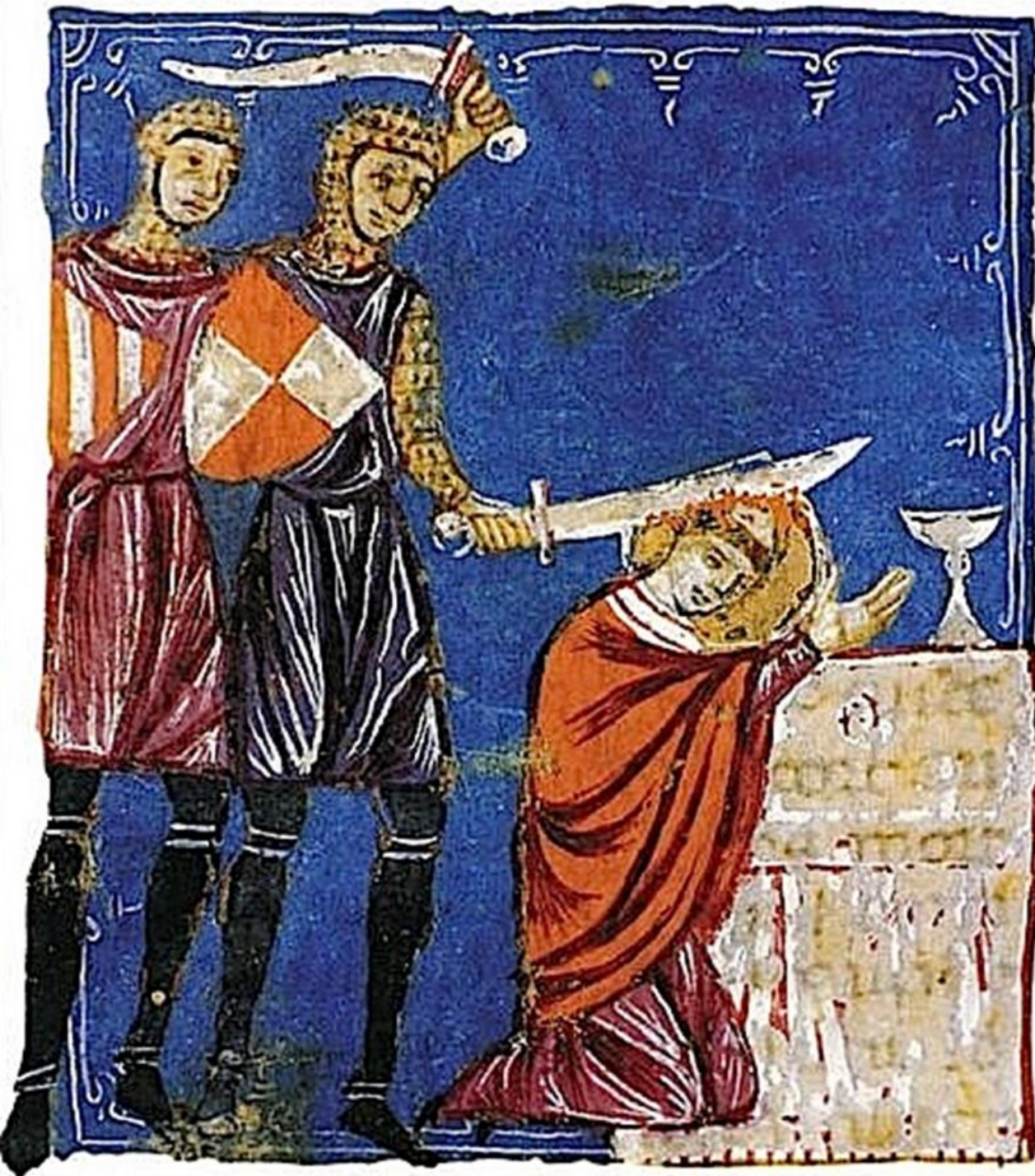
- ▶ (Brief) In-Class segments which address pronunciation and grammar issues (“ENGLISH IS WEIRD” and “GOOD GRAMMAR IS SEXY”)
- ▶ CARTOON and QUOTES of the Day (usually funny ones related to business and/or data)
- ▶ READING and DISCUSSING TEXTS – Excerpts from BOOKS, or NEWSPAPER ARTICLES, or RESEARCH PAPERS from ACADEMIC JOURNALS (such as the Harvard Business Review) about Data and AI from a management/economic perspective
- ▶ Scheduled Oral Presentations each semester (a big one towards the end as part of a group, and a short one called “Breaking News” or “Sales Pitch”)
- ▶ Group work and ROLEPLAYS

Marks and Grades

= Assessment

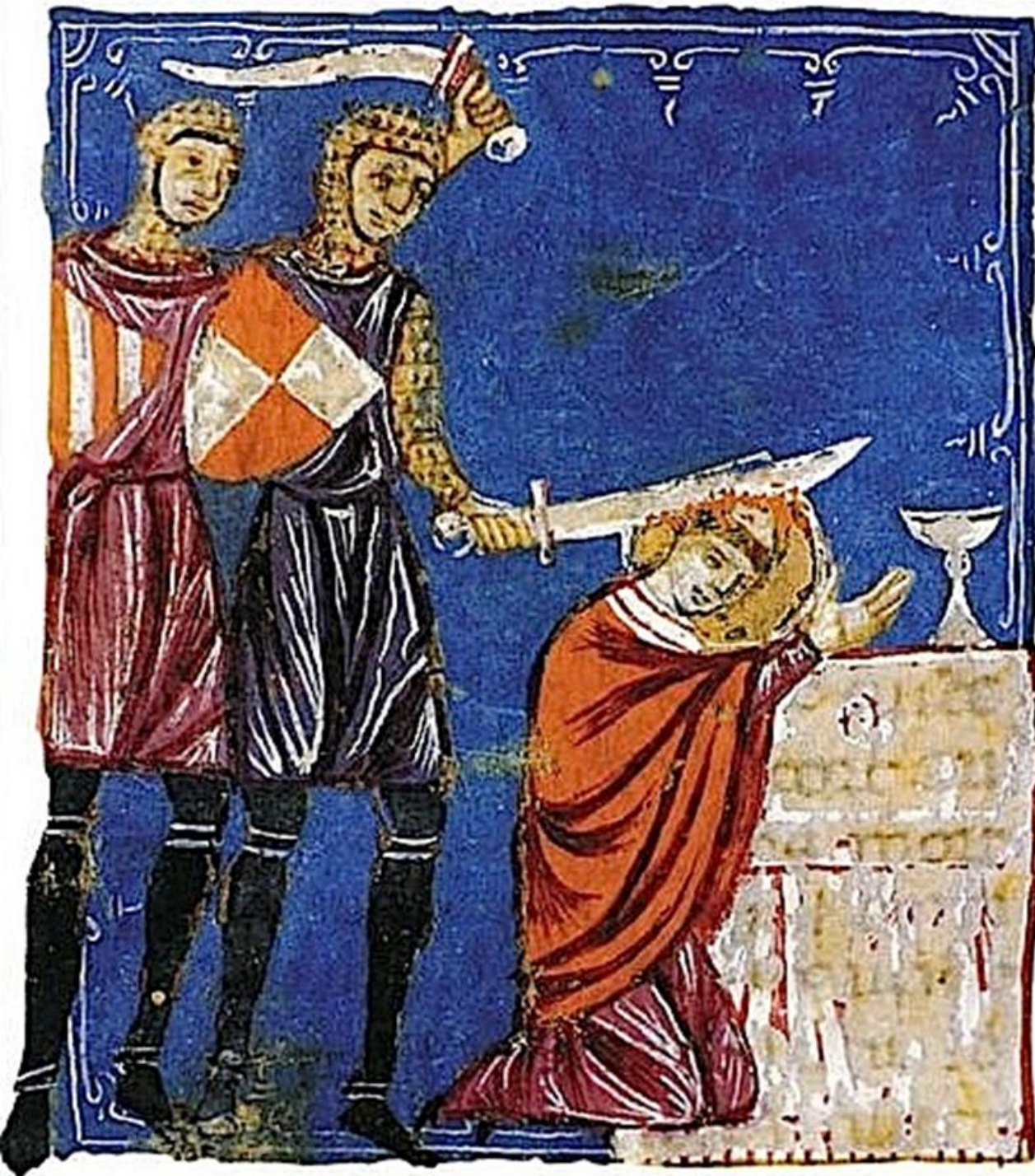
- 40% Oral Presentation (TBE)
- 20% In-class Participation and Homework
- 40% Final Exam





FINAL EXAM:

- ▶ two-hour long exam
- ▶ scheduled in January [maybe on the 15th, TBD]



FINAL EXAM:

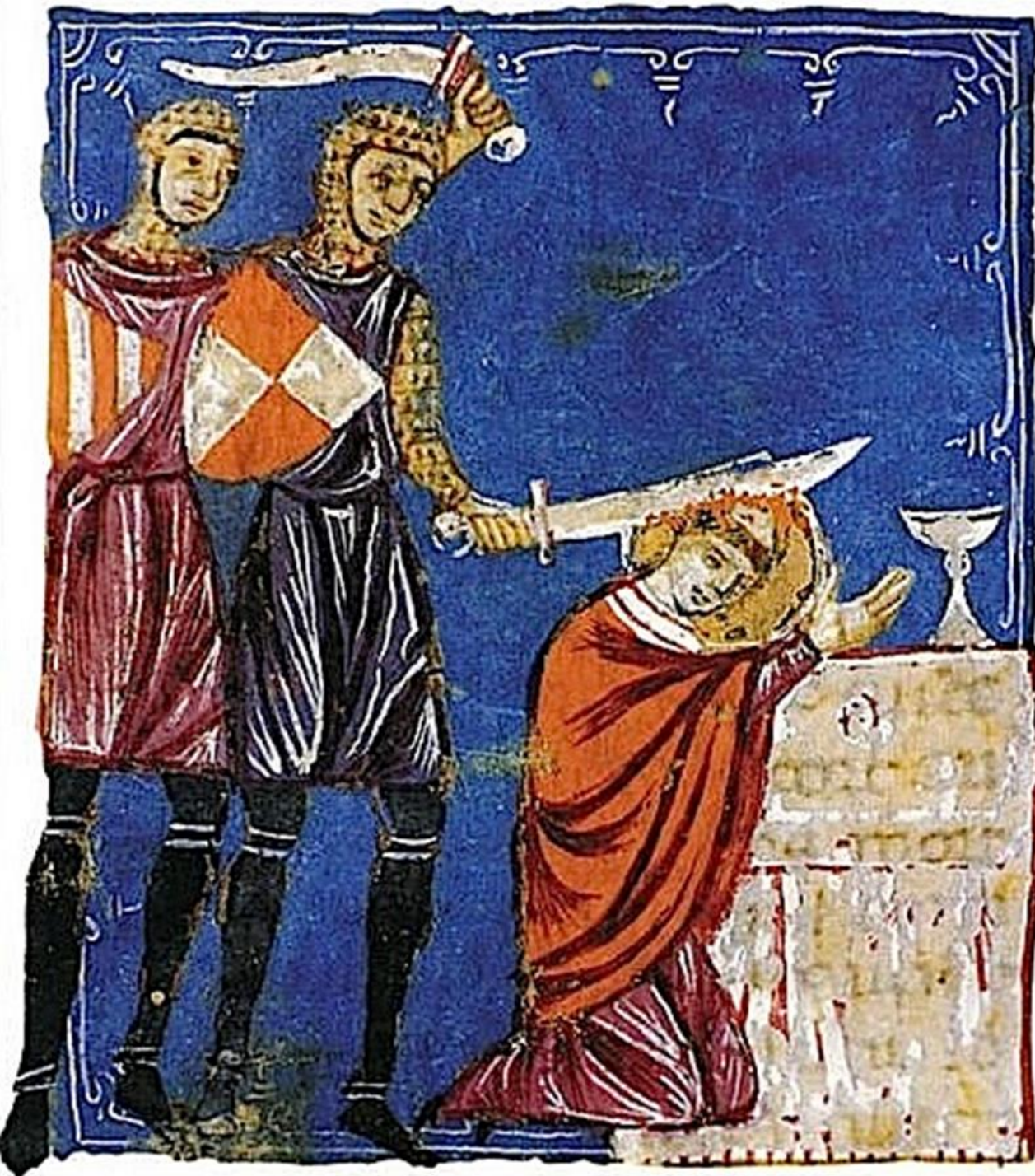
Four sections:

A. **Vocabulary** (3 pts):
define/explain and use in a sentence six words or expressions we've seen in class.

B. **Grammar** (3 pts): rewrite sentences containing mistakes

C. **Comprehension** (6 pts): one text (4-5 pages), three questions

D. **Essay Question** on DataQ+ themes (8 pts) – 500 words +/- 10%



More about
the FINAL EXAM
in due time

... but check
example from
last year.



What a great oral presentation!

I can't believe they are still students at Paris 1

Me neither, they
look soooooo
professional to me

...

Do you think they
might be IMCDS
students?

ORAL PRESENTATION:
what, when and how

Oral presentation requirements:

- ▶ Groups of three (except for the odd one or two)
 - singles or crowd NOT accepted -
- ▶ 4 minutes (+1 max) each, followed by questions from the audience (teacher included) => 12 min minimum, 15 min max per group
- ▶ Notes allowed but no reading please
Continuous reading will be penalised (as will plagiarism/AI produced stuff as a matter of course)

Oral presentation format:

- ▶ **WHEN?** During the last three sessions on 27 November, 11 December 2025 and 15 January 2026
- ▶ **WHAT?** any topic/issue/subject matter related to data, data science, data management etc., even remotely (please notify me about your chosen topic by mid-November at the very latest)

Oral presentation format:

- ▶ HOW? Any format you wish to opt for. Standard, debate, talk show, short fictional piece/roleplay, etc. I am open to any suggestion from you but will have final say in the matter.



Available:

**Plain,
Regular,
Old-
fashioned
OP!**



Or: Choose a setting / background story

E.G.: “you are setting up your own start-up company and are addressing business angels and presenting your business plan”

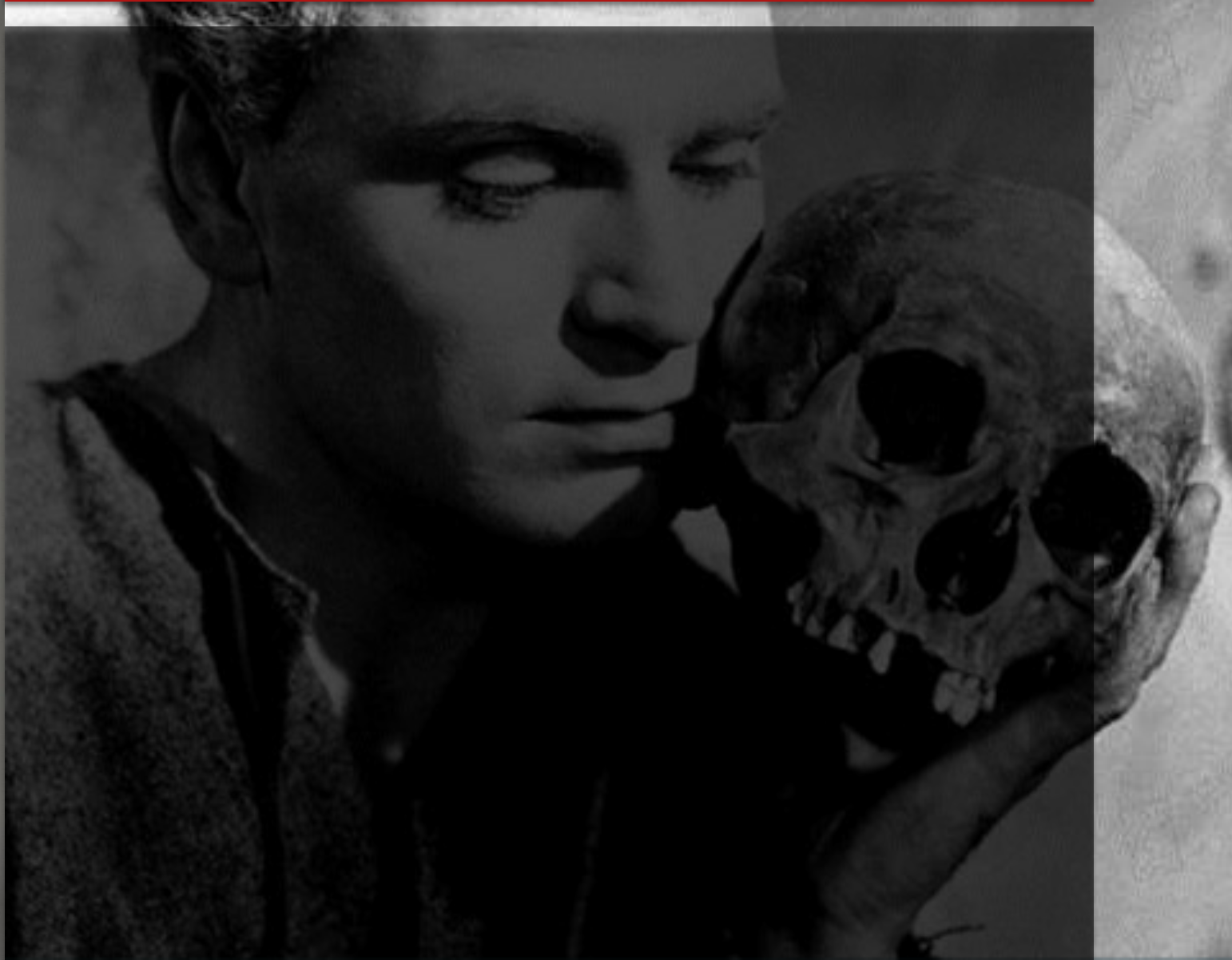
OR: “you are reporting the results of an internal survey you’ve just conducted about your company’s new data-driven strategy”

ETC.



Or: Talk show (TV, Radio show), American style, with host and guests for example

Fiction/Roleplay welcome



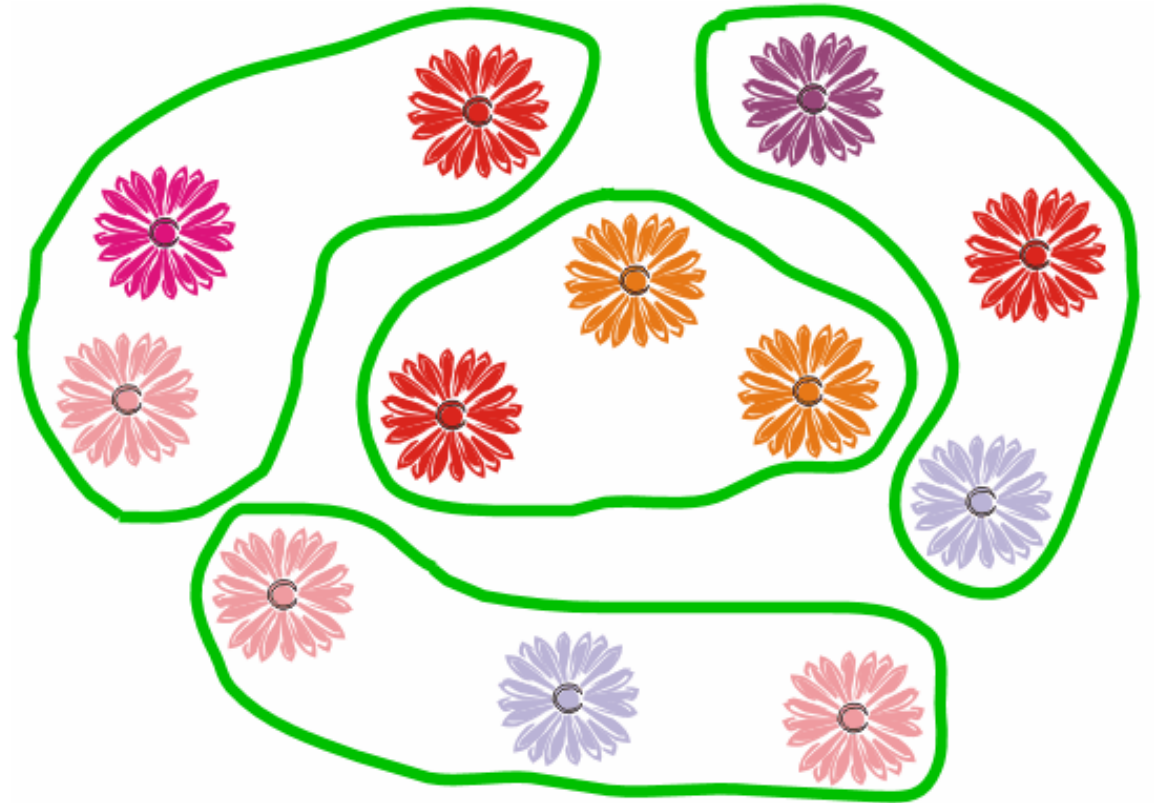


*An oral presentation doesn't have
to be deadly dull.*

Oral presentation format:

- ▶ TECHNICAL REQUIREMENT/constraint: No flash drives (pleeeeeease), no attachments sent to me:
- ▶ if you want to present a slideshow, please provide your own computer with standard HdMi (not micro Hdmi) or VGA port (or an adapter that works), you know the drill and most of you would have already done as much in the past

FORMING GROUPS of THREE
(Two only if it can't be helped)



In addition to the OP itself, you will have **one more (short and individual) oral assignment** during the semester; only two up to three minutes of talking this time.

Either:

> **“Breaking News”**

OR

> **“Sales Pitch”**

WHEN YOU CLOSE A DEAL



ON THE FIRST PITCH

**Deliver a convincing sales pitch, trying to sell
ANYTHING by using the raw power of your speech**



Breaking News?



Breaking news / In the news

- ▶ **When?** At the beginning of each session
- ▶ **Who?** The students scheduled for the day if they are assigned Breaking News over Sales Pitch (about 2-3 minutes each + any volunteers)
- ▶ **What?** = anything newsmaking that's happened during the past week or so

Related in any way to the economy or to business in general, not necessarily about data: corporate news, world finance, economic policies and so on

NB: Preferably, but by no means exclusively, news concerning the English-speaking world

EXAMPLE

| #53453175

War in Ukraine: Economic Issues





GAS TROUBLE BREWING FOR EUROPE?





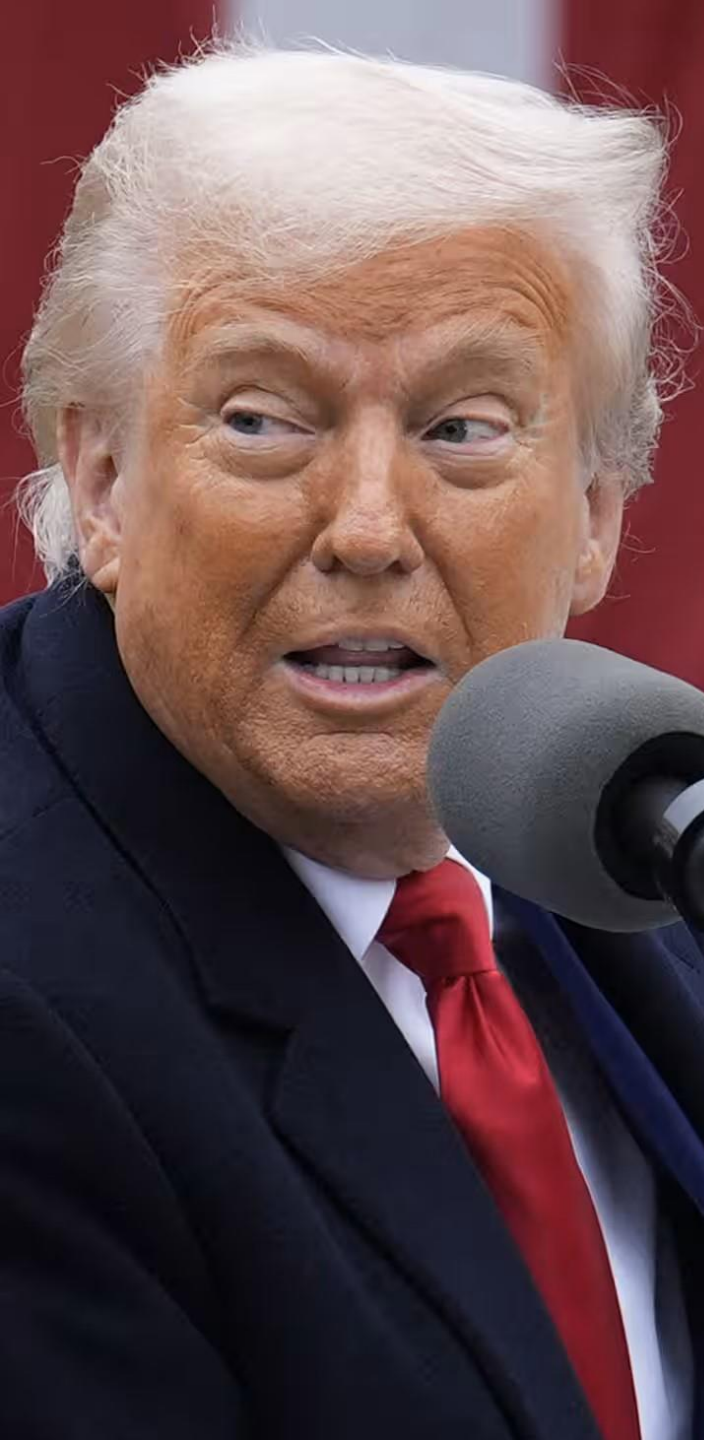
GAS TROUBLE BREWING FOR EUROPE?







**TRADE WAR
NEWS FROM THE FRONT**



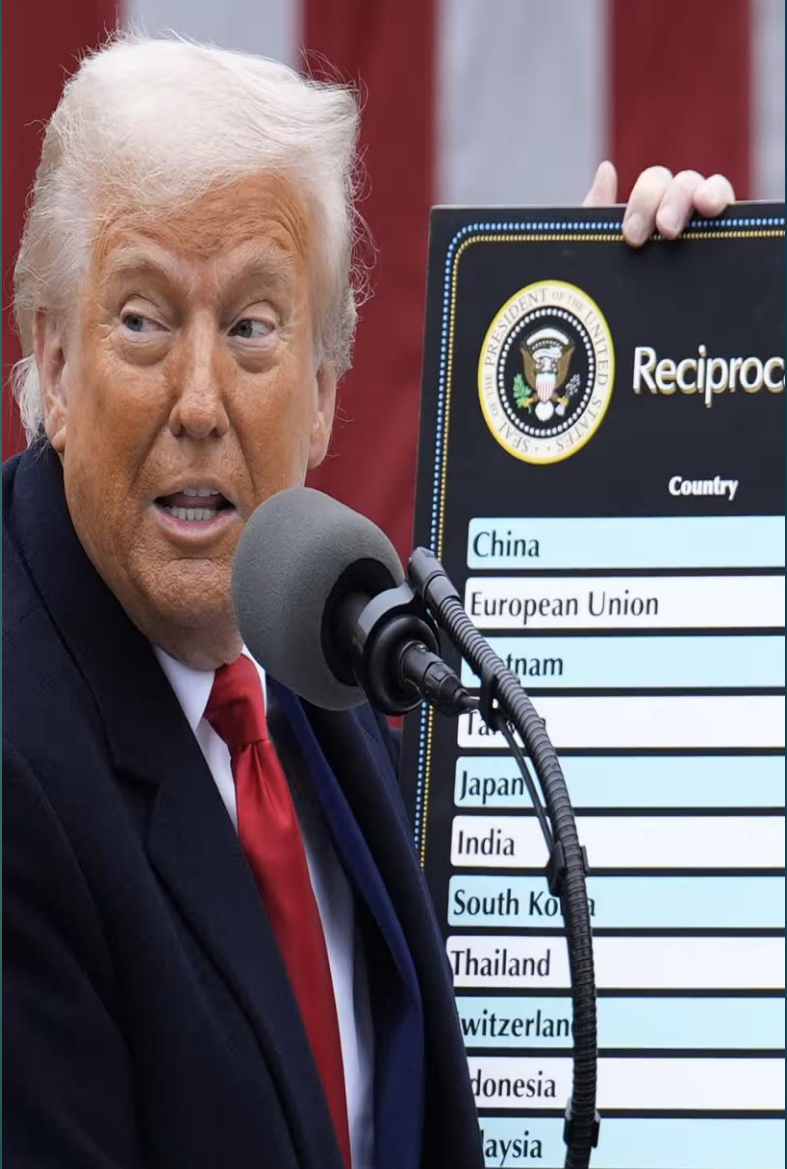
Reciprocal Tariffs

Country	Tariffs Charged to the U.S.A. Including Currency Manipulation and Trade Barriers	U.S.A. Discounted Reciprocal Tariffs
China	67%	34%
European Union	39%	20%
Vietnam	90%	46%
Taiwan	64%	32%
Japan	46%	24%
India	52%	26%
South Korea	50%	25%
Thailand	72%	36%
Switzerland	61%	31%
Indonesia	64%	32%



Trump announces sweeping new tariffs,
upending decades of US trade policy

Trump tariffs see stocks **dive** and investors
scramble to bonds, gold and yen

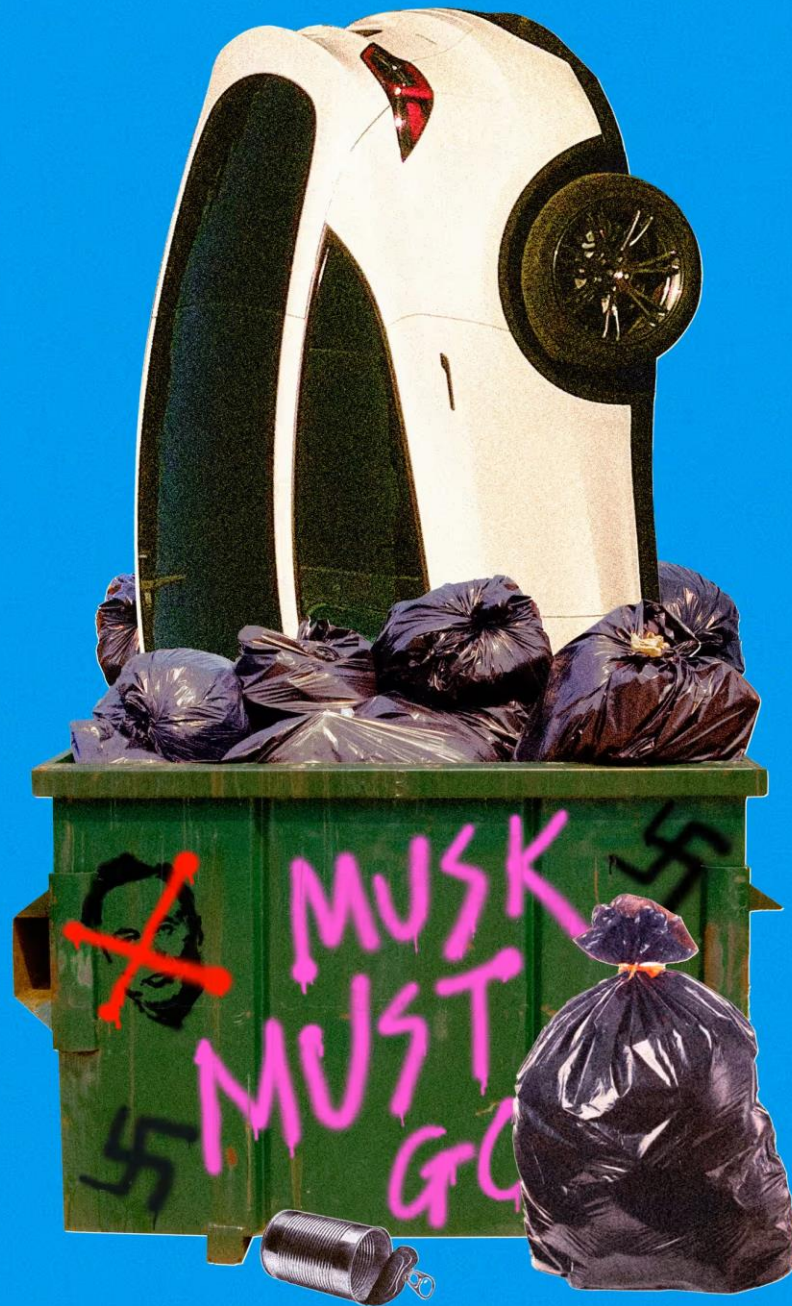


‘Nowhere on earth is safe’: Trump imposes tariffs on uninhabited islands near Antarctica

Norfolk Island, which has a population of 2,188 people and lies 1,600km (1,000 miles) north-east of Sydney, was slugged with a tariff of 29% – 19 percentage points higher than the rest of Australia.

The Australian prime minister, Anthony Albanese, said on Thursday: “Nowhere on earth is safe.”

[Source: *The Guardian*]



'I'm selling the Nazi mobile': Tesla owners offload cars after Musk's fascist-style salutes

[Source: *The Guardian*]





?

(Lantian)
Jay
GRABER









Vance tells Europeans that heavy regulation could kill AI

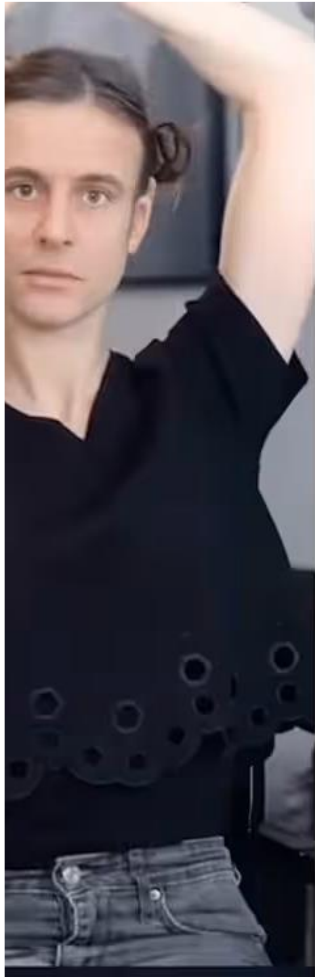
"We feel very strongly that AI must remain free from ideological bias and that American AI will not be co-opted into a tool for authoritarian censorship."

Vance criticised the "massive regulations" created by the EU's Digital Services Act, as well as Europe's online privacy rules, known by the acronym GDPR, which he said meant endless legal compliance costs for smaller firms.

[Source: Reuters]

SOMMET
POUR L'ACTION
SUR L'IA





'Plug, baby, plug': Macron pushes for French nuclear-powered AI [source: Politico]

"I have a good friend in other side of ocean [sic], he says drill, baby, drill. Here there is no need to drill, it is plug, baby, plug." Macron joked during a speech to close the first day of the AI Action Summit in Paris on Monday.

Macron bragged that France can power massive, energy-intensive investments in AI thanks to its nuclear energy production. France produces more electricity than it consumes, he noted, which makes it an attractive destination for energy-intensive AI companies.



If AI can provide a better diagnosis than a doctor, what's the prognosis for medics?

- ▶ an intriguing US study published in October in the Journal of the American Medical Association, which reported a randomised clinical trial on whether ChatGPT could improve the diagnostic capabilities of 50 practising physicians.
- ▶ The ho-hum conclusion was that “the availability of an LLM (AI) to physicians as a diagnostic aid did not significantly improve clinical reasoning compared with conventional resources”. But there was a surprising kicker: ChatGPT on its own demonstrated higher performance than both physician groups (those with and without access to the machine).
- ▶ [Source: The Guardian]





華寶樓

山海奇妙生机勃发
万物美好不负韶华

天祐樓

FILA





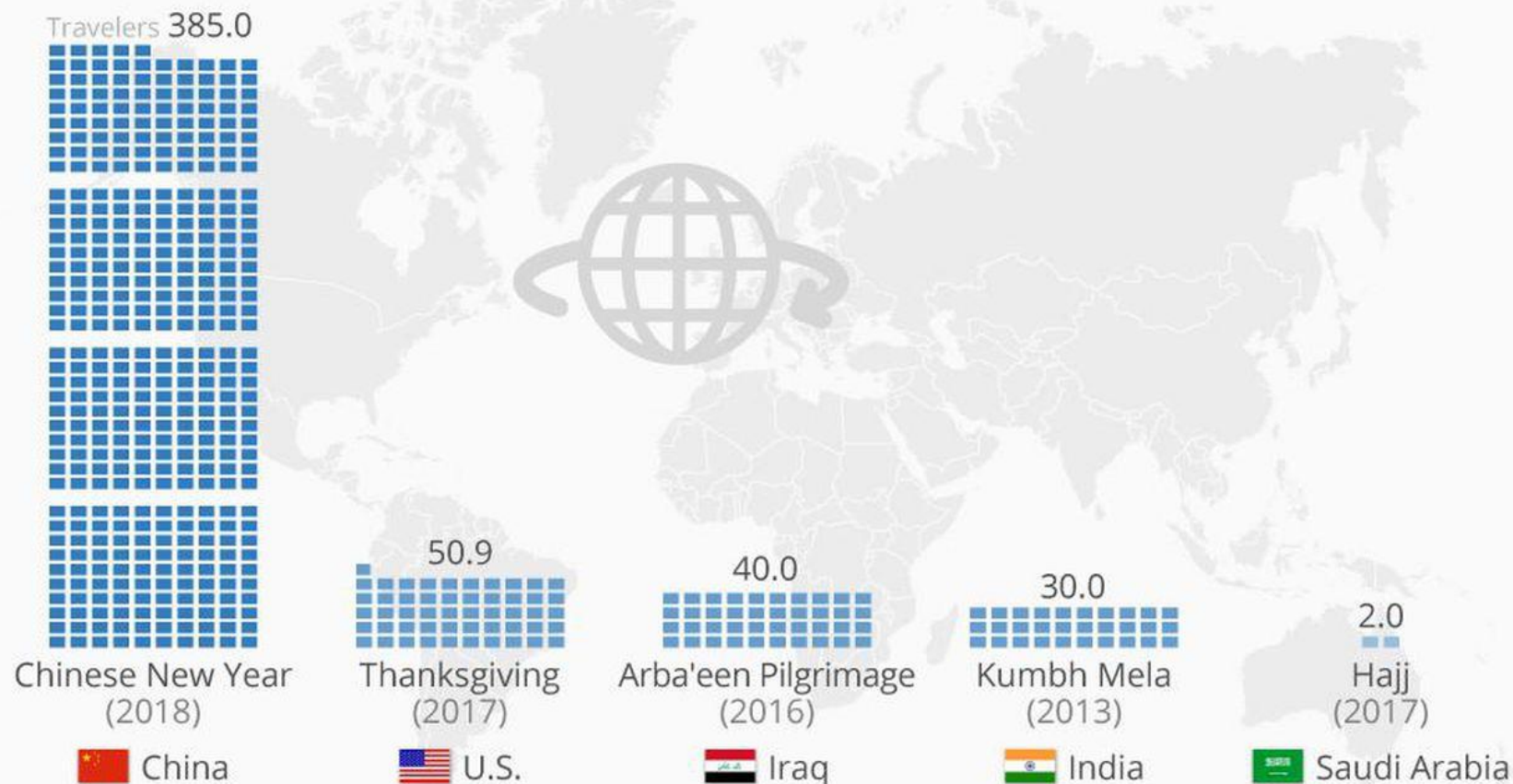




- ▶ Chun yun in 2024 (“heat map”)
- ▶ 2.8 Bn trips expected within PRC’s borders alone

The World's Largest Migration Is About To Begin

Estimated number of people traveling to the following events (millions)*



* Chinese New Year figure is the forecast for 2018. The Kumbh Mela is based on the Hindu calendar and occurs every 12 years.



@StatistaCharts

Source: News reports



Feeling blue on a
BLUE MONDAY ?

Feeling blue on a 16 **BLUE MONDAY ? JAN**

WHY BLUE MONDAY ISN'T REALLY THAT BLUE

POST-HOLIDAY
BLUES



DEBT FROM
CHRISTMAS



GLOOMY
WEATHER



FAILING NEW
YEAR
RESOLUTIONS



skytravel
Beyond Words



Female broker, 50, is handed £2MILLION compensation in gender discrimination claim against French bank BNP Paribas after colleagues left a witch's hat on her desk and kept telling her 'not now, Stacey' (Daily Mail)

Stacey Macken, was suing the London branch of the bank for 4 million pounds (\$4.9 million).

“Leaving a witches’ hat on a female employee’s desk, in a predominantly male working environment, was an inherently sexist act that potentially reflects on the nature of working environment for the claimant and the approach that was taken to women,” the London Central employment tribunal ruled.





???????





Believe in something.
Even if it means sacrificing everything.

 Just do it.